

METROPOLITAN WATER POLLUTION ABATEMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Meeting Summary

**Tukwila Community Center,
Social Hall
Tukwila, WA**

Wednesday, April 24, 2019

**Start 10:00 a.m.
Adjourned 11:30 a.m.**

1. MWWPAAC Chair's Report – Pam Carter

- Welcome and Introductions
- Determine Quorum
- Approval of March Meeting Summary (action item)

Everyone introduced themselves.

A quorum was not in attendance – the March meeting summary will be put on the May agenda for approval.

Pam Carter announced revisions had been made to the agenda to allow more time for the Operating Board exercise. The agenda was reviewed.

Pam provided a report on the following items:

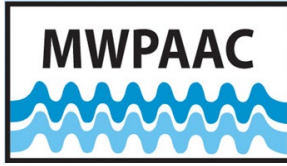
- There was no Regional Water Quality Committee (RWQC) meeting in April. The May RWQC will include the following briefings on the agenda:
 - Report on the Ship Canal Water Quality Project
 - Sewer Rate and Capacity Charge Affordability
- The Executive's Sewer Rate package was transmitted to Council on April 18.
- King County will be scheduling regional Listening Sessions on the draft regional sewer contract in the months of May and June. Pam emphasized these meetings will not be the only avenue for members to provide feedback – discussions will also occur at MWWPAAC.
- King County is hosting a Clean Water Conversation Workshop on May 20th as part of the Clean Water Plan process. This is an opportunity for the public to engage in the planning process. An invitation will go out to MWWPAAC membership who may want to attend the workshop to learn more. However, this is not in place of the regular engagement that MWWPAAC will have in the planning process. WTD will engage MWWPAAC in its advisory role during the Clean Water Plan process. WTD will work with the Executive Board on the work plan for this. WTD will also provide a status update on the Clean Water Plan process at general meetings.

2. Subcommittee Reports

April 4, 2019, Rates & Finance:

- Capacity Charge Affordability Study

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April 4, 2019, Engineering & Planning:

- Bringing Sewers to Un-Sewered Urban Areas: A Success Story
- Clean Water Plan Update
- I/I Program Status Update

3. **2020 Sewer Rate and Capacity Charge to Council, Hiedi Popochock, Financial Services Manager, Wastewater Treatment Division (WTD)**

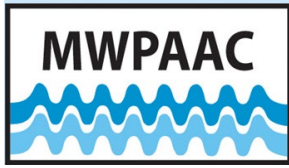
Hiedi Popochock, Financial Services Manager, and Dan Kaplan, Financial Services Administrator provided a report on the 2020 Monthly Sewer Rate and Capacity Charge Proposal which included the following items:

Executive's 2020 Rate Proposal

- Maintains 2019 rate of \$45.33 for second year
 - No use of rate stabilization funds through 2025
 - Below inflation increases forecast through 2025
 - Reflects positive 2018 financial performance
 - \$346 million in debt reduction by 2025
 - Provides capital and operations support for safety, resiliency and asset management
- Capacity charge of \$66.35 for 2020
 - Increase of 2.9 percent from 2019
 - Includes expanded affordability options
 - Expands affordability options for capacity charge
- Collectively, the Sewer Rate and Capacity Charge Generate \$510 million or 95 percent of the Utility's 2020 Revenue
- Proposed 2020 Sewer Rate Distribution of Expenditures
- Positive 2018 Financial Performance
- West Point Settlement
- Conservative practices yield debt reduction
- Rate stabilization fund balance held through 2025
- Residential Customer Equivalent growth moderates
- New sewer connection projections unchanged
- Operating Expenses: 2019-2020 Summary
- Capital Program Highlights
- Capacity Charge
- Future Rate Outlook

Members had questions regarding the contributions to the general fund, the rate forecast for 2026-2030, and they asked if the number of new sewer connections could be broken out by local sewer agency. WTD will follow-up by email to the questions asked.

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4. **Wastewater Treatment Division Director's Report and Regional Team Update – Mark Isaacson, Division Director, Wastewater Treatment Division (WTD); and Sarah Ogier, City of Bellevue**

Mark Isaacson, Division Director provided a report on the following items:

Heat Recovery

- Sewer lines maintain a constant temperature with the ability to provide heating in the winter and cooling in the summer. They are a source of energy suitable for heat pumps.
- We have the potential to reduce heating and cooling costs to buildings in our service area, providing a sustainable and environmentally friendly means of heating/cooling buildings within the city.
- Not only can we capture heat from the influent sewer lines, but also the effluent lines, providing additional cooling to the effluent water prior to discharge into the sound.
- WTD is currently working with Huber Technology, Noventa Energy Partners, and several Property Developers to develop contract language for a pilot project.

Offsite Overflows – key highlights for each and what we are learning

Richmond Beach

- What happened: Loss of line power and the ATS triggered the breakers to trip. Key electrical equipment (i.e., Variable Frequency Drive) is old

Lessons Learned:

- Ability to “baby sit” the facility during winter storms greater than expected with off-site staff
- Demanded flexibility in rebuilding the facility: Long-term capital project to replace equipment at older facilities prioritized and completed by this low flow season

Sweyolocken

- What happened: Electrical equipment left in off-mode by mistake, causing electrical failure during winter storm power surges and a faulty warning notice to main control

Lessons Learned:

- Communication expectations about near misses during staff meetings
- Evaluation of over 3000 automatic warning messages
- Flexibility in staffing to perform electrical check of all 46 pump stations

Lake Ballinger

- What happened: staffing error in operating equipment
- Lesson Learned: Improved notifications of public health officials

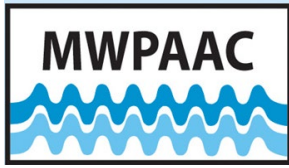
Heathfield

- What happened: mechanical failure in a pump

Lesson Learned:

- Flexibility in staffing to perform mechanical checkup of all 46 pump stations
- Checkup will now go beyond pump capacity analysis to more thorough Preventative Maintenance routine

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MWPAAC members asked about the recent overturn of a Loop truck. Mark shared he has a conference call scheduled with the contractor. He noted that the contractor has a #1 rating with the Washington State Department of Labor & Industries and has been providing contracted drivers since 2006. Mark reported most of the spill was contained by the trailer tarp and that WTD worked with the Department of Ecology, cleaned up as much as we could and took it to a landfill.

MWPAAC members also asked how they should direct residents when they have questions about things that have happened in the community. Mark suggested they be directed to plant operations emergency numbers:

- East Section Incident Command Center (24/7): 206-263-1760 or direct hardline 425-226-3680
- West Section Incident Command Center (24/7): 206-263-3801 or 206-263-3840; direct hard line 206-283-5732

Sarah Ogier, City of Bellevue, provided an update on regional negotiations. She shared that elected officials reached out to King County and the Department of Natural Resources and Parks regarding wastewater governance with interest in more decision making. She reported that the Regional Negotiations Teams is continuing to do good work. They are working on the Capacity Charge and subgroups met twice weekly in April and will bring recommendations back to the Regional Negotiations Team.

Sarah reminded members that the draft sewer contract had been sent out with a matrix of comments and responses. Also, King County will be scheduling listening sessions in various locations over the next two months to review the draft contract and that MWPAAC members will need to RSVP.

5. Mock Operating Topic Overview: Capacity Charge Affordability Implementation Funding (Post 2022) , Alison Saperstein, Project Manager, WTD

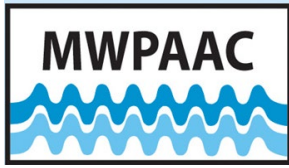
Alison Saperstein, Project Manager, provided a presentation on the Capacity Charge Affordability Implementation that included:

- Benefits and Financial Impacts
- Near-term Funding Plan Strategy
- Near-term Funding Plan Rationale
- Options for Long-term Funding

Members broke into caucus groups and provided results at the end of the exercise. Caucus groups were asked to bring forward any questions from their group and to decide on which option for long-term funding they recommended.

Written responses to the question from the caucuses will be sent out in advance of the next general meeting.

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6. General Announcements

None.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:30 a.m.