



REGIONAL WASTEWATER RECLAMATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Transamerica Building
Pima Association of Governments'
177 N. Church Avenue, 5th Floor Conference Room

MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, April 12, 2012

Committee Members Present:

Ann Marie Wolf	Bob Iannarino	Jackson Jenkins
Sheila Bowen	Kendall Kroesen	
John Carlson	Rob Kulakofsky	
Barbee Hanson	Mark Stratton	

Committee Members Absent:

Bill Katzel	Armando Membrila
John Lynch	
Amy McCoy	

- A. CALL TO ORDER.** Ann Marie Wolf, Chair, called the meeting of the Regional Wastewater Reclamation Advisory Committee (RWRAC) to order at 7:21 p.m. Veronica Lopez took the roll call and a quorum was present.
- B. CALL TO THE AUDIENCE.** There were no comments from the audience.
- C. DISCUSSION/ACTION.**

- 1. PROPOSED SEWER CONNECTION FEE STRUCTURE.** Mark Stratton commented that he would like to extend his appreciation to the Regional Wastewater Reclamation Department (RWRD) staff on their outreach to the public and the efforts made to involve the stakeholders and feels RWRD staff should be congratulated.

Bob Iannarino stated that he agreed with Mr. Stratton's comment. Mr. Iannarino would also like the department to take into account the sensitivity of the multi-family question that was raised during the public comment portion of the public meeting. In the future, the department should undertake a review to see if some relief would be available to these commercial type building projects.

Mr. Stratton asked what the department's plan is to revisit the connection fee rates as we move forward with the Financial Plan, and whether the fees will be reviewed annually. Mr. Wieduwilt stated it has not been discussed as to how often the connection fees will be reviewed, perhaps every 5 years, but if things change quickly that could trigger a review to happen sooner. Jackson Jenkins, Director, RWRD, added that the department is leaning towards a 5-year review; however, if there are events that occur in the economy or industry that cause a need for review prior to that time, then the

department will do so.

Sheila Bowen suggested that the Committee not take action on this item at this time and wait to take action until after the Committee has had the opportunity to review the 2012 Financial Plan. Ms. Wolf stated that she agreed with Ms. Bowen's suggestion and noted that a presentation will be given on the 2012 Financial Plan at the regular monthly RWRAC meeting next week (scheduled for April 19th). Mr. Iannarino asked if this delay will change the schedule for the target date that has been established of July 2012. Mr. Jenkins stated that it should not impact that date. Mr. Jenkins and Ms. Wolf announced there is some concern regarding establishing a quorum for the next RWRAC meeting. Ms. Bowen stated if she received the 2012 Financial Plan for review prior to the next RWRAC meeting, she would be in attendance. Mr. Wieduwilt noted that the connection fee proposal is scheduled to be on the Board of Supervisors' (BOS) meeting agenda for May 15, 2012.

Mr. Iannarino asked what the average annual revenue is for the department. Tom Burke, Director, Finance and Risk Management Department, replied that the revenue for the current fiscal year is projected at \$161 million, \$174 million for next fiscal year, and \$188 million for the year after that. Mr. Iannarino stated that the overall impact for new connection fee revenue is minuscule compared to the overall budget. Mr. Burke stated the projected revenue from connection fees is currently at 10% of the overall budget and drops each year. Mr. Burke stated he will provide the finalized 2012 Financial Plan to the department tomorrow. Mr. Jenkins added that he has reviewed the draft Financial Plan and it does not show any additional user fee increases over the next 5-years, other than the two increases that have already been approved. Ms. Wolf stated she feels it is her responsibility to review the Financial Plan prior to making a determination on the proposed connection fee changes. Mr. Carlson asked what the expectation is as far as the Committee's role in making a recommendation since there has not been any opposition received by RWRD. Ms. Wolf replied it is up to the Committee as to how they will proceed, either by making specific requests to the department or by approving the proposed changes as they were presented.

Mr. Iannarino stated he wished to make a motion since there is a risk of not having a quorum for next week's RWRAC meeting and that the Financial Plan shows a small change or loss of revenue based on growth projections.

ACTION: Mr. Iannarino made a motion that the RWRAC make a recommendation to the BOS to approve the proposed sewer connection fee structure. Barbee Hanson seconded the motion.

Vote was not taken at this time. Discussion ensued regarding Mr. Iannarino's motion. Mr. Iannarino stated if a quorum is established at next week's RWRAC meeting, then the Committee will have the option to reconsider their decision and could make an amendment to this action at that time.

ACTION: Mr. Iannarino made a motion that the RWRAC make a recommendation to the BOS to approve the proposed sewer connection fee structure, and if needed, the Committee has the option of making an amendment to this motion at the April 19, 2012 RWRAC meeting if the 2012 Financial Plan raises concerns. Barbee Hanson seconded the motion. Motion passed – 5/3.

Ms. Wolf stated that this item will be on next week's RWRAC agenda for discussion and action.

D. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS. Ms. Wolf announced the items scheduled for the next RWRAC meeting agenda.

E. CALL TO THE AUDIENCE. There were no comments from the audience.

ACTION: Mr. Kulakofsky made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Ms. Bowen seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

F. ADJOURNMENT. The meeting was adjourned at 7:40 p.m.