CITY OF BEVERLY HILLS
City Hall Room 280-A
455 N. Rexford Drive
Beverly Hills, CA 90210
MINUTES
PUBLIC WORKS COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING
April 9, 2015
8:00 A.M.

The meeting was called to order at 8:06 a.m.

A. ROLL CALL

Commissioners Present: Felsenthal, Wolfe, Aronberg, Shalowitz and Pressman.
Commissioners Absent: None.

B. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mr. Cartagena.

C. COMMISSION MINUTES

Consideration of the Minutes of the Public Works Commission Regular Meeting of March 12, 2015. MOTION by Commissioner Aronberg, SECONDED by Commissioner Pressman 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 March 18, 2015; minutes are available online.

Other Items of Interest
None.

F. NEW BUSINESS

1. *Recreation & Parks Commission Water Conservation Update*

Mr. Pfalzgraf and Recreation & Parks ('R&P') Commissioners Chair Friedman and Former Chair Rosoff provided an update on conservation efforts. Mr. Pfalzgraf discussed the following: R&P functions; Drip tubing, spray heads, pop-up heads; City's service area; Computerized weather-controlled irrigation system; Climatec's system; Native plants; Future projects; and Maintenance work. The City uses a larger percentage of pop-up sprinklers; grass removal is required for a change out. Fountain water is recirculated and replenished as it evaporates. Private property landscaping permitting is under the purview of Planning (Building & Safety). Sprinklers watering concrete and over-watering can be addressed via increased staffing. The target use reduction is 25-35%; City Council's directive will be followed. The R&P Commission requests information sharing on conservation and asks that PWS staff and/or Commissioners be present at their meetings. Commissioner Wolfe stated overwatering by the City is a large problem and asked what can be done to fix the issue. He mentioned sprinklers watering concrete and overwatering causing overflow and puddles. Commissioner Pressman asked that R&P return to a future Public Works Commission Meeting with an aggressive plan (including replacing all green medians, Greystone water use reduction) outlining what the R&P Department's conservation plans are, a timeline of those plans and a sense of urgency concerning the matter to reduce water to the minimum use possible as quickly as possible. Chair Shalowitz asked if MWD's turf removal rebates could be used to change

out medians. He asked about the net water savings from the recent Roxbury Park remodel and if the PWC could assist R&P in water saving endeavors. Commissioner Felsenthal asked about the possibility of using run-off/grey water at Coldwater Canyon Park and the use of native plants and bark instead of grass.

2. *Zero Waste Strategic Plan* TABLED

3. *Proposition 1 Funding* TABLED

4. *Parking Operations, Enforcement and Permit Administration Quarterly Report* TABLED

G. CONTINUED BUSINESS

1. *Water Enterprise Plan Presentation Review*

Ms. Rhay provided an update and PowerPoint presentation. The following were discussed: State Requirements; Comment Letter to the State Water Board; WEP Background; Changing Water Conditions; Plan Intent; Commission Evaluation Process; Conservation Program Costs/ Goals/Timeline; Development Process; Commission Recommendation; Cost Assumptions; and Next Steps. Commissioner Felsenthal suggested implementing in-lieu water rights. Regarding prioritization of alternatives, Chair Shalowitz stated order of ranking should be removed. Regarding pipeline construction Ms. Rhay stated there are several steps (Environmental impact; Public comment; Mitigation plans; and Planning) and the hope is to shorten the timeline.

Commissioner Felsenthal suggested the inclusion of the words "up to" in regards to the $60 million bond funding in the WEP and a provision in the event a future City Council decides to leave the water business there would be a valuable water commodity to sell. Ms. Rhay stated the final recommendation of the Commission is to be worked out during Workshop #3.

2. *Community Choice Aggregation (CCA) Program Overview*

Ms. Tse introduced the Community Choice Aggregation (CCA) Program which allows cities to unite to secure electricity. Recently, City Council Members Mirisch and Brien expressed interest in the CCA. Several cities are part of this group. Staff is requesting a Commission recommendation that the City Council pass a resolution for the City to participate in the no cost feasibility study. Joe Galliani of CCA stated that AB117 gave authority to the program which includes lower rates than PG&E and offers local control of energy future and clean energy options.

MOTION by Commissioner Pressman, **Seconded** by Vice Chair Aronberg that the Commission recommend to City Council that the City participate in the Community Choice Aggregation Program.

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

CARRIED 5/0

3. *Wastewater Capacity Fees* TABLED

4. *Water Tracker Update* TABLED

5. *Water "Will Serve" Letters* TABLED

6. *Reports from Sub-Committees* TABLED

7. *Outstanding Action Items List from Previous Meeting* TABLED

8. *Capital Improvement Program Projects Under Public Works Management* TABLED

9. *Discussion of Future Agenda Items and Areas of Priority* TABLED

H. COMMENTS FROM COMMISSIONERS

None.

I. COMMENTS FROM STAFF

1. *Parking Project Update* TABLED

2. *Water Conservation Update*

Ms. Tse provided an update. The following were discussed: Background; Current City Measures; Existing Restrictions; New State Measures and Requirements; Staff Recommendation and Next Steps. Staff suggests implementing modified 'Stage D.' There will be an update following the April 21, 2015, City Council Meeting.

Ms. Rhay is in the process of drafting a comment letter to the State Water Board covering issues unique to the City (high daytime population, hotels, business use, green space, etc.). Commissioner Felsenthal stated the permit process for new structures should require low-flow features; non-use of pools until the drought is over; limitations on grass areas; and that will serve letters be analyzed prior to granting. Mr. Chavez stated the liaison list recently came out and action can now move forward. Regarding penalties, Mr. Marquis stated the billing system has the capacity to set ranges and place penalty rates on those ranges.

MOTION by Commissioner Wolf, **Seconded** by Commissioner Pressman that the Commission recommend that City Council institute Stage D Water Restrictions including penalties per the Beverly Hills Municipal Code.

Ayes: Aronberg, Pressman and Wolfe.
Noes: Felsenthal and Shalowitz.
Abstentions: None
Absent: None
CARRIED 3/2

MOTION by Chair Shalowitz, **Seconded** by Vice Chair Aronberg to recommend to City Council that penalties be waived for the first billing cycle of the previously passed Motion to institute Stage D Water Restrictions.

Ayes: Aronberg, Shalowitz and Wolfe.
Noes: None
Abstentions: Felsenthal and Pressman.
Absent: None
CARRIED 3/2

3. *Monthly Report - Water Conservation Program (Education & Inspections)*
Mr. Descalzo provided an update on lawn and sidewalk watering restrictions. There has been a decrease in watering violations. 39 violations were given in March, with few repeat offenders.

4. *Earth Day Information*
Earth Day will be held at the Beverly Hills Farmer's Market Sunday, April 19, 2015, from 9:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m.

J. COMMENTS FROM METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT (MWD) DIRECTOR

None.

K. ACTION ITEMS

- Commissioner Wolfe requested a liaison meeting to discuss conservation as soon as possible.

L. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Chair Shalowitz, with the consent of the Commission, adjourned the meeting at 11:53 a.m.

Passed and approved

This _____ day of _____, 2015

_____
Chair Shalowitz