

Independent Rates Oversight Committee (IROC)
Meeting of February 22, 2022



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:

Members:	Present	Absent
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 Juan Guerreiro (Interim Director of Public Utilities) and Ray Palmucci (Deputy City Attorney).

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

3. **Approval of Draft Minutes from Meeting of January 18, 2022** – *David Akin, Chair*
ACTION: Member Hess motioned to postpone approval of the minutes until March to add a more details. Second by Member Peugh. Motion passed 6-0.

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

- Chair Akin asked for the “IBA Review of PUD’s Five-Year Outlook” that was presented at the Finance Subcommittee to also be presented to full IROC.

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

6. **PUD Updates** – *Juan Guerreiro, Interim Director of Public Utilities*

- New appointments include Juan Guerreiro to Interim Director and Lisa Celaya to Interim Executive Assistant Director.
- Executive Team vacancies will be filled soon.

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7. **Discussion: New Online Portal & Streamlined Processes** – Mathew Gordon, Director of Appointments/Boards & Commissions

- The Office of Boards & Commissions provided an overview of the new online portal, discussed the streamlined processes, mentioned the development of a code of conduct for Commissioners, and introduced Mr. Gordon's replacement. Chida Warren-Darby will start as the new Director on March 1st.
- Chair Akin suggested that a Mayoral or Council representative attend IROC meetings on a rotating basis to become aware of what is going on, share information, answer questions, show support to IROC, and improve overall communications.
- Members Hess and Kubota both agreed there is a need for improved communications with elected officials.

8. **Discussion: Update on Status of FY 2021 IROC Annual Report (was due to the Mayor/Council by January 31, 2022)** – David Akin, Chair and Gordon Hess, Member

- Chair Akin will reach out to Member Hess to work on the FY 2021 IROC Annual Report/letter.

9. **Metro/JPA Report Out** – None.

10. **Proposed agenda Items for Upcoming IROC Meetings** – IROC Members

- Member Hess expressed a desire for information on the following topics:
 - Water sales; collections; reservoir levels; budget status; Pure Water costs & progress; County Water Authority & MET rates; lawsuit updates; impact of changes with Fallbrook and Rainbow; and the Urban Water Management Plan.
- Member Peugh recommended an update on current System Condition Studies in preparation for the next COSS.

11. **IROC Members' Comments** – IROC Members

- Proposed agenda items carried over from the August 2020 minutes:
 - 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:
 - 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:
 - Chair Akin would like to have a presentation on the Customer Support Division and Office of the City Treasurer collection process.
 - I&O Subcommittee – Member Kubota recommended adding an item on the “Valve Maintenance and Replacement Program in the Potable Water System (including fire hydrants)” to the agenda.

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- Proposed agenda items carried over from the July 2021 meeting:
 - 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.
- Proposed agenda items carried over from the August 2021 meeting:
 - Full IROC - An update from MEA and Local 127 about employee representation.
 - Finance Subcommittee - A deep dive into PUD delinquent accounts and the Office of the City Treasurer collections process.
 - O&C Subcommittee - Update on the Management/Field Academies and outreach for collections on delinquent accounts.

12. Meeting adjourned: 11:03 a.m.

Minutes submitted by Wilson Kennedy