

CITIZENS' WATER ADVISORY COMMITTEE
(CWAC)

Wednesday, March 1, 2023, 8:00 a.m.

Virtual Meeting – Microsoft Teams

Legal Action Report and Meeting Minutes

1) Call to Order / Opening Statement:

CWAC Chair Rory Juneman called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m.

2) Roll Call:

Those present and absent were:

Present:

Rory Juneman, Chair	Representative, City Manager
Alison Jones, Vice Chair	Representative, Ward 6
Ed Hendel	Representative, Mayor
Val Little	Representative, City Manager
Mark Stratton	Representative, City Manager
Juliet McKenna	Representative, City Manager
Raul Ramirez	Representative, Ward 1
Lisa Shipek	Representative, Ward 3
Melissa Lal	Representative, Ward 4
Robert Jaramillo	Representative, Ward 5
James Doyle	Ex-Officio (Non-Voting) Pima County Regional Wastewater Reclamation Department
John Kmiec	Ex-Officio (non-Voting) City of Tucson Water Department Director

Absent:

Raye Winch	Representative, City Manager
Steven Washburn	Representative, City Manager
Roxanna Valenzuela	Representative, Ward 2

3) Announcements – Melissa Lal, Ward 4 appointment, introduced herself to the committee members; she shared her background and education.

4) Review and approval of February 1, 2023, Legal Action Report and Meeting Minutes – Motion: Member Stratton moved to approve the Legal Action Report & Meeting Minutes. Member Jones duly seconded the motion. **Discussion:** None. The **motion passed** on a roll-call vote of 9 – 0.

5) Director's Report – Tucson Water Director John Kmiec provided brief updates as follows:

- a) Mayor and Council items:
 - i) February 22:
 - (1) PFAS Update
 - (2) Turf Ordinance Discussion
 - (3) Drought Contingency Plan
 - ii) March 21:
 - (1) GSI Fee

Members asked questions; Director Kmiec fielded questions throughout his report to clarify information for the committee and provide important information on water matters. Director Kmiec shared the passing of Marie Pearthree, previous Water Deputy Director with decades of experience in the water profession and co-author of the Tucson Turnaround. She held influential status among water staff and their careers. She is one of the many people responsible for Tucson Water's success of the recharge programs and foundation of water resource planning. She will be missed by many. No action was taken on this item.

- 6) **Commercial Rate: Analysis Phase 1** – Amber Kerwin, City of Tucson Water, Rate Manager, presented the first phase of the analysis. Those items included:
- a) October 18, 2022, Mayor and Council Direction
 - b) Parameters to analysis and disclaimers
 - c) Alternative Rate Structures to be Evaluated
 - i) Alternative Rate Structures to be Evaluated (Quantitatively)
 - d) Evaluation Criteria and Potential Weighting
 - e) Current Commercial Rate Structure
 - f) Current Structure in Context of Residential Rates
 - g) Framework for Modifications to Current Structure
 - h) Revisiting AWC Period - Irrigation Services
 - i) Revisiting AWC - Regular Water Services
 - j) Modified Rates: Revising AWC Period
 - k) Framework for Modifications to Current Structure (Option 1)
 - l) Sample Rate Options 1: Current Structure
 - m) Framework for Subclass Rate Structure (Option 2)
 - n) Subclass Water Use
 - o) Sample Rate Option 2: Subclass Structure
 - p) Sample Bill Analysis
 - q) Sample Bill Impacts
 - r) Preliminary Evaluation of Options
 - s) Sample Customer Impacts
 - t) Scoring of Options
 - u) Timeline (tentative)

The committee held an open discussion; no action was taken.

- 7) **Human Resources Presentation** – Ashley Tellez, City of Tucson Human Resources Manager for Tucson Water, and Kelly Kishbaugh, Business Analysis, Tucson Water introduced the item. Mrs. Tellez and Ms. Kishbaugh provided insight and explanation of the data typically presented in the Director’s Report regarding active recruitments, hiring trends, and retention of Tucson Water staff.
 - a) National trends
 - b) Tucson Water trends
 - c) Tucson Water Data
 - i) Data Breakdown
 - d) Future Recruitment and Retention
- 8) **Subcommittee Report Questions** – Each subcommittee chair reviewed agenda item discussions held at previous meetings and updated the committee on future subcommittee topics.
- 9) **Tucson Water Facilities Tour** – Jessica Rodriguez, Strategic Initiatives, Intergovernmental Relations staff, Tucson Water, shared a brief outline of facilities to visit and approximate timelines. Mrs. Rodriguez will follow up with the committee once a schedule has been created for members to attend the facility tours. Additional tours may be available in the fall if members cannot make the spring tours.
- 10) **Call to Audience** – None.
- 11) **Future Meeting / Agenda Items** – Chair Juneman requested that future agenda items be shared with Jessica Rodriguez. Future items requested include:
 - a) PFAS
- 12) **Adjournment** – The meeting was adjourned at 10:01 a.m.