



Citizens' Water Advisory Committee
P.O. Box 27210
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Meeting Administrator
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CITIZENS' WATER ADVISORY COMMITTEE (CWAC)

Technical, Planning, and Policy Subcommittee

Thursday, May 12, 2022, 12:00 p.m.

Virtual Meeting via MS Teams

Legal Action Report and Meeting Minutes

Call to Order / Roll Call

CWAC TPP Chair Alison Jones called the meeting to order at 12:02 p.m. Those present and absent were:

Present:

Alison Jones, Chair	Representative, Ward 6
Val Little	Representative, City Manager
Robert Jaramillo	Representative Ward 5

Absent:

Mark Stratton	Representative, City Manager
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Announcements – None

Review and approval of May 12, 2022, Legal Action Report and Meeting Minutes - Member Little moved to approve the Legal Action Report & Meeting Minutes. Member Jaramillo duly seconded the motion. **Discussion:** None. The motion passed on a roll call vote of 3 – 0.

Recharge Credit Overview – Dee Korich, City of Tucson Water Department, Source Water Division, Chief Hydrologist, led the initial discussion; those items reviewed and discussed were:

- a) Benefits of Underground Storage
 - a. Huge reservoir that we don't have to build/maintain
 - b. Flexibility – eliminates need for continuous flow into a water treatment plant
 - c. Storage for the future



- d. Improved Water Quality through Soil Aquifer Treatment (SAT)
 - i. Organic matter
 - ii. Nitrogen
 - iii. Many Pathogens
- e. Storage of renewable supplies helps Tucson Water meet the Tucson Active Management Area (TAMA) goals for sustainability
- b) Arizona Water Legislative History
 - a. 1980 - Groundwater Management Act
 - i. Arizona Department of Water Resources (ADWR)
 - ii. 5 Active Management Areas (AMAs)
 - b. 1986 - Underground Water Storage and Recovery Program
 - i. Allows entities to store surplus water underground and recover it later
 - c. 1994 - Underground Water Storage, Savings, and Replenishment Act (UWS)
 - i. Limits the types of water that may be eligible for Long Term Storage Credits to renewable sources
 - ii. Permits must be obtained from ADWR
 - iii. Requires annual recharge and recovery reporting to ADWR
 - d. 2019 - Changed cut-to-the-aquifer for managed effluent recharge projects
 - i. Removed disincentive for putting water back in the Santa Cruz River
- c) Definitions
 - a. Artificial Aquifer Recharge – storing surplus water underground so that it may be used in the future
 - b. Recharge Credit
 - i. 1 acre-foot in storage
 - ii. 325,851 gallons
 - iii. Approximately a football field, including the end zones, covered in 1 foot of water
 - c. Evaporation – water delivered to a recharge facility but lost to the environment before it reaches the aquifer; calculated using the method approved in the facility permit
 - d. Cooley Method for CAVSARP & SAVSARP
 - e. Cut-to-the-Aquifer – a legislated volume of water that, once recharged, must be left in the aquifer. Amount depends on
 - f. Water type
 - g. Facility type
 - h. When recovery occurs



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- d) Underground Storage Facilities
 - a. Constructed USFs
 - i. Excavated spreading basins
 - 1. CAP water storage
 - 2. Effluent or Reclaimed water storage
 - ii. Managed USFs
 - 1. In-channel – no construction required
 - a. Effluent or Reclaimed water storage
- e) Groundwater Savings Facilities (GSFs)
 - a. Typically farms
 - b. No evaporation losses
 - c. Accrual of in-lieu storage credits
- f) Recovery
 - a. Time
 - i. Annual Storage and Recovery
 - ii. Recovery of Long-Term Storage Credits
 - b. Location
 - i. Recovery from the Area of Impact
 - ii. Regional Recovery
- g) Cut-to-the-Aquifer
 - a. 2019 Legislative Change to Cut-to-the Aquifer for managed Effluent Recharge Projects
- h) Tucson Water Recharge Projects
- i) Tucson's Water Savings Account Storage

Committee members were able to ask questions and provide feedback. No action was taken on this item.

Call to Audience – Wally Wilson of Metro Water addressed the committee to comment on the 95% credit change and cuts to the aquifer

Future Meetings / Agenda Items – A request was made for a presentation on the Lower Santa Cruz River Basin Study.

Adjournment – Meeting ended at 12:47 p.m.



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