



Minutes

DEPARTMENT of PUBLIC UTILITIES
ADMINISTRATION

**Salt Lake City
Public Utilities Advisory Committee
Minutes
May 25, 2017**

The Public Utilities Advisory Committee meeting was held at 7:30 a.m. on May 25, 2017 at the Public Utilities Main Conference Room, 1530 South West Temple, Salt Lake City, Utah 84115. Committee members present were Roger Player, Ted Boyer, Kent Moore, Colleen Kuhn, Sydney Fannesbeck, and Lynn Hemingway. Salt Lake City Public Utilities employees present were Laura Briefer, Jesse Stewart, Marian Rice, Karryn Greenleaf, Rusty Vetter, Mark Christensen, and Janine Calfo. Also in attendance were James Dixon, Carollo Engineering; Trevor Lindley, Brown and Caldwell; Mike Collins, Bowen and Collins; Lehua Weaver and Sam Owen, Salt Lake City Council; Will Peterson and Mike Guymon, AECOM; Chris Mountenay, Stantec; and Mike Wilson, Metropolitan Water District.

Welcome and Introductions

Ted Boyer and Laura Briefer welcomed the attendees.

Approve Minutes of April 27, 2017 Meeting

Committee member Lynn Hemingway moved and Committee member Roger Player seconded the motion to approve the minutes of the April 27, 2017 meeting, as submitted. All members present voted aye.

Financial Report – Kurt Spjute

Kurt Spjute presented the Department's financial report. Laura mentioned that Public Utilities has been asked to return to City Council to present different scenarios for the rate increases, as there has been a lot of public input, so far. Most of the public concern has been from residents who are on fixed income. Lehua Weaver stated that other comments have been about the size of the increase at the beginning. Kent pointed out that the longer that increases are deferred, the harder it will be to have the funds available to address the capital improvements that are required.

Raftelis is beginning a rate study to evaluate all utility rates and impact fees. The last rate study was done in 2009. The current rate increases were based on that study. The new study will take into consideration the Northwest Quadrant development.

Public Hearing Concerning Disposition of City-owned Property Located at 87 South Wolcott

The PUAC will accept public comments to consider a request to declare City-owned property located at 87 South Wolcott as surplus. The requestor is the owner of property located adjacent to the City-owned property and is requesting that Salt Lake City Department of Public Utilities consider a declaration of surplus to have the property available for purchase to allow for the construction of a new building. An appraisal will be requested when the property is declared surplus to the needs of the City. The City property currently houses a decommissioned water tank, a water conduit, and water line. As part of this transaction, the costs for relocation of active water facilities and removal of any decommissioned/vacated water facilities would be borne by the purchaser. The purpose of the public hearing is for the Public Utilities Advisory Committee to hear public comment regarding the property transaction.

Karryn Greenleaf, Property Coordinator for Public Utilities discussed the background of the request for purchase of the surplus property and the tank that is located on the property. It was determined that the proposed building could not be built over property lines.

At this point in time, the tank on the property is no longer in use and cannot be updated. The public is invited to make comment regarding the applicant's request to purchase the property from the City.

Scott Mietchen is president of Fund Raising Counsel, Inc. A water tank is located on the plot that they have maintained over the last 60 years. The University of Utah is anticipating a \$2 million-plus capital improvement project on the land by removing the current tank and building a new fraternity house. The people in the neighborhood have been contacted for their input. The University will have to cap the water line under the closest roadway.

There is no representative from the Community Council present. Sydney Fannesbeck asked if Mr. Mietchen has taken this issue before the Community Council. She feels that this issue before the Community Council before any decision is made. Mr. Mietchen has committed to present to the Community Council. The next step, after that, will be to go before the City Council.

There were no people present who appeared to oppose the application. Ted Boyer motioned to close the issue and move on to the rest of the meeting.

Water Right Adjudications in the Utah Lake/Jordan River Area – Blake W. Bingham, PE, Assistant State Engineer – Adjudication, Utah Department of Natural Resources, Division of Water Rights

Laura Briefer introduced Blake Bingham from the Department of Natural Resources.

SALT LAKE CITY DEPARTMENT of PUBLIC UTILITIES
1530 SOUTH WEST TEMPLE

STREET

SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH 84115



There has been a lot of action from the Division of Water Rights with a recent mailing about the adjudication of water rights in the Salt Lake Valley. Mr. Bingham made a PowerPoint presentation that outlined the history of water rights in Utah.

Utah Water belongs to the public, although the State manages it. Diversions of water from streams were generally on a community basis to need the immediate needs of the settlers. Conflicts were settled through ecclesiastical channels; Bishop's courts for local wards provided a judicial process with Stake High Councils serving as appellate courts.

Mr. Bingham discussed the process of the general adjudication process. General adjudications are conducted to bring all water claims on to the permanent record and helps to clarify what the true requirements of the water available (i.e., agriculture or housing developments).

Ted Boyer asked if the entire Salt Lake Valley has been adjudicated. Blake stated that the valley is actually over-adjudicated. The only way to get a water right today will probably be to purchase one from someone who already owns it. Laura said that these rights are integral to our system and the stewardship of the watershed. The Red Butte adjudication process only started about two years ago. Laura suggested that the Advisory Committee does a regular review of the water right adjudications.

Consumer Confidence Report – Marian Rice

Marian made a PowerPoint presentation on the Consumer Confidence Report. The Consumer Confidence report is mandated by the Safe Drinking Water Act and the Consumer Confidence Rule. The Safe Drinking Water Act regulates approximately 100 contaminants.

Greater than 180 samples are collected per month from the distribution system to detect Coliform, *E. coli*, Chlorine residuals and Fluoride. Regulatory levels may increase and the cost of compliance may increase.

Sydney asked if there are any lead pipes. Marian responded that there are no lead pipes left in the system, although there are lead joints.

Water Reclamation Facility Tour Announcement

There will be a tour of the Water Reclamation Facility that is scheduled for Monday, June 5th at 10:00 am. Participants will meet at the Public Utility building to carpool to the Facility.

Laura suggested that additional tours could be scheduled over the course of the summer of some of the Drinking Water plants, wells or the canal system.

Other Business

None.

Meeting adjourned at 8:58 am.

The next PUAC meeting will be September 28, 2017 at 7:30 a.m. at Salt Lake City Department of Public Utilities Administration Building.

Minutes approved September 28, 2017

