

ASHLAND Water Advisory Committee
MINUTES
August 27, 2019

These minutes are pending approval by this Committee

CALL TO ORDER

Williams called the meeting to order at 4:02 PM

Committee Members Present: Pat Acklin, Joe Graf, Rich Miller, Don Morris, Alex Amarotico, Darrell Boldt, John Williams, Donna Rhee

Committee Members Absent: Kate Jackson, Lesley Adams

Staff present: Scott Fleury, Kevin Caldwell, Alistair Andre, Julie Smitherman, Shannon Burruss

ANNOUNCEMENTS

City Council will be discussing the canal piping project on September 3. Williams encouraged members to attend the meeting. Graf suggested reiterating to Council that the committees stand is based on conservation rather than reduced bacterial load. Williams requested staff resend committee letter of support to Council.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Minutes were missing from packet. Minutes from July and August will be emailed to group for approval.

PUBLIC FORUM

None

Old Business

WTP Update

Fleury informed committee that he and Pierre Kwan presented information about the current status of the proposed new water treatment plant at a City Council study session. Council was curious about efficiencies, cost savings, staffing requirements, safety, trail system connections, and financing strategy. Design time should take 8-10 months, bid solicitation and contract will take another 4-6 months, then 24-month window for construction starts.

No concrete plans exist for future utilization of the existing water treatment plant facility. Morris inquired about the target seismic tremor event potential the dam can endure after upgrade without collapse. Fleury indicated the Cascadia subduction event and elaborated on the findings of the seismic modeling of the dam.

Amarotico inquired about the effect of potential terrorism on the cost of steel piping. Fleury responded that the City is required to purchase American steel and expounded on type of pipe utilized in different areas of the plant.

New Business

Water System Master Plan

Rachel Lanigan discussed changes made since the last meeting including:

- Comment log from City staff and RH2 responses
- Inclusion of executive summary
- Financial analysis in written form including staff comments
- Chapter 4 was edited to include 2018 and 2019 data which minimally impacted projections
- Chapter 5 added paragraph about how City is planning for climate change

Lanigan asked for edits from the group. Williams suggested addition of data source and year especially on charts. Acklin concurred. Williams further suggested inclusion of a glossary and being more specific when referencing the condition of the Granite St tank. Williams asked committee members for any other edits or suggestions.

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Graf inquired about the scope of the committee recommendation. Acklin/Graf M/S that AWAC endorse the plan and recommend to Council that they adopt the document in its entirety. Williams expressed his confidence in the document and the way staff will present it. Acklin added that the process has been long. Rhee felt that a Council liaison would have been helpful. Miller favors the document stating that it is tidy and well put together. Boldt also expressed support. All ayes. Motion passed unanimously.

The group expressed their willingness to remain formed as an advisory committee due to their level of expertise and how important that is when considering water related topics.

ADJOURNMENT: at 5:09 pm

Respectfully submitted,
Taina Glick
Public Works Administrative Assistant