

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF
THE TORRANCE WATER COMMISSION**

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Torrance Water Commission convened in a regular session at 7:01 p.m. on Monday, July 15, 2010 in the West Annex Meeting Room at Torrance City Hall.

2. ROLL CALL:

Present: Commissioners Haddon, Lefevre, Lew, See, White, and Chairperson Deemer.

Absent: Commissioner McGee.

Also Present: Deputy Public Works Director van der Linden, Senior Administrative Analyst Schaich, Metropolitan Water District Director Wright, and Water Service Supervisor Aguiar.

MOTION: Commissioner See moved to grant an excused absence to Commissioner McGee for the July 15, 2010 Commission meeting. Commissioner Haddon seconded the motion; a voice vote reflected unanimous approval.

3. FLAG SALUTE

Commissioner Lew led the Pledge of Allegiance.

4. AFFIDAVIT OF POSTING

MOTION: Commissioner White moved to accept and file the report of the City Clerk on the posting of the agenda for this meeting. Commissioner Lefevre seconded the motion; a voice vote reflected unanimous approval.

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

5A. MINUTES OF JUNE 17, 2010

MOTION: Commissioner See moved to approve the June 17, 2010 Commission meeting minutes as submitted. Commissioner Lefevre seconded the motion; a voice vote reflected unanimous approval (absent Commission McGee and with Commissioner White abstaining).

6. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS FROM PUBLIC

None.

7. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None.

8. **NEW BUSINESS**

8A. **PRESENTATION AND CONSIDERATION OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH GOAL REPORT (PHG) AND PRESENTATION REGARDING THE ANNUAL WATER QUALITY REPORT (CCR) FOR CALENDAR 2009**

Deputy Public Works Director van der Linden introduced the item and welcomed John Aguiar, Water Service Supervisor, Public Works Department.

Water Service Supervisor Aguiar provided a PowerPoint presentation regarding the Public Health Goal (PHG) Report mandated by California Department of Public Health. He defined PHG as a level of certain constituents in drinking water in which there is no known health risk if consumed over a lifetime. He stated that PHG applies only to California and was established as an “ideal goal” to achieve, with levels set much lower than regulated water quality standards. He noted that PHG compliance applies to water agencies with 10,000 or more services and that **constituents** above PHG during a three-year period must be reported. He reported that Torrance Municipal Water District (TMWD) had three constituents that tested above PHG over a three-year period: Coliform bacteria, Lead at the tap, and Copper at the tap.

He stated that probable causes of the three positive samples of Coliform bacteria were error in sampling procedures or “false positives,” noting that all re-samples tested negative. He described mitigation measures that include maintaining minimum chlorine residual, replacing encrusted pipelines, and testing for chlorine residual in the system. He advised that the probable cause of Lead and Copper at the tap was corrosion/leaching from household faucets and plumbing. He discussed mitigation measures that include advising customers to flush new fixtures, monitoring water quality parameters, and adding inhibitors to reduce corrosive properties.

Responding to Chairperson Deemer’s inquiry, he stated that the inhibitor ortho/poly phosphate helps to coat pipes to reduce corrosivity.

Water Service Supervisor Aguiar concluded his presentation by stating that TMWD meets all Federal and State drinking water requirements, that test results for total Coliform bacteria was well below drinking water standards, and the next lead and copper sampling is pending California Department of Health Services’ review of the 2009 sampling.

A brief discussion centered on bottled water versus tap water.

MWD Director Wright pointed out how sensitive test equipment has become.

MOTION: Commissioner Lew moved to accept and file the Public Health Goal Report. Commissioner Haddon seconded the motion; a voice vote reflected unanimous approval (absent Commissioner McGee).

Water Service Supervisor Aguiar distributed the Annual Water Quality Report for 2009 and provided a PowerPoint presentation regarding the Report (CCR) mandated by the State Department of Health Services and Federal Environmental Protection Agency. He reported that the Report informs customers regarding water sources, quality of their potable water, and variances in meeting water quality standards. He pointed out that it only reports on regulated, secondary, and unregulated substances that are above

detection levels. He stated that highlights of the Report include: local sources of supply, source water assessment, health advisory for vulnerable customers, pending water treatment changes, and water quality sampling results.

He stated that several thousand samples of raw water, finished treated water, water in the distribution system, storage facilities, and customer tap are collected and analyzed annually. He noted that testing is performed on a daily, weekly, monthly, quarterly, or annual basis depending on constituents. He announced that all constituents in 2009 were below Primary or Secondary Maximum Contaminant Levels. He concluded his presentation with a brief review of testing procedures and pending water quality changes that includes fluoridation of local TMWD sources in late 2010 or early 2011.

Deputy Public Works Director van der Linden discussed changes to the Disinfectant By-Product Rule standards.

MWD Director Wright stated that MWD is converting over to ozone treatment because there is so much organic material in Bay Delta water.

Responding to Chairperson Deemer's inquiry, Water Service Supervisor Aguiar stated water that comes out of the group has a pH of 7.2 to 7.4.

8B. PRESENTATION AND CONSIDERATION OF RECOMMENDATION TO DEVELOP A WATER USE EFFICIENCY (CONSERVATION) PLAN

Senior Administrative Analyst Schaich provided a PowerPoint presentation regarding the Water Use (WUE) Efficiency Plan. He pointed out that West Basin Municipal Water District is implementing this Plan on a retail level with their sub-agencies and that TMWD would coordinate its efforts with them. He stated that the purpose of the Plan is to identify the best and most cost-effective programs to meet conservation goals. He discussed other objectives that include quantification of conservation activities and effectiveness, grant opportunities, a user-friendly monitoring data base, baseline information for the Urban Water Management Plan (UWMP), as well as compliance with Best Management Practices (BMPs), 2020 Plan, and other mandates. He noted that TMWD was given a six-month extension for the UWMP that is now due July 1, 2011, adding if they do not receive an approved UWMP they will not receive any State funding.

A brief discussion centered on the State's 2020 Plan for urban domestic water use. Staff informed the Commission that the baseline year will not be determined for another couple of months and that Torrance should receive credit for recycled water and use of groundwater.

Senior Administrative Analyst Schaich discussed the overall strategy to rank program concepts by criteria such as budget, cost effectiveness, and savings before identifying recommended viable program concepts. He stated that the first step is to examine existing conditions and then to target the highest demand by user class or largest volume customers. Next, they would evaluate existing water use of passive and active efficiency programs and estimate saturation of devices. He stated that the American Water Alliance has developed a tracking tool to: analyze potential water savings, costs, and benefits of conservation measures; construct water conservation portfolios and long-range plans; rank conservation measures; track implementation, water savings, and costs; predict revenue impact; and track and graph the benefits of

actual conservation activities over time. He noted that the results would enable TMWD to identify which programs it should promote as well as to develop and recommend new program opportunities.

He requested that the Commission take action recommending that the City develop a Water Use Efficiency Plan, utilizing the services of outside consultant A&N Technical Services, Inc. He stated that the cost for development of the Plan is approximately \$26,000 and will take up to five months. He noted that the consultant would provide a presentation to the Commission when the Plan is complete.

When Commissioner Lefevre questioned if five months was enough time, Senior Administrative Analyst Schaich advised that the consultant pioneered the database and has extensive experience.

MOTION: Commissioner Lefevre moved to recommend that the City allocate not to exceed \$30,000 for development of a Water Use Efficiency Plan. Commissioner White seconded the motion; a voice vote reflected unanimous approval (absent Commissioner McGee).

MWD Director Wright stated that by 2035 there could be a potential 10% shortage of water supply in Southern California and that they need to come up with 500,000 acre-feet of extra water supply. He noted that the 2020 Plan should take care of 200,000 acre-feet of that shortage; however, they still need to find the remaining 30%. He stated that one proposal that managers are considering is to develop a new supply of water in Southern California utilizing County Sanitation District water.

9. METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT DIRECTOR'S REPORT

MWD Director Wright reported that the State Water Project allocation has been increased 50% and that MWD has been able to not only meet the needs in Southern California but also to put water into storage. He noted that Diamond Valley Lake is now 53% of capacity. He stated that the Colorado River, in this seventh year of drought, is 69% of normal, with Lake Mead at 42% of capacity. He was pleased to note that Lake Powell may be releasing water into Lake Mead; in addition, Mexico is interested in storing some of their water in Lake Mead and may end up selling it to MWD.

Water Service Supervisor Aguiar introduced his wife and provided an update on the Goldsworthy Desalter facility.

10. WEST BASIN WATER ASSOCIATION REPORT

Deputy Public Works Director van der Linden reported that at the July 6, 2010 West Basin Water Association meeting the West Basin Water District announced implementation of an approved water rate structure and is proposing that future water allocations in the District be determined on a new baseline. He reported that Water Replenishment District is working on a West Coast Basin Master Plan that will include Central Basin, will be releasing their Saline Plume Map update soon, and is working on the Groundwater Replenishment Improvement Plan. He stated that the newly elected executive board of West Basin Water Association took office and announced the joint Association's Basin barbeque luncheon on August 11, 2010 at Carson Community Center.

11. MONTHLY DEPARTMENT REPORT

Deputy Public Works Director van der Linden presented the Monthly Department Report for June 2010. He reported a decrease of 3% in overall water production in June 2010 as compared to June 2009 and stated that there were three water main break incidents. He announced that the Goldsworthy Desalter is in full production.

Responding to Commissioner Lefevre's inquiry, he stated that it takes approximately six hours to replace membranes.

In response to Chairperson Deemer's inquiry regarding Well 9, he stated that the contractor is currently building the pump house and that the well should be online in early fall.

MOTION: Commissioner See moved to accept and file the Monthly Department Report as presented. Commissioner Lew seconded the motion; a voice vote reflected unanimous approval (absent Commissioner McGee).

12. ORALS

12A. Commissioner Lefevre distributed the July 3, 2010 edition of the IEEE Spectrum magazine and discussed the Sustainable Water Resources roundtable in Palo Alto in April 2010.

12B. Chairperson Deemer initiated a brief discussion regarding the restoration of Los Angeles River.

12C. Senior Administrative Analyst Schaich invited Commissioners to attend the Integrated Water Resources workshop on August 12, 2010 and the Energy Water Forum on July 29, 2010, both at MWD.

13. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: At 8:43 p.m., Commissioner See moved to adjourn the meeting to August 19, 2010 at 7:00 p.m. in the West Annex Commission meeting room. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Haddon and, hearing no objection, Chairperson Deemer so ordered.

Approved as Submitted August 19, 2010 s/ Sue Herbers, City Clerk
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