

METROPOLITAN WATER POLLUTION ABATEMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Meeting Summary

Microsoft Teams

Wednesday, January 25, 2023

10 a.m. to 12 p.m.

1. MWWPAAC Chair's Report – John McClellan

- Welcome and Introductions
- Determine Quorum
- Approval of December Meeting Summary (Action Item)
- Regional Water Quality Committee (RWQC) Update
- Election: Seattle Representative for WaterWorks (Action Item)
- Elections: MWWPAAC Vice Chair and Chair of Comprehensive Engineering & Planning Subcommittee (Action Item)

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

The December 2022 meeting summary was approved as written by voice vote.

Chair John McClellan welcomed MWWPAAC members to the January meeting.

Chair McClellan reported there was no January RWQC meeting. RWQC will be meeting on February 1 and the following presentations are on the agenda:

- Implications of Emerging PFAS Regulatory Direction
- Puget Sound Toxics Report

Chair McClellan reminded members interested in listening in on RWQC meetings that they may join via live stream, watch on King County TV Channel 22, or listen to the meeting by telephone. Information can be found on the RWQC [webpage](#). Councilmember Claudia Balducci is the new RWQC chair.

Elections

Chair McClellan announced MWWPAAC received one application for the Seattle Representative on the WaterWorks Grant Ranking Committee. The application information for Tasha Bassett was included with MWWPAAC meeting materials.

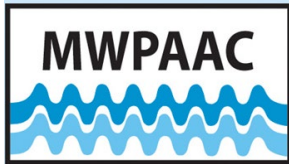
Tasha Bassett's appointment was approved by voice vote.

Chair McClellan announced the Nominating Committee received one letter of interest from Maria Coe, City of Seattle, for the Vice Chair of MWWPAAC, and one letter of interest from Steve Hitch, City of Redmond, for Chair of the Comprehensive Engineering and Planning Subcommittee.

Chair McClellan called for nominations for Vice Chair of MWWPAAC.

Adib Altallal, City of Tukwila, nominated Maria Coe, City of Seattle. The nomination was seconded.

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Chair McClellan called for nominations from the floor. There were none.

Maria Coe was elected as Vice Chair to MWWPAAC by voice vote.

Chair McClellan called for nominations for Chair of the Comprehensive Engineering and Planning Subcommittee.

Adib Altallal, City of Tukwila, nominated Steve Hitch. The nomination was seconded.

Chair McClellan called for nominations from the floor. There were none.

Steve Hitch was elected as Chair to the Comprehensive Engineering and Planning Subcommittee by voice vote.

MWWPAAC Executive Board Retreat

Chair McClellan reported on the Executive Board retreat that was held on January 19. The following topics were discussed:

- Goal setting for MWWPAAC
- Meeting Management
 - How to best manage the flow of questions. Going forward members will be limited to two initial questions with additional questions to be put in the chat. This will allow an opportunity for all members to ask questions. Questions may also be held until the end of the presentation.
- Work Plan (ongoing discussion topic)
- Asset Management Work Group – to be reconvened after the rate discussions
- Tour for July – considering the Ship Canal Water Quality Project. Members are also asked to share any ideas with the Executive Board

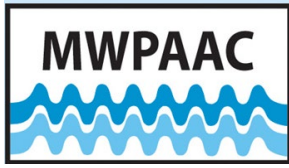
2. Wastewater Treatment Division Director's Report – Kamuron Gurol, Division Director, Wastewater Treatment Division (WTD)

Kamuron Gurol, WTD Director, thanked the Executive Board for a thoughtful and productive retreat last week. He congratulated Maria and Steve on their re-elections and willingness to serve.

Kamuron reported, as Chair McClellan noted, on the next steps for the Asset Management Work Group. WTD appreciates those that have participated in those meetings. The discussion now is what the group will dive into next. One potential would be to dive into projects in Tier 1. In the near term, we'll work through the sewer rate and then bring the group back together.

Kamuron reported that WTD is in the process of rebooting the Clean Water Plan process. We're looking forward to bringing on a new Strategic Planning Manager to launch the next phase in the

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project. Our previous project leads, Steve Tolzman, and Tiffany Knapp are heading up other work within WTD and Sonia-Lynn Abenojar has left King County.

Kamuron provided an update that WTD is putting together our first annual report on nutrients, which is due to Ecology in March. We will provide a full update on nutrients to MWWPAAC in the spring. The litigation is still ongoing.

Kamuron provided an update on the ongoing CSO Consent Decree negotiations. Work with regulators is productive and ongoing. WTD met with regulators recently on technical questions. WTD will keep MWWPAAC apprised of updates.

Kamuron noted that WTD is in the process of working through the rate. The presentation MWWPAAC will hear today is the same as the one heard at the January 5 Rates and Finance Subcommittee meeting. This ensures that everyone has a few weeks to review and study the materials and ask further questions. WTD is committed to a transparent process and sharing information when we know it. There will be more information to share next week at the Rates and Finance Subcommittee.

Kamuron provided some legislative highlights from several bills WTD is tracking to include:

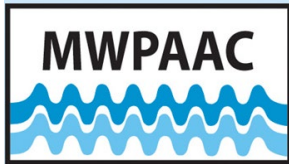
- SB 5245 related to PFAS in Biosolids.
- HB1047 related to PFAS and other chemicals in cosmetic products. This bill focuses on source control.
- HB1213 which would delay implementation of wipes labeling by a year or two – wipes labeled as flushable that are not flushable. We are not happy with the delay but appreciate that the legislation will be implemented.

Let us know if you want any more information on these bills or let us know of one that may not be on our radar. Sharman Herrin and Olivia Robinson in Government Relations do a great job of tracking legislation.

Kamuron reviewed the internal reporting process on overflow events. In 2022, he received approximately 160 red alerts, which typically means one of our facilities lost power and in 158 of those times, the backup generator worked. WTD has a very strong success record and overall the system is working very well. When we do have an overflow event, WTD informs impacted agencies, updates the Performance Metrics webpage, and verbally shares an update at MWWPAAC. Kamuron reported on the following overflow events since that last MWWPAAC General meeting on December 7:

- Carkeek Combined Sewer Overflow (CSO) Treatment Facility – crews quickly responded to the Carkeek CSO treatment facility on December 24 when a disinfection system failure occurred, correcting the problem, and bringing the facility quickly back into full service.
- Medina Pump Station – crews quickly restored power at the Medina Pump Station during the powerful wind and rainstorm on the morning of December 26, when utility power failed, and the standby power system had to be manually reset. The pump station was receiving a high volume of stormwater from rainfall when power went out. The crew quickly restored power within two hours and brought the facility back online.

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- Vashon Island – the extreme high tides and low pressure of the December 26 storm led to an overflow of saltwater, stormwater, and wastewater apparently from an open pipe from a vacuum chamber under the ferry dock that allowed saltwater intrusion which affected part of our conveyance system. Crews began immediate clean-up work, and we'll need to continue working with the Vashon Sewer District in protecting public health and the environment. The Vashon Sewer District has since coordinated with the Washington State Ferries to install a cap on the open pipe to resolve the issue.
- Richmond Beach – crews quickly reset a malfunctioning pump on December 27 that resulted in intermittent discharges of wastewater mixed with stormwater into Puget Sound through the station's bypass pipe, located 1,600 feet offshore and at a depth of 200 feet.

Kamuron reported overflow events do happen more frequently in the wet weather season and are often caused by weather related events. At the direction of the Executive Board, WTD surveyed MWWPAAC on how often agencies want to be informed of overflows. While most reported that they were fine with the current process, three agencies wanted more information. WTD staff are currently exploring wants to share further overflow information with MWWPAAC.

3. Subcommittee Reports

January 5, 2023, Rates & Finance:

- Review of Adopted 2023-2032 Sewer Rate and Preliminary 2024 Rate-setting Policy Direction

January 5, 2023, Engineering & Planning:

- Life of an Asset

4. Review of Adopted 2023-2032 Sewer Rate and Preliminary 2024 Rate-setting Policy Direction, Devin ViBarnes, Rates, Capital, & Debt Management Manager, Wastewater Treatment Division (WTD)

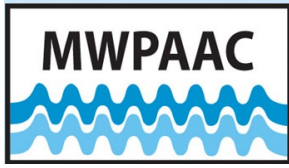
Devin ViBarnes, Rates, Capital, and Debt Management Manager, presented on the Adopted 2023-2032 Sewer Rate and Preliminary 2024 Rate-setting Policy Direction. The full presentation can be found [here](#). The presentation included the following information:

- 2024 Sewer Rate Goals and Schedule
- 2023-2032 Sewer Rate Forecast
- New Operating Costs
- New Capital Costs
- Capacity Charge
- Next Steps

5. New Business/Future Topics, John McClellan, MWWPAAC Chair

Chair McClellan asked if members had any new business or future topics to propose.

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There was a suggestion that more information be presented regarding the capacity charge and how it relates to the rate forecast.

6. General Announcements

None.

The meeting was adjourned at 12 p.m.

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