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**CITY/COUNTY WATER AND WASTEWATER STUDY
OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE**

**September 17, 2008
Meeting Summary**

1. **CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman Jim Barry called the September 17, 2008 meeting of the City/County Water and Wastewater Study Oversight Committee (Oversight Committee) to order at 7:00 a.m. at the Randolph Golf Course Club House, Copper Room, 600 South Alvernon Way, Tucson, Arizona.

Members Present:

Jim Barry, Chairman
Rob Kulakofsky
Tina Lee
Sean Sullivan
Daniel Sullivan
Mark Stratton
Vincent Vasquez
John Carlson
Marcelino Flores
Bruce Gungle

Representing:

Citizens Water Advisory Committee (CWAC)
WMAC
CWAC
City Planning Commission
CWAC
WMAC
CWAC
Wastewater Management Advisory Committee (WMAC)
WMAC
County Planning and Zoning (P&Z) Commission

Alternate Present:

Bob Cook

Representing:

County P&Z Commission

Members Absent:

James Watson
Bonnie Poulos

Representing:

City Planning Commission
County P&Z Commission

City/County Staff Present:

Nicole Ewing Gavin, City Manager's Office
Sabrina Cotta, City Manager's Office
Chris Avery, Tucson Water
Sandy Elder, Tucson Water
Ralph Marra, Tucson Water
Michael McCasland, Tucson Water
Melaney Seacat, Regional Wastewater Reclamation Department
Nicole Fyffe, Pima County Administrator's Office
Brenda Garcia, Regional Wastewater Reclamation Department

A quorum of the Committee was established.

2. **COMMITTEE BUSINESS**

Jim Barry stated that there was nothing new to report about the water provider participation update.

Approval of the September 10, 2008 meeting summary was passed by a voice vote of 9 to 0.

Sean Sullivan introduced his motion for the defined study area to include all of Tucson Water's current and obligated service area, Pima County Wastewater service area and unincorporated Pima County not served by another water provider. Jim Barry asked for Sean Sullivan's rationale for the study area. Sean Sullivan replied there are environmental areas with groundwater needs and that land use and water use need to be brought together. Sean Sullivan stated that he wanted to ensure that the committee looks at everything that other jurisdictions/providers may not.

John Carlson stated that the committee could not be too definitive but they need to keep in mind all of Pima County.

Bob Cook asked if Sean Sullivan wanted to include all of Pima County. Sean Sullivan replied Eastern Pima County. Bob Cook stated that reforming the rules of the Groundwater Replenishment District would go much further than the inclusion of a few more areas and that the committee needs to get those players in line and get the rules changed.

Tina Lee asked if Sean Sullivan wanted an inventory of the different categories of land that use water resources. Sean Sullivan replied that he wanted the groundwater dependent ecosystems identified and baseline data on what is allowed with current zoning and the impact that has on the ecosystem and stated that a lot of the data should be known through the Sonoran Desert Conservation Plan.

Dan Sullivan stated he would like to move the motion. Jim Barry replied that other committee members still wished to speak.

Mark Stratton expressed concern that the other providers are not involved so we should not include their service areas. Sean Sullivan clarified that his motion includes Eastern Pima County minus the areas serviced by other water providers.

Rob Kulafosky asked for clarification if private well owners and small community well owners not serviced by the utility are included. Sean Sullivan replied yes.

John Carlson reminded the committee that other entities could be interactive players in Phase 2.

Jim Barry suggested that today's presentations may help inform this discussion and that the Committee revisit this issue at a future meeting. Sean Sullivan agreed.

Rob Kulakofsky reminded the committee to keep financial sustainability in mind when defining sustainability. Jim Barry reminded the committee they will be asked to submit a one page paper on how each member defines sustainability.

Jim Barry reminded the committee of the draft outline of the Phase I final report, presented an updated schedule for report writing, public outreach suggestions for January, and topic

clusters to be addressed in Phase II (handouts attached to meeting summary). Jim Barry stated that we will bring the report writing schedule back for approval next week.

Bob Cook suggested that on the sustainability piece, the committee develop sustainable principles instead of an abstract definition of sustainability.

3. **PRESENTATIONS: ENVIRONMENTAL NEEDS FOR WATER**

Rob Marshall, Director of Science at the Nature Conservancy, presented on the affect water flows and availability have on rivers, wildlife and riparian habitat. The Power Point presentation is posted to the study website (tucsonpimawaterstudy.com).

Julia Fonseca from the Pima County Natural Resources, Parks, and Recreation Department presented on key issues to protect ecosystems and on stream flow in Pima County. The Power Point presentation is posted to the study website (tucsonpimawaterstudy.com).

4. **Q & A WITH PRESENTERS**

Mark Stratton asked if during the ROMP process if wastewater did not look at flows necessary to maintain the Santa Cruz River and if that was still under study. Julia Fonseca replied that there is a report about the flows of the river and that where release points are for effluent effects the flow of the river.

Bruce Gungle questioned if in the absence of effluent discharge if there would be any flow in the Tubac area. Julia Fonseca replied probably not due to the fact that a lot is pumped out for agriculture.

Bob Cook asked whether CAP water is increasing salt impacts. Julia Fonseca answered that it can have some effects but there are still ecosystem benefits with increased salt content.

Marcelino Flores questioned the use of the term 'lots of water' in referring to the basin. Rob Marshall stated that San Pedro has many millions of gallons of water and consumption is less than 2 percent but it still has an effect.

John Carlson asked human consumption to be defined. Rob Marshall stated that it covered all categories of water use by humans. John Carlson stated that pumping was getting into water laws. Rob Marshall stated that most areas do not recognize the connections between ground water and surface water.

Sean Sullivan asked if in the Cienega Creek area, a certain distance would be better for locating wells. Julia Fonseca answered that there has been some work done to set standards but further studies were required.

Marcelino Flores questioned if isotopic composition work was part of adjudication and how well it was received. Julia Fonseca answered that it had not been used.

John Carlson questioned why not locate a wastewater treatment plant in Vail to use effluent in Cienega Creek area. Julia Fonseca stated that operators of the reclaimed system could provide the best insights.

Bob Cook questioned the use of DES population projections. Rob Marshal quoted a demographer who stated we will continue to see growth in the west because it is cheaper to air condition your house here than to heat your home in the northeast.

Clyde Stagner stated that there were effeminate fish in Lake Mead, and questioned contaminants in our effluent we are pumping into streams. Julia Fonseca stated that we are seeing some effect similar to Las Vegas, but despite the issues, effluent-dominatated streams are still healthy and viable riparian ecosystems.

5. **CALL TO THE AUDIENCE**

Tracy Williams sated that water is not a luxury and as a sufferer from an endocrine disruptive illness was disturbed to hear that contaminant effects are unknown.

Clyde Stagner stated that we are drinking polluted Las Vegas water and questioned who the science caregivers of Tucson are.

David Godlewski thanked the committee for their hard work and stated that SAHBA is a resource for the committee.

Charles Cole stated that we needed a way to capture the 60 percent of rainfall that evaporates away and put it to use.

6. **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned by Jim Barry at 8:55 a.m.



City/County Water & Wastewater Study Oversight Committee Meeting- 9/17/2008 Attendees



	Last Name	First Name	Organization
1	Baker	Beryl	
2	Braithwaite	Jim	
3	Brooks	Chris	
4	Chang Kakoh	Ben	Pima County
5	Cloninger	Tim	U of A
6	Cole	Charles J.	
7	Daw	Sarah	UA Water Sustainability Project
8	Dickerson	Dennis	
9	Gannon	Katie	Drachman Institute
10	Garcia	Margot	
11	Godlewski	David	SAHBA
12	Heller	Carol	
13	Iannarino	Bob	DYI
14	Kiser	Madeline	
15	Lachowicz	Holly	
16	Little	Val	Water CASA
17	Pierce	Les	Arroyo Chico Neighborhood Association
18	Proctor	Ron	Sustainable Tucson
19	Roe	Alice	
20	Scadron	Arlene	
21	Stagner	Clyde	Social Security
22	Ward	Kathy	Town of Sahuarita
23	Williams	Tracy	

Draft Outline of Phase I Report

Updated 9/17/08

Volume One: Executive Summary

Volume Two: Findings and Conclusions

Chapter 1- Description of Phase I Process and Public Participation

Chapter 2 -Major Scope Items

- A. Inventory
- B. Water Resources & Infrastructure Assessment
- C. Sustainable Water Population
- D. Separate City/County Update on Cooperative Efforts

Chapter 3 - Recommendations for Phase II

- A. Scope
- B. Process and Public Participation

Volume Three: Background Materials

Section 1 - Reports of each presentation made to the Oversight Committee

- Chapter 1 - Overview of Water and Wastewater Systems, History, Backgrounds
- Chapter 2 - Customers and Water/Wastewater Demands /Available Water Resources
- Chapter 3 - Potable Water, Wastewater and Reclaimed Water Delivery Systems
- Chapter 4 - Currently Planned New Water and Wastewater Infrastructure
- Chapter 5 - Financial Planning
- Chapter 6 - Population Trends
- Chapter 7 - Land Use and Planning for growth
- Chapter 8 - Climate Related Water Resource Uncertainties / Rainwater Harvesting Case Study
- Chapter 9 - Environmental Needs for Water
- Chapter 10 - Water Budget for the Tucson AMA
- Chapter 11 – Water Resource Scenarios
- Chapter 12 – Water Conservation
- Chapter 13 – Potential New Water Supplies
- Chapter 14 – Sustainability

Section 2 - Summary of Public Comments

Section 3 - Public Participation Report

Section 4 - Information from Other Utilities

DRAFT Report Writing Schedule (Updated 9/17/08)

Date	Activity
Sep 15 - Nov 7	Staff drafts Chapters 1 - 14 in Vol 3 and distributes to committee as they are completed; Committee submits input on Chapters as suggested by Marcelino Flores; and Committee submits comments and suggestions for outline of Volume 2
Nov 7 by 5:00 p.m.	Staff distributes draft of Volume 3 and committee input on Volume 2
Nov 15 (9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.)	A. Committee reviews draft of Volume 3
	B. Committee has facilitated discussion of outline for Volume 2
Dec 5 by 5:00 p.m.	Staff distributes first draft of Volume 2 and 3
Dec 13 (9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.)	Committee reviews and proposes changes to first draft of Volume 2 and 3
Jan 9 by 5:00 p.m.	Staff distributes second draft of Volume 2 and 3
Jan 17 (9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.)	Committee finalizes and approves draft of report
Jan 26 - Feb 7	Public Outreach
Jan 26 - Feb 13	Chair, Vice Chair and staff draft Executive Summary
Feb 13 by 5:00 p.m.	Staff distributes report on public reach and recommends changes to draft report; draft of Executive Summary is distributed
Feb 21 (9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.)	Committee approves the final report
Feb 27 by 5:00 p.m.	Final report of Phase I released

Preliminary Proposal for January Public Outreach

1. Joint Meetings of City/County Committees (CWAC/WMAC, PC/P&Z)

CWAC and WMAC and City Planning Commission and County Planning & Zoning Commission would schedule their January 2009 meetings as a joint meeting to receive a detailed briefing on the draft Oversight Committee report

2. Stakeholder Panel

Various stakeholder groups would be asked to participate in a panel discussion to comment on and critique the draft report. Stakeholder groups could include the following:

- Arizona Department of Water Resources
- Academia (Arizona Water Institute/Water Resources Research Center)
- Environmental (Coalition for Sonoran Desert Protection)
- Water Providers (Southern Arizona Water Users Association)
- Business (Southern Arizona Leadership Council)
- Other Jurisdictions (Pima Association of Governments)
- Neighborhoods (Neighborhood Infill Coalition/Sustainable Tucson)

3. Paired Supervisor District/Council Ward Office & Mayor's Office Open Houses

A minimum of "four open houses" would be held throughout the "Study Area." Under one alternative, the community could be divided into four quadrants: Northwest, Northeast, Southeast, and Southwest. In each quadrant, the District and Ward offices that represent the areas would jointly sponsor their open house. As a citywide elected office, the Mayor would be a sponsor for all four open houses.

Proposal for Substantive Organization of Phase II Topics and Expected Products

Issue Cluster	Scope Item	Product
Comprehensive Planning Principles	A. Agreement on population growth, urban form, land use planning and infrastructure	Principles to be used to guide comprehensive plan updates and to be included in the comprehensive plans/to be recommended to Mayor and Council and Board of Supervisors for incorporation in the comprehensive planning process
	B. Land use planning must be Integrated with water resources and infrastructure for each jurisdiction.	
	G. Respect for the environment	
Adaptive Management Strategies	C. Increase the use of reclaimed or recycled water on turf irrigation to substitute for groundwater use	Specific programs to be implemented, ordinances or resolutions to be adopted, and intergovernmental agreements to be executed
	E. Develop a consolidated drought management plan	
	F. Implement consistent water conservation standards	
New Water Strategies	D. Develop renewable water sources for the City/County area	Strategic Plan to be reviewed and approved by Mayor and Council and Board of Supervisors
Sustainability		Develop a common definition of sustainability