



City of San Diego Water Policy Implementation Task Force
December 18, 2012
2:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Metropolitan Operations Center II (MOC) Auditorium
9192 Topaz Way, San Diego, CA 92123

Record of Actions

- 1. Call to Order – CHAIR CARY LOWE CALLED THE MEETING TO ORDER AT 2:06 P.M.**

Members Present:

Julia M. Chunn-Heer
Dawn Guendert
Gordon A. Hess
Cary D. Lowe
Faith Picking
Bruce Rainey
Keith R. Solar

Members Absent:

Corrine A. Brindley
Glen Schmidt

- 2. Non-Agenda Public Comment**

NONE

- 3. Task Force Member Comment**

Task Force member Keith Solar led the group in thanking outgoing Task Force Consultant Amy Albanese for her work. Chair Cary Lowe introduced Greg Parkington as her replacement.

Chair Cary Lowe requested the committee begin thinking of goals and performance measures, e.g. percentage reductions of the City's need for wholesale water over a period of time, etc. The committee should begin crafting these recommendations and sending them to the committee consultant for compilation and discussion at the next Task Force meeting.

SPECIAL ORDERS OF BUSINESS

4. Approval of the Record of Action from the meeting of November 27, 2012

ACTION: Record of Action items approved with formatting change to distinguish the paragraphs under Item #2 Part B, action item #2.

5. Clarification of Voting Record of Task Force meeting on September 24, 2012

The Task Force agreed to notice and re-word the motions in question for a vote at the next meeting.

ADOPTION AGENDA

6. Item-1: Information – Presentation from Bill Powers, P.E. of Powers Engineering regarding Water and Energy

ACTION: No action taken. Information only.

The Task Force discussed the following:

1. Chair Cary Lowe noted that going forward the Task Force should take energy consumption/efficiency into consideration when making its recommendations.

7. Item-2: Discussion/Action- Effective Rate Structure Working Group

ACTION:

1. Motion to adopt the recommendations as written.

Motion passes. Unanimous.

There was no request from the public to speak to this item.

There was no request by City Staff to speak to this item.

The Task Force discussed the following:

1. Task Force member Keith Solar recapped the recommendations of the Effective Rate Structure Working Group.
2. Task Force member Gordon Hess highlighted the purpose of these recommendations is to provide an incentive for those who take action to conserve water, not to advocate higher water rates.
3. Task Force member Julia Chunn-Heer asked if the working group looked at other successful multi-tiered rate structures that might give guidance on price

differentials for the tiered structures. Task Force member Gordon Hess advised the working group did look at some other water districts around San Diego County and the differentials were much greater than those in the City. Task Force member Julia Chunn-Heer stated it would be prudent to determine if those structures were attaining their goals for conservation or if they were overly punitive. Ann Bui of Black & Veatch, the consultant performing the Cost of Service Study for the City, confirmed this is a part of their examination of the tiers.

4. Task Force member Dawn Guendert stated she has found other models of multi-tiered structures to be inequitable in some cases. She also stated she agrees with the condition assessment for prioritizing City water pipe replacement, but also recommends the consultant look at asset-management, probability and risk-of-failure in this prioritization. Ann Bui of Black & Veatch confirmed this is a part of the study.
5. Task Force member Julia Chunn-Heer asked if there was a problem with lowering the monthly fixed charge and increasing the tier 1 rates to cover fixed charges. Ann Bui of Black & Veatch answered that a problem with doing so is that it creates a less stable revenue stream. She added that creating a minimum bill to compensate for this is possible, but needs to be designed so as to ensure equitability for the rate-payers.

8. Item-3: Discussion/Action – Update from Task Force Working Groups

Part A: Conservation Working Group- No Update.

Part B: Water Recycling Working Group- No Update, will meet Jan. 8.

Part C: Innovation and Technology Working Group-

1. Task Force member Gordon A. Hess recapped the working group's meeting of November 28.

Task Force Comment:

1. Chair Cary Lowe reports he met with the City Water Department and noted he would like to promote more education and outreach around water conservation issues. He advises their budget for such matters is limited and would like to see more emphasis here.
2. Chair Cary Lowe also asked the Task Force members for other areas of policy on which they would like to propose recommendations. He asked members to

forward those to the Task Force consultant for compilation and distribution to the group.

9. Adjournment – CHAIR CARY LOWE ADJOURNED THE MEETING AT APPROXIMATELY 3:47 P.M.

The next Task Force meeting will be held on January 29th at 2:00 pm.