

**CITIZENS' WATER ADVISORY COMMITTEE
(CWAC)**

Wednesday, October 2, 2024, 8:00 a.m.

Hybrid Meeting – Microsoft Teams

Legal Action Report and Meeting Minutes

1) Call to Order / Opening Statement:

CWAC Chair Val Little called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m.

2) Roll Call:

Those present and absent were:

Present:

Val Little, Chair	Representative, City Manager
Rory Juneman, Vice Chair	Representative, City Manager
Ed Hendel (Virtual)	Representative, Mayor
Andrea Gerlak	Representative, City Manager
Juliet McKenna (Virtual)	Representative, City Manager
Hilari Varnadore (Virtual)	Representative, City Manager
Alan Forrest	Representative, City Manager
Raul Ramirez (Virtual)	Representative, Ward 1
Lisa Shipek	Representative, Ward 3
Robert Jaramillo (Virtual)	Representative, Ward 5
William Ellett	Representative, Ward 6
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:

Melissa Lal	Representative, Ward 4
Steven Washburn	Representative, City Manager

- 3) Announcements** – Member Gerlak shared information on the University of Arizona's PFAS workshop. Member Gerlak will share the details with the committee via email following the meeting.

- 4) Review and approval of June 5, 2024, Legal Action Report and Meeting Minutes –Motion:** Member Juneman moved to approve the Legal Action Report & Meeting Minutes. Member Varnadore duly seconded the motion. **Discussion:** None. The motion passed on a voice vote 10 – 0.

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

Hilari Varnadore left at 9:25 a.m.

- a) No Mayor and Council items in October
- b) Colorado River Update
- c) Potable and Reclaim Demand

Members asked questions; Director Kmiec fielded questions throughout his report to clarify information for the committee and provide important information on water matters.

- 6) **Human Resources Update** - Munerra Acosta, Human Resources Manager, City of Tucson Human Resources department provided an update on the current vacancy rates and new recruitment strategies.

No Action was taken on this item.

- 7) **TW Cares** - Natalie, DeRoock, Senior Public Information Officer, City of Tucson Water Department provided an update on Tucson Water's CARES program. The Utility Bill Assistance Program. It aims to provide affordable water and offers monthly discounts on water, garbage, and sewer bills for eligible customers. To apply, customers must be Tucson Water customers, possess an official form of identification, and meet income eligibility based on Federal Poverty Level guidelines. Customers can view eligibility requirements, start the application process, and explore additional financial assistance programs.

Members asked questions; water staff fielded questions throughout their presentations to clarify information for the subcommittee. No action was taken on this item.

- 8) **Reclaim System** – Chad Lapora, Source Water Administrator provided an overview of the system; those items reviewed and discussed were:
 - a) History
 - b) Urban Water Cycle
 - c) Water Production (1890-2023)
 - d) Recycled Water Plant Construction
 - e) Recycled Water Network over time
 - f) Recycled Water System today
 - g) Recycled Water use by Sector
 - h) Recycled Water Recharge Projects
 - i) Constructed Projects
 - ii) Managed Projects
 - (1) Benefits of Managed Projects
 - i) TARP Connection
 - j) Reclaimed System - Future

Members asked questions; water staff fielded questions throughout their presentations to clarify information for the subcommittee. No action was taken on this item.

- 9) **2023 Effluent Water Budget** – Beth Scully, Water Program Superintendent for Tucson Water, Source Water division provided an overview of the recycled water system effluent uses; those items reviewed and discussed were:
- a) Effluent agreements
 - b) Effluent Entitlements
 - c) Effluent Entitlements in 2023
 - d) Reclaimed Accounting
 - e) Recycled Water System Flow Diagram

Members asked questions; water staff fielded questions throughout their presentations to clarify information for the subcommittee. No action was taken on this item.

- 10) **Subcommittee Reports** - Each subcommittee chair reviewed agenda items and discussions held at previous meetings and updated the committee on future subcommittee topics.

- 11) **Call to Audience** – None

- 12) **Future Meeting / Agenda Items** – The Committee reviewed the list of future agenda items. The committee also followed up on the tour of Tucson Water facilities.

- 13) **Adjournment** – The meeting was adjourned at 09:59 a.m.