



Meeting Minutes

Utility Advisory Committee

City Hall
601 4th Avenue E
Olympia, WA 98501

Contact: Eric Christensen
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Thursday, March 7, 2019

5:40 PM

City Hall, Room 207

1. CALL TO ORDER (5:40 pm)

Chair Haffner-Ratliffe called the meeting to order.

1.A ROLL CALL (5:40 - 5:41 pm)

Present: 7 - Chair Dever Haffner-Ratliffe, Vice Chair Mike Buffo, Committee member Dennis Bloom, Committee member Luke Bowerman, Committee member Austin Hildreth, Committee member Roger Wilson and Committee member Arland Schneider

Absent: 1 - Committee member Steve Fossum

1.B. STAFF PRESENT

Water Resources Director and UAC Liaison Andy Haub
Waste ReSources Director Gary Franks
Water Resources Engineering and Planning Manager Eric Christensen
Habitat Planner Jesse Barham
Storm and Surface Water Quality Planner Jeremy Graham

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA (5:41 - 5:42 pm)

The agenda was approved.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES (5:42 - 5:45 pm)

3.A. [19-0224](#) Approval of February 7, 2019 Meeting Minutes

The minutes were approved.

4. PUBLIC COMMENT - None

5. ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM UAC AND STAFF (5:50 - 6:00 pm)

Chair Haffner-Ratliffe thanked the UAC members for providing support to her during her time as UAC chair. She is continuing as a Committee member. This is Committee member Austin Hildreth's last meeting.

The UAC held elections for Chair and Vice Chair. After nominations, the Committee

voted and passed a motion for Mike Buffo as Chair and Luke Bowerman as Vice Chair.

Mr. Haub announced two upcoming items:

- The UAC Chair or Vice Chair are invited to attend the General Government interviews on March 13 for prospective UAC members. Vice Chair Bowerman will attend the interviews
- The General Government Committee is holding the annual meeting with advisory committee chairs March 27. Chair Buffo will attend this meeting.

Staff held a public hearing on the Sea Level Rise Plan before the City Council on February 26. Two members of the public spoke at the hearing with no major concerns. Staff is scheduled on March 19 City Council meeting to potentially adopt the Plan.

6. BUSINESS ITEMS

6.A. [19-0225](#) NPDES Annual Report

Mr. Graham provided a briefing on the federal Clean Water Act's National Pollution Discharge and Elimination System (NPDES) permit. The Department of Ecology (DOE) is the state agency that oversees the City of Olympia's compliance with the permit. Olympia is a Phase II permittee (based on population size).

Committee members asked Mr. Graham clarifying questions. They also suggested minor edits to the NPDES Annual Report and the Stormwater Management Program Plan.

The report was received.

6.B. [19-0226](#) McAllister Wellfield Water Rights Mitigation Projects Update

Mr. Christensen and Mr. Barham provided a briefing on the habitat restoration projects occurring at the Deschutes River Property for water rights mitigation of McAllister Wellfield (Olympia's main water source). This project is in collaboration with the Cities of Lacey and Yelm.

Committee members asked clarifying questions and thanked staff for the briefing.

The information was provided.

6.C. [19-0227](#) Utility Customer Assistance Program

Mr. Haub provided the briefing, which included current outreach efforts to promote and expand participation of the Lifeline Rate customer assistance program.

The Committee provided the following suggestions:

- Add a question to the application form that asks how the applicant heard about the program.
- Work with the low income multifamily developments to provide the discounted rate

(which is 50% of the normal utility rate).

Staff will provide a briefing to the Council Finance Committee on May 15. Staff will verbally inform the Finance Committee of the UAC's suggestions for the Lifeline Rate program.

The discussion was completed.

7. Adjournment

Chair Haffner-Ratliffe adjourned the meeting.