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

**November 12, 2009
Meeting Summary**

1. **CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman Jim Barry called the November 12, 2009 meeting of the City/County Water and Wastewater Study Oversight Committee (Oversight Committee) to order at 5:09 p.m. at the City of Tucson Pueblo Conference Room, 481 W. Paseo Redondo, Tucson, AZ 85701.

Members Present:

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

Representing:

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

Absent

Bob Cook County P&Z Commission
Bruce Gungle County P&Z Commission

City/County Staff Present:

Melaney Seacat, Regional Wastewater Reclamation Department
Nicole Ewing-Gavin, City Manager's Office
Ed Curley, Regional Wastewater Reclamation Department
Eric Weidewilt, Regional Wastewater Reclamation Department

Mette Brogden Facilitator

A quorum of the Committee was established.

2. **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

None

3. **APPROVAL OF OCTOBER 15, 2009 MEETING SUMMARY***

The October 15, 2009 meeting summary was approved as submitted.

4. **CALL TO THE AUDIENCE**

Member of the Tucson Mountains Association addressed the committee with the following points:

- Expressed her appreciation of the Staff's and Committee members hard work and dedication to this study.
- Dunn Adventures sent a letter to the Mayor and City Council of Tucson asking them to change the obligated service area and to expand it or to allow water to be delivered beyond the obligated service area and to amend the commercial rainwater-harvesting ordinance to postpone its implementation or do away with it.
- Pressure from developers will be constant and ongoing asking to increase their opportunities for financial gain and override common sense as to what the city can really deliver.
- The City of Tucson will have to consider this letter at the study session early next week.
- Tucson Mountains Association is asking this joint committee to consider the impact if the committee does not describe in a straightforward, direct and honest manner how severe our restrictions really are.
- According to information stated in the Staff report, Phase 1 reports that resources are available to serve approximately 1.1 million people which is about 360,000 more people than are currently being served within the obligated service area.
- Considering the uncertainties that this data is based upon, the Tucson Mountains Association asks that the report does not even remotely suggest that resources are available to provide service beyond the current obligated service area.
- Committee should consider the impact of an agency of the city and county saying that water resources are available and the city or county ends up in litigation because a developer sues because it doesn't like the planning necessary to protect existing resources.
- Complemented staff on depth of coverage of environmental issues in draft report.
- Stated that Tucson Mountains Association will be submitting a letter to the committee regarding certain environmental concerns that were not addressed in the draft report.
- Asked that the committee address the issue of water cleansing, before it goes into riparian areas or river systems, citing examples of expanded intersections south of the University.
- Stressed the need for greater balance when considering effluent in addressing environmental issues.
- Complemented staff and committee on coverage of environmental issues in draft report.
- Asked committee to address methods of quantifying the amount of water really needed to preserve and repair environmental areas.
- Asked the committee to consider and include other best practices and case studies from both national and international water jurisdictions as applied to water issues as a means to broaden thinking and educate the community, policy makers and elected officials.

5. **UPDATE ON STAFF REPORT AND OPEN HOUSE**

Nicole Ewing Gavin updated the committee on the Staff Report presentation. The public comment period is open until November 20, 2009. An Open House was held on Monday, November 9, at the Randolph Golf Course Clubhouse. The Open House was structured as a presentation followed by public question and answer period. Approximately 20 people attended, including Chris Brooks and Tina Lee. The public brought forth the following concerns:

- Pricing – the Staff Report does not really address the issue of pricing and how demand can be managed by pricing.
- Satellite treatment plants versus centralized treatment plants – using effluent closer to the source.
- Infill development – need to upgrade built environment and existing infrastructure and assess the costs associated with that.

- General questions concerning the amount of water resources actually available and how many people are being served.
- Climate change – concerns of CAP delivery issues related to energy use and how that relates to climate change.

Tina Lee commented on the growth issue that even if the decision were made not to change the obligated service area in any way, this would not prevent growth from occurring. Developers have other mechanisms at their disposal to continue development, an example being pumping water to development.

Marcelino Flores asked if Malaney Secat would share the comments from the presentation to the Environmental Planning Committee at PAG from Friday, November 6, with the committee. Melaney agreed to document the comments and email the comments to the committee members.

6. **FACILITATED DISCUSSION OF COMMITTEE PHASE 2 REPORT AND COMMITTEE FEEDBACK**

Mette Brogden began the discussion by summarizing the objectives for the meeting. She will take information from this night's meeting discussion and comments submitted via email, write a revised draft of the committee report and send it to committee members on Monday, November 16 with instructions for the next step. Committee members will do a line-by-line edit of this revised draft at the November 19 meeting.

7. **CALL TO THE AUDIENCE**

Jodi Netzer from the Conscious Collective, a program of the Tucson Arts Brigade, addressed the committee with the following:

- Jodi expressed her appreciation for the holistic approach the committee has exhibited by addressing the intrinsic value of water as well as the quality of life while considering the realities of supplying water to the community.
- She informed the committee of a Community Brainstorm Gathering on Thursday, November 19th from 6:30 to 8:30 pm at the Armory Park Center. The purpose of this gathering is to generate ideas for The Water Project festival to be held March 26 through 28, 2010. Flyers for this gathering were distributed to the committee members.

8. **ADJOURNMENT***

Jim Barry adjourned the meeting at 8:45 p.m.

Attendees:

Judith Meyer
 Joanna Bate
 Jodi Netzer
 Ivy Schwartz
 C.J. Cole
 Arlene Sondra
 Margot Garcia