

MINUTES

Regular meeting of the City of Redlands Municipal Utilities/Public Works Commission on April 3, 2023 at 4:00 PM in the Council Chambers at the Civic Center, 35 Cajon Street. The meeting was an in-person meeting with teleconferencing available via Zoom. Votes were conducted in person and by roll call.

A. ATTENDANCE & CALL TO ORDER

Present: Adekunle Ojo, Chairperson
Steve Stockton, Vice Chairperson
David Garcia, Commissioner
Chandrasekar 'CV' Venkatraman, Commissioner
Zachary Travis, Commissioner
Thomas Breitreuz, Commissioner
Robert Meals, Commissioner

Staff: John Harris, Municipal Utilities & Engineering Director; Goutam Dobey, City Engineer; Johana Silva, Commission Liaison/Associate Engineer; Mario Saucedo, City Council Liaison; Fernando Mata, Wastewater Utility Manager

Chairman Ojo called the meeting to order at 4:00 PM.

B. PUBLIC COMMENT

John Burke, Resident/Civil Engineer, expressed his interest in volunteering to inspect the Mission Zanja Channel.

C. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Commissioner Garcia commented on grammatical errors within the minutes and clarification on the Student Commissioner's term of office. On the motion by Commissioner Garcia, seconded by Commissioner CV, the minutes of the regular meeting of February 6, 2023, were approved with stated corrections with Vice Chair Stockton abstaining.

Vote: 6 – 0 Passed

D. COMMUNICATIONS

a. **Director's Report**

Director Harris welcomed everyone to the meeting and provided highlights to his Director's Report.

Updates were provided on the following:

Groundwater Council Update: The first five (5) year term of the Groundwater Council is ending, and a "Renewal Committee" has been formed to update the Framework Agreement.

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Sunset Reservoir Replacement – Real Estate Acquisition: City Council approved of the Purchase and Sale Agreement to acquire approximately twenty-two (22) acres adjacent to the Sunset Reservoir site for \$1.4M on March 21, 2023. Staff submitted a \$24M grant application to fund the construction of a 10MG concrete reservoir.

Water Meter Replacement Project: Phase II of the five (5) year project is near completion. MUED is considering accelerating the remaining three (3) project phases to procure materials at current rates and reduce the impacts of supply chain delays.

Multi-Year Well Rehabilitation & Booster Pump Replacements: Seven (7) wells are being rehabilitated in FY 22/23.

Discussion ensued regarding the revenue stream for water meters and using sole source for meters. The commission requested background information on the County/Mentone/Redlands Paving Project and Alabama Street Septage Ponds Site Assessment.

E. NEW BUSINESS

a. MUPWC – Student Commissioner

Mr. Harris stated the City is supportive of adding a student commissioner which will require an amendment to the Chapter 2.38 of the Municipal Code. Mr. Harris recommended not to increase the MUPWC membership and instead delay the Student Commissioner appointment until a future vacancy exists.

Discussion ensued whether a student commissioner should be added, including student candidates from all high schools in Redlands, allowing voting rights to the student, the amounts of members in the commission, and the timing of when a Student Commissioner would join. The commission asked for research on Student Commissioners in other cities. A general consensus was reached to continue the discussion to the next meeting.

b. AB-2449 Meeting Attendance Discussion

Mr. Harris gave a summary of Assembly Bill 2449 which authorizes a local agency to use teleconferencing without complying with the teleconferencing requirements of the Brown Act under certain circumstances.

F. COMMISSIONER ANNOUNCEMENTS, REPORTS ON ACTIVITIES, AND/OR REQUESTS FOR FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Items requested for the next regular Commission meeting agenda were as follows:

Surface Water Recharge – Update on the amount of water captured from recent storm events.

Water Rights in Yucaipa Basin – Discussion on water rights in Yucaipa Basin.

Student Commissioner – Continued discussion on adding a Student Commissioner to MUPWC.

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Commissioner Garcia requested updates from FSC on solid waste. Discussion ensued on which commission should review solid waste rates, updating the commission's municipal code and the upcoming criteria for PFAS.

G. ADJOURNMENT – Next regular meeting is June 6, 2023 at 6:00 PM

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 4:59 PM. The next regular meeting of the City of Redlands Municipal Utilities/Public Works Commission is scheduled for June 6, 2023.