

REGIONAL WASTEWATER RECLAMATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE (RWRAC) MEETING

Water Campus

2955 W. Calle Agua Nueva – Radon Conference Room

Thursday, December 19, 2019

8:00 a.m.

Members Present: Steve Foley, Bill Katzel, Rob Kulakofsky, Corin Marron, Matt Matthewson, Jean McLain, Armando Membrilla, Scott Oldendorph, Asia Philbin, Mark Taylor, Ann Marie Wolf, Claire Zucker

Members Absent: John Lynch

Others Present:

Mandy Armenta (FRMD), David Badger (RWRD), Marla Berry (RWRD), Jeff Biggs (Tucson Water), Michelle Campagne (FRMD), Isai Centeno (FRMD), Barbara Escobar (RWRD), Mike Gerstenberger (RWRD), Jackson Jenkins (RWRD), Veronica Lopez (RWRD), Julie McWilliams (RWRD), Jeff Prevatt (RWRD), Xavier Rendon (FRMD), Jaime Rivera (RWRD), Lisa Starks (RWRD), Erika Swan (RWRD), Caroline Vargas (RWRD), Chuck Wesselhoft (PCAO) Eric Wieduwilt (RWRD)

A. Call to Order / Roll Call

Corin Marron, Chair, Regional Wastewater Reclamation Advisory Committee (RWRAC), called the meeting to order at 8:01 a.m. Erika Swan, Administrative Specialist Sr., Regional Wastewater Reclamation Department (RWRD) took roll call and a quorum was present.

B. Pledge of Allegiance

C. Call to the Audience - There were no comments from the audience.

D. Safety Share – Bill Katzel, RWRAC Member, cautioned everyone regarding safe travel. Jackson Jenkins, Director, RWRD stated that it is RWRD’s fourth month without an accident. Mr. Jenkins reminded everyone to be aware of their footing and watch out for wet spots that have turned to ice due to temperature drops. He also talked about flu season and the department’s weekly “Wipe Down Wednesday,” which reminds employees to wipe down workspaces.

E. Approval of Minutes - Meeting Minutes for October 24, 2019

ACTION: Ann Marie Wolf made a motion to approve the meeting minutes from October 24, 2019. Mark Taylor seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

F. Discussion/Action

1. Director’s Report – *Jackson Jenkins, Director, RWRD*

a. Metro Water Effluent Request

There was a recent request from Metro Water to direct their reclaimed water to CMID (Cortaro-Marana Irrigation District). Discussions are still taking place, we are unsure of the impact it would have on the Santa Cruz River and RWRD Recharge Credits.

b. Odor Management Authority

RWRD hopes to meet with Pima County Department of Environment Quality (PDEQ) and the Health Department to discuss roles, responsibilities and authorities when it comes to odors in the communities. Mr. Jenkins will give an update at a future meeting.

c. Admin Consolidation

Internally RWRD has consolidated its administrative positions. This consolidation has taken place at a division level with the intention to improve cross-training and efficiency.

d. A+ Reuse Classification at Agua Nueva

There is ongoing discussion to change the reuse classification permit to A+.

e. Kino South Financing

RWRD may help fund irrigation and pump improvements to Kino Sports Complex. RWRD is looking to fund roughly \$1 Million of the project. Funds will be recouped over a 10 year period. Per Michelle Campagne, Director, FRMD, Finance is currently looking at another funding source, which would lessen RWRD involvement.

f. Grease Campaign

Mr. Jenkins introduced Lisa Starks, Program Coordinator, RWRD. Ms. Starks gave a brief update on the January 4th Grease Collection and Recycling Event locations. An audio clip of the most recent grease campaign song was also shared.

g. Fairgrounds Gravity Sewer

The Fairgrounds Gravity Sewer project is on schedule to be completed in February 2020. One of the lagoons will be decommissioned, which will allow growth and expansion for the area around the fairgrounds.

h. Schwing Pump/Biosolids

RWRD had an old Schwing Pump that was rebuilt and put into commission. It has proved to work more efficiently and needs less maintenance than the current system. RWRD has ordered and is putting in to place, a 2nd Schwing pump. In order to get the system up and running, some piping work needs to be completed. During the switchover the silos may be down for a period of 5 weeks. During the period of interruption, RWRD will go back to a thinner sludge producing process. Details on disposal of those biosolids are currently being worked out.

2. CIP Sub-Committee Report – Matt Matthewson, RWRAC CIP Sub-Committee Chair

Matt Matthewson stated that The CIP Sub-Committee met on December 12, 2019. At the CIP Sub-Committee meeting RWRD's 5-Year CIP Plan was reviewed in detail. The budget is \$45 million total for each year and \$225 million total for 5 years. Between now and March RWRD will continue to work on the budget numbers before it is presented it to The Board of Supervisors.

Recognizing that the projects and amounts are generally appropriate and there may be modifications, The CIP Sub-Committee expressed support for the CIP 5-Year Plan. An updated version of the Plan will be presented at the January RWRAC Meeting for consideration.

3. FY 2020/21 Five Year CIP Budget Review – Jaime Rivera, Deputy Director, RWRD on behalf of Adam Bliven, Program Manager, RWRD

Jaime Rivera presented a summary of the 5-Year CIP Plan. Mr. Rivera explained the different sections of the budget and touched on various projects included in the Plan.

4. Financial Sub-Committee Report – John Lynch, RWRAC Financial Sub-Committee Chair

There has been no recent activity with the Financial Sub-Committee.

5. Fiscal Year 2019/20 Expense and Revenue Summary – Mandy Armenta, Admin. Support Svcs. Mgr., FRMD

The Total O&M Expense budget is \$83.4 million. After Period 5, Finance is projecting \$83.2 million with a savings of roughly \$200,000. The revenue budget is \$182.4 million. For this current fiscal year, \$185 million is projected, with an overage of \$2.5 million in revenue.

6. Citizens' Water Advisory Committee (CWAC) Report – Meeting Report and Tucson Water Activities

Jean McClain, RWRAC Member, stated that CWAC met on December 4, 2019. Local news outlets have recently reported about Tucson Water wells near the airport, which had PFAS levels higher than the current guidelines. Tucson Water assured the CWAC members that these wells are not a source for drinking water and that the removal of PFAS from that water has been very effective. Tucson Water also presented a 5-Year Plan to the CWAC members. CWAC held their annual elections, some members will be changing. Jeff Biggs, Administrator, Tucson Water, also stated that Tucson Water is starting a new process for rates, they are looking at 4 year rate cycles.

7. 2020 RWRAC Work Plan

The Committee discussed the 2020 work plan. They would like to edit the plan to add the 2020/21 CIP 5-Year Budget Review in January and an Open Meeting Law update in October.

ACTION: Bill Katzel made a motion to approve the 2020 Work Plan with discussed edits. Ann Marie Wolf seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Other items for future discussion to include:

- A report on PFAS and involvement by Pima County, Tucson Water and The University of Arizona (Barbra Escobar, RWRD)
- Rate Differences between Commercial and Residential synopsis/update

G. Call to the Audience - There were no comments from the audience.

H. Adjournment

ACTION: Ann Marie Wolf made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Rob Kulakofsky seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:01 a.m.