

Citizens' Water Advisory Committee (CWAC) Minutes
August 10, 2021, 6:00 p.m.
AMC 15151 E. Alameda Pkwy – Aspen Conference Room 2nd Floor

WebEx Link:

<https://auroragov.webex.com/auroragov/j.php?MTID=m8ab81ecdb995f6f3ec185516480d2f1a>

Public Participation through call in number (listen only)
720-650-7664
Access code: 146 245 5086

Members Present: Janet Marlow - Chair, Angie Binder -Vice Chair, Tom Coker, Brandy DeLange, Richard Eason, William Gondrez, Mike Spatter

Absent: Jay Campbell, David Patterson

Staff Present: Greg Baker, Leiana Baker, Natalie Brower-Kirton, Jo Ann Giddings, Kristen Lovelace, Rory Franklin, Gail Thrasher, Ted Hartfelder, Greg Hansen, Sonya Gonzalez, Sarah Young, Fernando Aranda, Andrea Long

Visitors Present: None

The meeting was called to order at 6:02 p.m.

1. Approval of Minutes – July 13, 2021

The July 13, 2021, minutes were approved.

2. Introductions/Public Invited to be Heard

None.

3. New/Old Business

None.

4. Communications Update

G. Baker stated, the Water Tour has been cancelled due to road conditions. In lieu of Water Tour there will be a workshop next Tuesday at the Aurora Reservoir. Aurora residents received emergency notifications on their cell phones for boil water. The boil water order was for the City of Englewood only.

5. Quarterly Financial Report – Second Quarter 2021

J. Giddings stated, we are working on some taxable debt refunding, and our financial advisors will be watching this. They think it's a good time for us to do some debt refunding and is for the water

fund only for water projects that were done. The operating revenue is down a little due to the weather patterns in Colorado, so it's lower than we expected. We still have high revenues from undeveloped fees. We do our debt closing for the SEAM facility. Along with getting the proceeds for that we also repaid the water fund from the wastewater that was \$16M that went back to the water fund. In our operating there are no changes. Last quarter we were getting a bit lower on cash balances, but we did get our debt issued. There are more connections than last year. The revenues are a bit lower and depends on what type connections they are based on the demand. Cash flow there was a big spike in revenue. Water sales were lower. May was lower than the past few years and June was a little bit higher. Capital – we've been able to do some water acquisitions and are over budget so we will be doing a supplemental. Started construction on the SEAM facility site and those costs will be coming in. Project for the quarter was the Arkansas Valley group and are building a shop there to protect and work on machinery.

Questions

What are you using to calculate the costs for an acre foot of water? J. Giddings replied, we look at what we have been actually paying and increasing our water fee. G. Baker added, it's about \$17,000 per acre foot and some include the cost of the land.

6. SEAM Update and Senac Creek Sanitary Sewer Interceptor

S. Young gave a presentation. Aurora Water is currently constructing the first phase of the Southeast Area Maintenance Facility (SEAM), with an anticipated move-in date of mid-2023. The need for sanitary sewer conveyance at the SEAM site aligned with other identified needs in this area including the opportunity to abandon an existing, historically problematic, wastewater lift station. A. Long gave a presentation. The Senac Creek Sanitary Sewer Interceptor project details will be discussed including the unique environmental project challenges.

Questions

Are all the utility staff moving to SEAM? S. Young replied, about 30% of the Operations and Maintenance staff will stay at the Central Facilities to be close to the older parts of infrastructure, and a few administrative staff will stay at the AMC which will also have hotel spaces for staff who need to be there for the day.

7. Sand Creek Programmable Logic Controller (PLC) Replacement

T. Hartfelder gave a presentation. The Sand Creek Water Reuse Facility PLC Conversion Project replaced aging/obsolete electronic process control hardware, including Programmable Logic Controllers (PLCs) used to monitor and control the facility's processes. This system upgrade also required new communications lines and an update to the facility's Control Room, all on a compressed timeframe to avoid seasonal operational needs.

Questions

M. Spatter asked, what kind of PLCs are being used at that facility? T. Hartfelder replied, Rockwell PLC were replaced with Allen Bradley PLC under the project. The firmware associated with the Rockwell PLCs was no longer being supported by Rockwell Automation. This was the driver for the project. M. Spatter asked, what type of SCADA system, is it a remote connectivity to the system. T. Hartfelder replied, the facility processes themselves are interlinked via a looped fiber network routed back to the facility's central control facility. The facility additionally can be

remotely controlled from the City’s Flow Control Center. The project came in approximately \$400,000.00 under budget.

8. Education and Outreach Team – Supporting the Colorado Statewide Water Education Action Plan

N. Brower-Kirton gave a presentation. Aurora Water has provided water education and outreach programs for the community in many forms reaching a wide range of community members for over twenty years. Staff will present highlights of the Education team’s work during the 2020-2021 school year and provide information on how we are leading water education in Colorado by supporting the Statewide Water Education Action Plan.

Questions

How are the people in the basins are doing outreach and how do they measure that? N. Brower-Kirton replied, unfortunately they don’t have a budget to do a statewide survey. They are going to create sample questions that can be used by any utility across the state. We are working with other utilities to do that type of polling and surveys.

What are some of the measurable outcomes for the students that they’ve gathered knowledge from these courses? N. Brower-Kirton replied, for the classroom presentations we have pre and post assessment that the students do. Some of them are online and some are worksheets.

9. CWAC letter for Special Study Session for Boards and Commissions

J. Marlow stated, the letter and presentation will be available for the Committee to review and comment on prior to going to Council.

10. Committee tour in September

G. Baker asked, where would the Committee like to go? No plant tours are available. T. Coker suggested a tour of Rocky Ford. G. Baker will send an email to check availability for tour.

12. Confirm Next Meeting – Tuesday, October 12, 2021

13. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 7:38 p.m.

Janet Marlow

Janet Marlow, Chair
Citizens’ Water Advisory Committee

Adopted:

10/12/21

Signature: Janet Marlow
Janet Marlow (Oct 14, 2021 09:20 MDT)

Email: janet@novellaliving.com

1. 08-10-21 CWAC Minutes Draft

Final Audit Report

2021-10-14

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