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

April 23, 2009

Meeting Summary

1. **CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman Jim Barry called the April 23, 2009 meeting of the City/County Water and Wastewater Study Oversight Committee (Oversight Committee) to order at 5:35 p.m. at the Tucson Association of Realtors, 2445 N. Tucson Blvd, Tucson, Arizona.

Members Present:

Jim Barry, Chairman
Vincent Vasquez
Bonnie Poulos
Tina Lee
John Carlson
Rob Kulakofsky
Mark Stratton
Marcelino Flores

Representing:

Citizens Water Advisory Committee (CWAC)
CWAC
County Planning and Zoning (P&Z) Commission
CWAC
Regional Wastewater Reclamation Advisory Committee (RWRAC)
RWRAC
RWRAC
RWRAC

Alternate Present:

Bob Cook

Representing:

County P&Z Commission

Absent:

James Watson
Sean Sullivan
Bruce Gungle
Thomas Saylor Brown

Representing:

City Planning Commission
CWAC
County Planning and Zoning (P&Z) Commission
City Planning Commission

City/County Staff Present:

Nicole Ewing Gavin, City Manager's Office
Sabrina Cotta, City Manager's Office
Leslie Liberti, Office of Conservation and Sustainable Development, City of Tucson
Jeff Biggs, Tucson Water
Sandy Elder, Tucson Water
Chris Avery, Tucson Water
Melody Loyer, Tucson Water
Fernando Molina, Tucson Water
Nicole Fyffe, Pima County Administrator's Office
Mike Gritzik, Regional Wastewater Reclamation Department
Kathleen Chavez, Regional Wastewater Reclamation Department
Melaney Seacat, Regional Wastewater Reclamation Department

A quorum of the Committee was established.

2. **APPROVAL OF MARCH 19, 2009 MEETING SUMMARY***

Approval of the March 19, 2009 meeting summary passed by a voice vote of 9-0.

3. **CALL TO THE AUDIENCE**

No one spoke.

4. **REQUESTED CHANGE TO EXECUTIVE SUMMARY***

Mike Gritzik requested a language change to Executive Summary Committee Themes Section Scope Item A. The committee voted to accept the requested change as written by Wastewater by a voice vote of 9-0.

5. **DISCUSSION OF PHASE 2 PROCESS**

Jim Barry stated that Phase 2 would have more interaction between committee members and less staff presentations. All subjects will remain open until September when the final report is written.

Jim Barry stated that though some still express concern about the composition of the Committee, the City Council and Board of Supervisors have appointed the committee to oversee Phases 1 & 2 and the invitation still stands for others to submit comments and attend meetings to comment. Mark Stratton agreed, stating that phases 3 - 5 will be regional. Vince Vasquez stated that he was still concerned about the viability of the study if more stakeholders are not invited to the table and asked that the committee show restraint when making recommendations that may affect stakeholders that are not present.

6. **CITY/COUNTY CONSOLIDATED DROUGHT MANAGEMENT WHITE PAPER***

Nicole Fyffe, Kathy Chavez and Sandy Elder presented the white paper to the committee.

Mark Stratton stated that having a consolidated drought plan would be a good thing. Bonnie Poulos agreed that when the local area declares a drought all water providers and jurisdictions should come together and have one voice.

Margot Garcia commented that an average is an average and comes from a range and if an area is below average in precipitation it does not necessarily mean that the area is in a drought.

Chris Brooks provided the committee with his definition of drought; a hydrological drought meaning a regional drought where there is a decrease of water from a water source or a meteorological drought which would be a decrease in precipitation.

Bill Crosby stated that the Governor has no idea what the needs of rural water users are and asked how they would be included within this discussion.

Jim Barry requested that the paper accentuate the positive aspects first, define drought and perhaps look at a new paradigm of drought resistance since we live in a naturally arid environment.

7. **RECLAIMED WATER WHITE PAPER***

Nicole Ewing Gavin, Kathy Chavez, Sandy Elder and Melody Loyer presented the white paper to the committee.

Jim Barry asked staff to define effluent and reclaimed water. Bonnie Poulos asked about the various uses for each. Bob Cook recommended that these white papers influence a statewide water plan. Rob Kulakofsky suggested reduction of turf should be a goal.

Michael Tony stated that the snow pack is dropping and that is related to how much water we receive here and the break up of large ice sheets will cause a further reduction in snow pack in the future.

Bill Crosby asked for clarification about regulatory requirements. Kathy Chavez responded that reclaimed water has more stringent requirements than effluent. Bill Crosby questioned the safety of recharge using Christopher City as an example. Sandy Elder responded that it is important to match the quality of the water and the aquifer you are recharging into. Bill Crosby asked the committee if they were moving in the direction of reforming state water laws. Jim Barry answered that the committee was focused on local water issues.

Colette Altaffer brought up the issue of increased salt content in CAP water and that this will alter the soil composition here over time and could make it unlivable.

8. **EXTERNAL PERSPECTIVE ON WATER CONSERVATION***

Val Little from Water Casa presented the white paper to the committee. The committee will discuss conservation at their May meeting.

Tina Lee stated that all of the presentations suggest the importance of ongoing water education.

9. **AGENDA FOR NEXT MEETING**

No discussion.

10. **CALL TO AUDIENCE**

Margot Garcia requested that the meetings be alternated between evenings and mornings and be held at a more neutral meeting place.

11. **ADJOURNMENT***

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

Attendees:

William Crosby, ECCO
Val Little, Water CASA
Monica Moxley-Wilson, Town of Sahuarita
Chris Brooks, CWAC
Colette Altaffer, NIC
Michael Tony
Dale Keyes
Margot Garcia
Bill Crouse
Holly Lachowicz, Ward 3
Charles Cole
Jim Dubois, PCRWRD

Claire Zucker, PAG
Rebecca Kunsberg, Town of Marana
David Godlewski, SAHBA