



CITY OF BEVERLY HILLS
City Hall Room 280-A
455 N. Rexford Drive
Beverly Hills, CA 90210
MINUTES

PUBLIC WORKS COMMISSION SPECIAL MEETING
November 13, 2014
8:00 A.M.

The meeting was called to order at 8:01 a.m.

A. ROLL CALL

Commissioners Present: Felsenthal, Wolfe, Aronberg, Shalowitz and Pressman.
Commissioners Absent:

B. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Vice Chair Aronberg.

C. COMMISSION MINUTES

Consideration of Minutes of the Public Works Commission Special Meeting of September 11, 2014, and the Public Works Commission Regular Meeting of October 9, 2014. Motion by Commissioner Pressman, Seconded by Vice Chair Aronberg to approve. Absent objection by the Commission, the Minutes are approved by order of the Chair. **CARRIED 5/0**

D. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE AUDIENCE NONE

E. REPORT FROM THE CHAIRPERSON

Mayor's Cabinet Meeting Chair Shalowitz attended the meeting of October 22, 2014.
Other Items of Interest NONE

F. CONTINUED AND NEW BUSINESS

1. Recognition of Incoming Vice Chair

Chair Shalowitz welcomed incoming Vice Chair Aronberg.

2. Water Enterprise Plan Development – Alternatives Recommendations

Mr. Gobas from Psomas provided an update. Responses to the Commission's questions were provided. Of nineteen alternatives, three categories were formed: Baseline Water Supply Alternatives, Water Supply Insurance Alternatives and Conservation Alternatives. Criterion was analyzed among alternatives and values assigned. In December Psomas will provide a status report on the detailed analysis of Psomas' nine recommended alternatives. Chair Shalowitz stated more discussion will take place at the next workshop and asked the Commission for input regarding Psomas' top alternatives. Options outside of the top nine will not be cost effective over the next five to ten years.

3. Report on West Hollywood Water Conservation Efforts

Daniel Mick, Public Works Code Compliance Supervisor from the City of West Hollywood (WH), provided an update. WH recently passed a water usage ordinance; WH will follow the conservation rules of the city it receives water from. Outside of his scope of control are building and development standards. Ms. Tse stated both Cities users can access their accounts via Beverly Hills' Water Tracker. Ms. Rhay stated the City audits every City water customer for leak detection.

4. Report on Water Service Obligation to City of West Hollywood

City Attorney Mr. Markman provided an update via telephone. A substitute water provider would need to be in place prior to the City reducing or stopping supply to the City of West Hollywood (WH). In order to terminate service to WH, there would need to be a financial basis to do so. A second question is whether a

subsequent provider would have a route to provide water to WH. Another issue is whether severance would put Beverly Hills in competition with another provider pumping from the Hollywood Basin. Regarding any controls the City has over WH's development and subsequent water requirements, a review of the original Agreement to determine contractual requirements is necessary. As the City is not a public utility, governance of supply is contractual. Regarding WH passing on the cost of increased water production to Beverly Hills, Mr. Markman stated this likely would be worked out via rate structure and connection fees. Mr. Wunderlich of MWD stated it is likely the City's allocation would be reduced in the event of stopping supply to WH, and allocation would not be increased if WH put a greater demand on the system.

5. 2009 Shallow Groundwater Study

Mr. Slade of Richard Slade and Associates (RS&A) provided an update on flow rates from site monitoring of two dewatering sites located at N. Maple Drive. Sumps are in an area of high groundwater; the sites collect high groundwater at fairly consistent rates, not following rain flow trends. This could be due to flow meters, misreads by employees, large homes irrigating more, a major break in a City pipeline or a sewer pipeline break. Historically the area is known to have a high water rate. The source of groundwater is rainfall and run-off/over irrigation. The current water rate total of both buildings is 1000 acre feet yearly being placed into the storm drain. Physically taking over the sumps is not a recommendation of RS&A. Regarding the La Brea Sub-area, it is a priority and the suggestion is developing deep and shallow wells as immediate alternatives. Regarding treatment of stormwater, Ms. Rhay stated the City is regulated by Regional Water Quality Control Board and our National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Permit.

Ms. Rhay asked if the Commission is ready to move forward with the Foothill Well Project. Mr. Cuneo, City Engineer, stated the plan was to move forward with a \$50,000 agreement for consultant selection to complete the initial work phase; this has not occurred. City Council approved an agreement with Cordova Corporation for engineering support and project management services. Ms. Rhay believes full design should occur. Chair Shalowitz agrees with complete design costing roughly \$250,000 and suggests moving forward with a larger agreement for full design. Commissioner Pressman would like a one month delay for staff to determine water quality at the proposed site.

MOTION by Commissioner Felsenthal, SECONDED by Commissioner Wolfe that the Commission make a recommendation to Staff to move forward with the full engineering design to bring the City to shovel-ready status in an amount costing roughly \$250,000 to \$275,000.

Ayes: Felsenthal, Wolfe, Aronberg and Shalowitz
Noes: None
Abstentions: Pressman
Absent: None

CARRIED 4/1

MOTION by Commissioner Pressman, SECONDED by Commissioner Wolfe that the Commission make a recommendation to Staff to move forward with the full engineering design, to move beyond bringing the City to shovel-ready status and begin drilling, in an amount of roughly \$2 Million Dollars.

Ayes: Felsenthal, Wolfe, Pressman, Aronberg and Shalowitz
Noes: None
Abstentions: None
Absent: None

CARRIED 5/0

6. Utility Bill Format Update TABLED

7. Parks & Recreation Commission Water Conservation Update TABLED

8. Preliminary Discussion – Water Rates

Ms. Rhay provided an update. The schedule is included in this meeting's packet. The initial critical timeline is December 31, 2014, when Budget Enhancement Forms (BEF's) are due by Staff. Regarding rate structure and rate proposal, proposals set baseline revenue needed for 2015/16 to cover expenses and structure states how fund are collected. The rate structure has been under the Conservation & Education Sub-committee. Chair Shalowitz stated the C&E Sub-committee can narrow options and make a recommendation for the Commission to discuss.

G. CONTINUED BUSINESS

1. Reports from Sub-Committees

Conservation & Education Sub-committee. Commissioner Wolfe provided an update. Regarding the Communication Plan, flyers went out and will continue regularly. Sample displays for businesses are being prepared. A Landscaping Workshop with MWD is scheduled for December 6th with the Cities of Culver City and W. Hollywood at the Beverly Hills Library to encourage conservation. Monthly usage data are to be compiled. Monthly rebate reports will be run to ascertain what residents have applied for. A Conservation-based tier structure for water was discussed. The Triton Water Tracker soft launch occurred; changes need to be made prior to rolling out the system. Regarding conservation certification for gardeners working in the City, Mr. Chavez stated training is possible but it is difficult to maintain accountability. Education and outreach to property owners on regulations is a better path.

2. Outstanding Action Items from Previous Meeting

Ms. Rhay provided an update. Status is as follows:

OPEN	CLOSED	ONGOING	ON HOLD
	54	26, 46, 54, 64, 66, 67	34

3. Capital Improvement Program Projects Under Public Works Management

TABLED

4. Discussion of Future Agenda Items and Areas of Priority

Regarding reservoir capacity, Mr. Gobas stated the draft report is under Staff review. Regarding the recent Team Beverly Hills Event and a walk-through of the Water Treatment Plant and what it needs to run efficiently, Commissioner Felsenthal stated there seem to be design flaws in the system.

H. COMMENTS FROM COMMISSIONERS NONE

I. COMMENTS FROM STAFF NONE

J. COMMENTS FROM METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT (MWD) DIRECTOR

Mr. Wunderlich provided an update. MWD will likely soon vote to approve and move forward with offering ten-year Purchase Orders to Members. Two Options were presented; he recommends the City move forward with a ten year purchase, Option 1. MWD's benchmarks are based on historical use; population increase and new demand would not increase supply.

MOTION by Commissioner Pressman, SECONDED by Commissioner Wolfe to recommend that the City move forward with a ten-year MWD Purchase Order, Option 1.

Ayes: Felsenthal, Wolfe, Pressman, Aronberg and Shalowitz
 Noes: None
 Abstentions: None
 Absent: None

CARRIED 5/0

K. ACTION ITEMS

- Chair Shalowitz asked Mr. Markman to research further and provide an update on the City's contractual commitment to WH and whether there is a practical alternative to providing water to WH.
- Chair Shalowitz asked for an update on the Foothill Well status within the next two months.
- Chair Shalowitz asked for an update from the Water Bill Design Sub-Committee at the next meeting.
- Chair Shalowitz asked for an update on the Water Treatment Plant project at the next meeting.

L. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Chair Shalowitz, with the consent of the Commission, adjourned the meeting at 11:50 a.m.

Passed and approved

This _____ day of _____, 2014

Chair Shalowitz