

Independent Rates Oversight Committee (IROC)
Meeting of August 16, 2021



1. **Roll Call**

Chair David Akin called the full IROC meeting to order at 9:30 a.m. Roll Call was conducted and a quorum was declared. Attendance is reflected below:

<u>Members:</u>	<u>Present</u>	<u>Absent</u>
David Akin, Chair	X	
Tiffany Mittal, Vice Chair	X	
Christopher Dull	X	
Gordon Hess		X
Jeff Justus	X*	
Jack Kubota	X	
Luis Osuna	X	
Jim Peugh	X	
Linh Quach	X	
<u>Ex-Officio Members:</u>		
Jerry Jones, Metro JPA		X
Jim Peasley, Metro JPA Alt.		X

Some of the City representatives present included: Shauna Lorance (Director of Public Utilities) and Ray Palmucci (Deputy City Attorney).

2. **Non-Agenda Public Comment** – None.

3. **Approval of Draft Minutes from Meeting of July 19, 2021** – *David Akin, Chair*

ACTION: Chair Akin asked for a motion to approve the minutes. Motion by Member Quach to approve. Second by Member Peugh. Vice Chair Mittal and Member Dull abstained. Motion passed with 5-0.

*Note: Member Justus arrived after item 3 was approved.

4. **Chair Updates** – *David Akin, Chair*

5. **Mayor and Council Staff Comments** – None.

6. **PUD Updates** – *Shauna Lorance, Director of Public Utilities*

- Provided an update on the Wastewater Cost of Service Study and the proposed Wastewater rate increases. Customers will be able to participate in upcoming online community forums regarding these rate increases.

7. **Presentation: County Water Authority (CWA) Budget & Rates** – *Adam Jones, Deputy Director*

8. **Metro/JPA Report Out** – None.

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9. **Proposed Agenda Items for Upcoming IROC Meetings** – *David Akin, Chair*

- Full IROC – Pure Water Quarterly Reports, CIP Quarterly Reports, and an update from MEA and Local 127 about employee representation.
- Finance Subcommittee – A deep dive into the delinquent accounts and City Treasurer collections process.
- O&C Subcommittee – Update on the Management and Field Academies, status of the outsourced Water/Wastewater Risk Management oversight contract, and outreach for collections on delinquent accounts.

10. **IROC Members' Comments** – *IROC Members*

- Proposed agenda items carried over from the August 2020 minutes:
 - Lake Hodges Condition Assessment Update.
 - Chollas Operations Center Update.
 - Chollas Operations Center Tour.
 - Customer Support Division Call Center Update.
- Proposed agenda items carried over from the October 2020 minutes:
 - COSS – Rate Structures.
- Proposed agenda items carried over from the November 2020 minutes:
 - Vice Chair Mittal would like for the COSS item to be added to the next agenda.
- Proposed agenda items carried over from the March 2021 minutes:
 - Chair Akin asked for an update on the Water Conservation Plan.
 - I&O Subcommittee – Member Peugh asked for an update on the level of infrastructure replacement and staffing the COSS is based on for both water and wastewater.
- Proposed agenda items carried over from the April 2021 minutes:
 - Member Hess would like to have more information regarding the Pure Water, Phase II option mentioned in Member Jones' Metro/JPA Report Out.
 - Chair Akin would like to have a presentation on the Customer Support Division and Office of the City Treasurer collection process.
 - Member Kubota recommended adding an item on the “Valve Maintenance and Replacement Program in the Potable Water System” to an I&O Subcommittee agenda.
- Proposed agenda items carried over from the June 2021 minutes:
 - Chair Akin would like to invite the Director of the Office of Boards & Commissions to attend a IROC meeting to discuss the new streamlined processes and online portal.
- Proposed agenda items carried over from the July 2021 meeting:
 - Member Kubota would like to have an update on the Climate Action Plan.
 - Member Kubota asked for an update at full IROC and one of the subcommittees on the recent employee settlement (pending CAO approval on sharing this information).
 - Chair Akin and Member Kubota would like to combine the collection process presentation proposed in the April 2021 bullet above with an update on the status/timing on lifting water shutoff restrictions.

11. **Meeting adjourned: 10:51 a.m.**

Minutes submitted by Portia Bell