

METROPOLITAN WATER POLLUTION ABATEMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Meeting Summary

Microsoft Teams

Wednesday, March 23, 2022

Start 10 a.m.
Adjourned 12 p.m.

1. **MWWPAAC Chair's Report – John McClellan**
 - a. Welcome and Introductions
 - b. Determine Quorum
 - c. Approval of February Meeting Summary (**Action Item**)
 - d. Regional Water Quality Committee Update (RWQC)
 - e. Executive Board Retreat Report
 - f. Election of Engineering and Planning Chair (**Action Item**)

Olivia Robinson, WTD Government Relations, took attendance by roll call. A quorum was in attendance.

Chair John McClellan welcomed members to the meeting.

A motion was made and seconded to approve the February meeting summary as written. The motion carried.

Chair McClellan provided a summary of the March 2 Regional Water Quality Committee (RWQC) meeting. The March meeting focused on RWQC orientation as the committee has several new members. RWQC Chair Reagan Dunn also expressed support for working with MWWPAAC on shared interests and goals.

Chair McClellan reported out on the February 9 Executive Board Retreat. Discussions included:

- Working to refine work plan and clear priorities
- Next Steps for the Clean Water Plan
- MWWPAAC Field Trip in July – not determined as of yet
- Update on Nutrients and CSO negotiations progress
- Contract Negotiations – looking at gathering up outstanding issues from last negotiations
- Planning for discussion re: I&I and Plumbing Fixtures Table Review

Election of the Comprehensive Engineering and Planning Chair

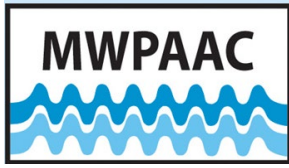
Chair McClellan called for nominations for the Comprehensive Engineering and Planning Chair position.

Jack Broyles, Woodinville Water District, nominated Gary Schimek, City of Issaquah. Lisa Tobin, City of Auburn, seconded the nomination.

Chair McClellan asked for additional nominations from the floor. There were no additional nominations.

A voice vote was taken, and Gary Schimek was unanimously elected as Chair for the Comprehensive Engineering and Planning Subcommittee. Gary thanked members for their support.

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Chair McClellan noted that the Executive Board chooses the Vice Chair for Comprehensive Engineering and Planning and would announce the new Vice Chair soon.

2. Wastewater Treatment Division Director's Report – Kamuron Gurol, Division Director, Wastewater Treatment Division (WTD)

Kamuron Gurol, WTD Director, reported that Consent Decree negotiations continue with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), WA Department of Ecology (Ecology), U.S. Department of Justice, and the WA Attorney General's Office. Recent guidance from the EPA and Ecology as to next steps that will help advance the work further down the road; however, further details cannot be shared as the negotiations are confidential. There is also likely to be a formal review process with the County Executive and County Council, probably similar with the City of Seattle's consent decree, and then on to a federal judge for approval, although information on those steps will probably not be detailed until next year.

Director Gurol also provided a Nutrients update. The County filed a summary judgment motion on March 18, and several agencies joined in that motion. The motion raised a legal authority question that may be dispensed with relatively early this year. A ruling in our favor could disallow the general permit. If the motion does not prevail, we still might be looking at a formal hearing on legal issues and substantive issues, but not likely until early next year. In the meantime, we are complying with the initial aspects of the permit including optimization planning, monitoring, and reporting.

Director Gurol recognized Lisa Tobin, City of Auburn, for her service over the years to MWWPAAC. She is retiring at the end of March. He presented her with a certificate of appreciation on behalf of WTD and the MWWPAAC Executive Board and opened the floor to members. In their offices in Auburn City Hall, Bob Elwell, City of Auburn, also honored Lisa for her service to MWWPAAC and the City of Auburn. Olivia Robinson, WTD Government Relations, shared that WTD and the Executive Board also contributed to a gift card that would be sent along with the certificate. Lisa thanked members and WTD and shared she's appreciated working with everyone.

3. Subcommittee Reports

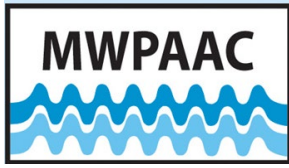
March 3, 2022, Rates & Finance:

- Sewer Rate Discussion
- Discussion of Sewer Rate Letter to Executive (*Item moved to special Rates and Finance meeting on March 10*)

March 3, 2022, Engineering & Planning:

- Infiltration and Inflow (I/I) Reduction Discussion

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4. Timing for Future In-Person Meetings, John McClellan, MWPAAC Chair

Chair McClellan discussed the timing for future in-person MWPAAC meetings. He talked about how hybrid meetings are still required under current state COVID-related open meeting requirements, but that they can sometimes be challenging on the technical perspective. He suggested trying a hybrid meeting on a smaller scale before changing the larger meetings. He's interested in members' preference for meeting in person and/or hybrid and opened up the floor for comment.

Comments:

- Commissioner Shustov, Sammamish Plateau Water and Sewer District: Loves remote meetings and open to a hybrid.
- Cynthia Lamothe, City of Bellevue: Appreciates there might be technical challenges, so the idea of testing is great. There is a benefit to meeting in person. In terms of participation, virtual has some significant advances.
- Andy Tuchscherer, Sammamish Plateau Water and Sewer District: Echoes last two points. Easier from a time standpoint to participate virtually. Consistent hybrid meetings are challenging. Maybe have quarterly in person meetings.
- Jack Broyles, Woodinville Water District: Synergy is lacking in on online meetings. Suggests ironing out the technical challenges and have the general meetings in person.
- Robert Elwell, City of Auburn: Convenience of remote meetings is clear. As people rotate there is less history of who others are. Likes idea of periodic in person meeting.
- Steve Hitch, City of Redmond: Suggests alternating full in person or full remote instead of hybrid.
- Commissioner Harman, Sammamish Plateau Water and Sewer District: Likes the idea of general in person and subcommittees being held remotely.
- Ben Marre, City of Seattle-SPU: Quarterly in person would be nice and to rotate locations.

Chair McClellan thanked members for their comments. Comments will be considered by the Executive Board and more information will be shared in advance of any meeting changes.

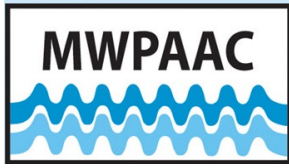
5. Discussion of Sewer Rate Letter to Executive, Jack Broyles, Rates and Finance Subcommittee Chair (Action Item)

Jack Broyles, Rates and Finance Chair, discussed the process used to draft the rate recommendation letter and presented the draft.

A motion was made and seconded to approve the MWPAAC Rate Recommendation letter. The motion carried by voice vote.

Jack informed members that two additional edits were submitted by the City of Auburn and City of Bellevue.

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A motion was made and seconded to introduce the City of Auburn edits. The motion carried by voice vote.

Lisa Tobin, City of Auburn, presented the edits proposed by the City of Auburn, and discussion ensued.

A motion was made and seconded to introduce the City of Bellevue edits. The motion carried by voice vote.

Cheryl Paston, City of Bellevue, presented the edits proposed by the City of Bellevue.

MWPAAC members discussed both amendments in detail and edited the document in accordance with the discussion.

A motion was made and seconded to accept the City of Auburn's edits. The motion carried by voice vote.

A motion was made and seconded to accept the City of Bellevue's edits. The motion failed by voice vote.

A motion was made and seconded to incorporate the last sentence, first paragraph of the City of Bellevue's edits. The motion carried by voice vote.

A motion was made and seconded to add "regional" to the first sentence in the third paragraph. The motion carried by voice vote.

A motion was made and seconded to add "local" to the last sentence in the third paragraph. The motion carried by voice vote.

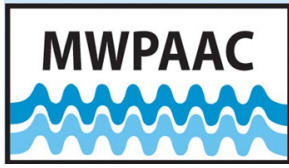
Jack Broyles, Rates and Finance Chair, made a motion to approve the letter as amended. Lisa Tobin, City of Auburn seconded. Olivia Robinson, WTD Government Relations, took a roll-call vote. The motion carried 17-1.

6. New Business/Future Topics, John McClellan, MWPAAC Chair

Chair McClellan asked for new topics for future meetings. A joint topic at the April subcommittee meetings will be to discuss the 2022/2023 MWPAAC Work Plan. The committee will look at the list of topics from the rate discussion and topics from the existing work plan to start the discussion. A list of topics will be sent out to members with the subcommittee meeting materials.

Jay Krauss, Sammamish Plateau Water and Sewer District, proposed a few topics for future meetings including the 1000-acre basin standard, regional geographical equity, and regional conveyance infrastructure.

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7. General Announcements

None.

The meeting was adjourned at 12 p.m.

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