

CITIZENS' WATER ADVISORY COMMITTEE (CWAC) MINUTES

April 16, 2019

Members Present: Don Langley (Chair), Janet Marlow (Vice Chair) Angie Binder, Jay Campbell, Tom Coker, Tom Tobiassen, Susan Turnquist

Excused Absence: Duane Senn

Staff Present: Nancy Freed, Marshall Brown, Alex Davis, Greg Baker, Tim York, Zach Vernon, Rory Franklin, Cathy Haddon

Visitors Present: None

Meeting was called to order at 6:02 p.m.

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – March 12, 2019

Minutes were approved and seconded.

2. AGENDA TOPICS FROM THE COMMITTEE

T. Tobiassen stated that the Executive Director for the Sand Creek Greenway Foundation will be attending to introduce herself at next month's meeting. The greenway is the trail that runs along the Sand Creek that has most of the sewer lines that run to Metro Wastewater treatment facility.

S. Turnquist stated she had attended a presentation and would be interesting to hear about the different organizations that Aurora Water cooperates with along the High Line Canal. M. Brown stated he would be sure they would be happy to present.

S. Turnquist stated she would also like to hear about Aurora Water's involvement in recreation, in some way. M. Brown stated that the Aurora Parks Department has been involved more so than the water department. He stated we could get them to come present their perspective on the recreational opportunities and where those are headed as it would be a shift from a water delivery canal to a recreational corridor. G. Baker added we haven't done an Urban Drainage discussion either and that could be done in the latter part of the year.

3. INTRODUCTIONS/PUBLIC INVITED TO BE HEARD

None.

4. NEW/OLD BUSINESS

T. Coker asked how sports activities such as kayaking, etc., along the Platte and Arkansas rivers impact our water supply. M. Brown explained how Aurora Water is very affected in a number of different ways associated with fish habitat, recreational purposes, endangered species.

T. Coker asked about the frequency of the resurfacing of the Homestake dam. M. Brown stated that the asphalt has a 50+ year life expectancy although the portion exposed to UV needs to be recoated approximately every 5 to 10 years.

T. Coker asked how the Bureau's current effort to propose alternatives would slow the progress down for the Wild Horse Reservoir. M. Brown stated that it's not necessarily the Bureau process, it's the NEPA process. An alternatives analysis is something we're required to go through as part of the environmental NEPA process (National Environmental Policy Act).

5. COMMUNICATIONS UPDATE

- Preliminary Water Availability

G. Baker referred to the snow read reports he passed along to Committee Members each month adding that Aurora Water will not be in a drought stage this year but be on our normal, permanent, 3-day-a-week restriction. The annual postcard is going out in the mail in the few weeks which will include the entire summer irrigation calendar.

- Youth Water Festival Date – May 16

G. Baker noted they are always looking for volunteers for the Youth Water Festival and to email him so he can pass Natalie Brower-Kirton's email address along to them.

- 2019 Water Tour Dates

The 2019 Water Tour is scheduled for July 30 and 31. G. Baker reminded the Committee Members to send him an email if they are interested in attending. He noted that they will be going up to the Arkansas River diversion this year which is just upstream of the Otero Pump Station. He added that they will be stopping there this year and will get out of the bus to talk about the mitigation that has been done at this diversion site for fishing and boating.

- G. Baker asked the Committee Members if they were still interested in taking a trip down into the lower Arkansas River area. He noted that August is a great time because they are harvesting but it is also very hot. G. Baker will put out a Doodle poll for the Members to help determine a date that will work best for everyone.

- T. Tobiassen asked when the water meter replacement program starting. G. Baker stated that the proof of concept will be starting in May. He will reach out to Alicia DuPree to remind her that a number of the Committee Members volunteered to participate in that. He added that they definitely want the Committee's feedback on the proof of concept and want the Committee Members to be early adopters of the customer portal in a couple years when that is rolled out. They really want the Committee Members to be engaged so they can tell us what's usable and what's not usable, and help them evaluate if there is a need to be looking at a third party option if it's not meeting your expectations.

- T. Tobiassen stated that someone painted the pit cover on his property blue. G. Baker noted that they did that in his area, too, and they've painted all the valve covers in the street a blue/grey, as well. G. Baker said he will check to see why, just out of curiosity.

6. WATER CONSERVATION ANNUAL REPORT

T. York gave his annual Water Conservation Report highlighting the water savings for the 2018 indoor programs and the 2017 outdoor programs as well as changes for the 2019 programs.

7. COLORADO RIVER DROUGHT CONTINGENCY PLANS

M. Brown noted that the Committee Members heard much of this information in February with Alex Davis' River Compacts presentation. He went through the history of the original Colorado River Compact, which states are involved, how the apportionment works, how it has evolved over the years, as well as what is being done with drought contingency planning and the demand management program.

8. DISCUSS CWAC QUARTERLY REPORT TO WPC – APRIL 11 MEETING

Because this CWAC meeting was moved from April 9 to April 16, G. Baker emailed the Committee Members and suggested they discuss their Report to the Water Policy Committee via email.

9. REVIEW FOLLOW-UP QUESTIONS GENERATED AT THIS MEETING

None.

10. CONFIRM NEXT MEETING – TUESDAY, MAY 4, 2019

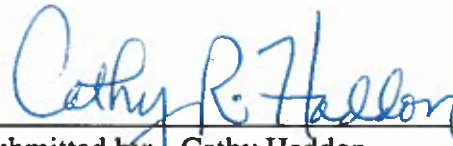
The next regular meeting will be held Tuesday, May 4, 2019, in the Lowry Room.

11. ADJOURN

The meeting was adjourned at 8:09



Don Langley, Chair
Citizens' Water Advisory Committee



Submitted by: Cathy Haddon
Administrative Specialist, Aurora Water

ADOPTED: _____

5/14/2019