



CITIZENS' WATER ADVISORY COMMITTEE (CWAC)

Wednesday, May 4, 2016, 7:00 a.m.
Director's Conference Room
Tucson Water, 3rd Floor
310 W. Alameda Street, Tucson, Arizona

Summary Minutes

1. Roll Call:

The meeting was called to order by CWAC Chair Brian Wong at 7:03 a.m. Those present and absent were:

Present:

Brian Wong	Chairperson, Representative, City Manager
Catlow Shipek	Representative, City Manager
Mark Taylor	Representative, City Manager
Chuck Freitas	Representative, City Manager
Mitch Basefsky	Representative, City Manager
Jean McLain	Representative, City Manager
Placido dos Santos	Representative, City Manager
Mark Stratton	Representative, City Manager
Ryan Lee	Representative, Ward 1
Michelle Crow	Representative, Ward 2
George White	Representative, Ward 4
Mark Lewis	Vice Chair, Representative, Ward 5
Kelly Lee	Representative, Ward 6 (arrived after roll call)
Timothy Thomure	Tucson Water, Director, Ex-Officio Member

Absent:

Mark Murphy	Representative, Mayor
Jackson Jenkins	Pima County Regional Wastewater Reclamation Department Director, Ex-Officio Member

Tucson Water Staff Present:

Sandy Elder	Deputy Director
Scott Clark	Deputy Director
Jeff Biggs	Water Administrator
Britt Klein	Water Administrator
Pat Eisenberg	Water Administrator
Andrew Greenhill	Intergovernmental Affairs Manager
Wally Wilson	Chief Hydrologist
Fernando Molina	Water Program Superintendent
Daniel Ransom	Water Conservation Supervisor
Candice Rupprecht	Public Information Specialist
Johanna Hernandez	Staff Assistant
Kris LaFleur	Staff Assistant
Beth Kleiman	Hydrology Intern

Others Present:

Chris Avery	City of Tucson, Attorney's Office
Amy Stabler	City of Tucson, Ward 6
Mike Block	Metro Water
Colby Bowser	Pima County Regional Wastewater Reclamation Department
Amy McCoy	Ecosystems Economics
Kerry Schwartz	University of Arizona
Madeline Ryder	University of Arizona

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2. **Announcements** – Vice Chair Lewis commented on his observation of a water audit process and recommended members take advantage of this educational opportunity; Chair Wong presented former member Amy McCoy's appreciation award (taken out of order, after Item 3). Member Freitas briefly discussed the Beyond the Mirage film (taken out of order, with Item 9).
3. **Call to Audience** – Metro Water's Mike Block provided a fact sheet regarding the Bureau of Reclamation's Lower Basin Study project, and announced an opportunity for interested parties to be added to a notification list, additional information will be available after the meeting.
4. **Review of April 6, 2016 Legal Action Report and Meeting Minutes** – Committee Member Freitas motioned to approve the Meeting Minutes of April 6, 2016. Vice Chair Lewis seconded. Motion passed unanimously by a voice-vote of 11-0.
5. **Director's Report** –

Member Crow arrived at 7:06 a.m.

Member Ryan Lee arrived at 7:08 a.m.

- a. **Mayor and Council Items** – The Mayor issued a Proclamation regarding Drinking Water Week at the May 3rd Mayor and Council, Tucson Water is running a photo contest on social media as part of the recognition. A public hearing will be held on May 17th regarding Tucson Water's proposed rates, the Town Halls were completed successfully, with 30 or so attendees and great questions.
- b. **Informational Items** – Tucson is celebrating 15 years of successful Clearwater production, a commemoration event will held on May 25th.

Colorado River negotiations are ongoing; an op-ed was printed on Sunday discussing Tucson's position.

The City of Tucson will be sending a delegate to the One Water Summit in June to discuss water management.

Tucson Water's 84 inch pipeline will be shut-down for repairs 9th-20th, the Utility will be supplementing deliveries with groundwater during repairs.

6. Subcommittee Reports –

Technical, Planning, and Policy Subcommittee – On behalf of Subcommittee Chair Murphy, Subcommittee Member Basefsky reported that the TPP received a presentation regarding rainwater harvesting and green infrastructure.

Finance Subcommittee – Subcommittee Chair Stratton reported that the Subcommittee will meet on May 26th; the Subcommittee will discuss scheduling, process, and other efforts.

Conservation and Education Subcommittee – Subcommittee Chair Shipek reported that the Subcommittee will meet next Tuesday; the Subcommittee will discuss the meaning and measurement of conservation.

Bill Redesign Ad-Hoc Subcommittee – Subcommittee Chair Freitas reported that the Subcommittee met and discussed the focus group results, saw various samples, and provided further input. The Subcommittee will meet once again before bringing the sample to the full Committee.

RWRAC Update – Member Taylor reported that the RWRAC approved the 2017 financial plan, including a recommended 4% increase that is going through the process.

7. **Measuring Conservation** – Amy McCoy presented a PowerPoint regarding measuring conservation. Mrs. McCoy discussed what conservation means in relation to current conditions of CAP shortage, drought, and the need for CAP system users to support the system. CAP curtailments and shortage conditions were reviewed. Reductions in municipal demand increase the flexibility of water resource management. If one gallon per capita per day equals 1200 AF then conservation can be measured in terms of how it can help adapt to possible CAP curtailments. All sources of water (CAP, groundwater, reclaimed, effluent, rainwater, stormwater) are one holistic resource that together provides flexibility in the management of water resources, in conjunction with excess water created by reductions in demand, and outreach and investment in conservation. The option of shifting excess water to support the CAP system, and how that will benefit the users of the CAP system, was

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discussed. Several questions were proposed for further thought and discussion. The Committee discussed the value and relative cost of conservation.

8. **Drought Presentation**¹ – Member Basefsky presented a PowerPoint on CAP Water Issues. The recent study of Colorado River water supply and demand was reviewed. The study reflected that demand eventually exceeds supplies. The gap between supplies and demand is 3.2 million AF. Factors of the imbalance include the long-term 16-year drought, climate change, and the structural deficit of the system. These factors result in a 10 to 12-foot annual decline in Lake Mead. Current provisions for CAP curtailments in the event of a declaration of shortage were discussed. The current state of the river reservoirs, and future elevation projections were discussed. Projections reflect possibilities of shortage in 2016, and increased probability in 2017. Risks of elevation drops include delivery curtailments, reductions in hydropower generation, intervention by the Secretary of the Interior, cavitation risk for hydropower generation, inability to meet deliveries, and possible dead pool. Options for Secretary intervention were discussed in regards to following the Law of River and/or Exercising New Authority. Adaptations strategies include groundwater storage, lower basin drought response Memorandum of Understanding, pilot system conservation projects, bypass and excess flow workgroups, augmentation projects, and lower basin drought contingency plans. Long-term and short-term options for addressing the structural deficit were discussed. The goal is to bend the curve of decline in elevation of Lake Mead. The drought contingency plan currently being considered would include all lower basin states and the Bureau of Reclamation voluntarily reducing demands on the River to protect elevations of 1025 feet and over. This plan would overlay the current shortage sharing agreement.

Tucson Water staff member Wally Wilson provided a PowerPoint on Tucson Water's reliability with consideration to anticipated shortage. General CAP allocations and priorities were discussed. The allocations and priorities in the Tucson Active Management Area (AMA) specifically were reviewed. The effect of Tier 1-3 shortages on the Tucson AMA was discussed. Projections based on a set of assumptions were made regarding possible future build out, expected build out demand, and supplies to meet that demand with presumed CAP reductions were presented. These projections don't reflect the need to supplement CAP supplies until 2040. At that point, Water Bank water, Long-Term Storage Credits, recycled water, and groundwater are all possible alternative supplies to CAP water.

9. **Future Meeting / Agenda Items** – See projected agenda.
10. **Adjournment** – Meeting was adjourned at 9:09 a.m.

Approved 6/1/16

¹ Member Freitas departed at 8:40 a.m. and returned at 8:43 a.m.