



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

**PUBLIC WORKS COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

January 14, 2016
8:00 a.m.

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

Date/Time: January 14, 2015 / 08:04 am

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL

Commissioners Present: Commissioners Felsenthal, Pressman, Shalowitz, Vice Chair
Wolfe, Chair Aronberg
Commissioners Absent: None
Staff Present: Mahdi Aluzri, George Chavez, Mark Cuneo, Chad Lynn, Trish
Rhay, Caitlin Sims, Michelle Tse, Audrey Wright

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE AUDIENCE

Members of the public may address the Commission regarding any items not on the Agenda that are within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Commission. By State law, the Commission may not discuss or vote on items not on the Agenda.

Speakers: Mark Egerman, Jeff Nathan

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

By Order of the Chair, the agenda was approved as amended, moving *Tour of Beverly Hills Water Facilities* last on the Agenda.

CONSENT CALENDAR

1. Consideration of December 10, 2015, Commission regular meeting minutes.

Motion: MOVED by Commissioner Pressman, SECONDED by
Commissioner Felsenthal to adopt the minutes as presented (5-0).

AYES: Commissioners Felsenthal, Pressman, Shalowitz, Vice Chair
Wolfe, Chair Aronberg

NOES: None

CARRIED

(Taken Out of Order)

CONTINUED BUSINESS

3. DISCUSSION ON PENALTY SURCHARGE APPEALS PROCESS

Ms. Tse provided an update on the attached report. Due to an increase in the number of appeals, Staff recommends an independent hearing officer also be able to review Level 2 appeals. Staff to review the current process and report back in February.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM STAFF

- **Introduction of New Staff** – New Public Works Services staff Debby Figoni, Water Conservation Administrator and Vince Damasse, Water Resource Manager, were introduced to the Commission.

CONTINUED BUSINESS

4. UPDATE ON TIERED WATER RATES

Ms. Rhay and City Manager Mr. Aluzri provided an update. City Council tabled rates at the January 5, 2016, Meeting, asking Staff to gather additional information and report at a later date to include a financial and performance audit, sunseting and smoothing rates.

REPORTS FROM PRIORITY AGENCIES

- Metropolitan Water District (MWD) Director – Director Dr. Wunderlich provided an update on MWD activities, including completing its Integrated Resource Plan. Engineering resources can be made available to assist local agencies.

(Return to Order)

2. CAPITAL ASSETS – WATER CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS

City Engineer Mr. Cuneo provided an update.

- a. **Water Treatment Plant** – Work is 45-50% complete. Starting and testing the facility to occur in March. The new target completion date is roughly March 2016.
- b. **Shallow Groundwater Well** – Work is proceeding as scheduled. Pilot wells are underway and samples will soon be taken. One well is near complete.
- c. **Greystone Reservoir Rehabilitation** – The Notice to Proceed was presented to the contractor in December with work to begin in January.

(Taken Out of Order)

PROJECT UPDATES & STATUS REPORTS

5. Update on Water Conservation Efforts

Ms. Tse and Ms. Sims provided an update. The State Water Resources Control Board is now considering modifying water use reduction targets. The drought declaration is extending through October 2016. At the January 5, 2016, Meeting, City Council directed staff to develop a framework for water restrictors. Water conservation enforcement will

revert to Public Works Services. To date, 455 appeal applications have been received; 45 are Level 2.

(Return to Order)

6. Update on Current Projects - TABLED

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE COMMISSION

- **Chair's Report – None**

(Taken Out of Order)

- **Mayors Cabinet Meeting** – Chair Aronberg attended the Meeting of December 28, 2015; minutes are online.
- **Recognition of Outgoing Chair** – Chair Aronberg thanked Ron Shalowitz for his performance as Chair of the Public Works Commission from October 2014 through December, 2015.

(Return to Order)

COMMUNICATIONS FROM STAFF

7. Chair and Vice-Chair Transition – TABLED

8. Resolution of the Public Works Commission of the City of Beverly Hills Establishing Rules of Procedure – TABLED

- **Director's Report**
Assistant Director, Ms. Rhay provided an update on the January 13, 2016, West Hollywood water main break. Staff will review the age and type of pipe once the event is concluded.
- **Upcoming Events - TABLED**

(Taken Out of Order)

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE COMMISSION

Commissioner Felsenthal raised the following issues:

- The Commission being informed of large, potential Department contracts.
- City Council's pending decisions on funding for water projects.

(Return to Order)

NEW BUSINESS

- **Tour of Beverly Hills Water Facilities**
Staff, Members of the Public and the Public Works Commission toured Beverly Hills water facilities.

ADJOURNMENT

Date / Time: January 14, 2016 / *End of Water Facilities Tour – 11:50 a.m.*

PASSED AND APPROVED THIS 11th DAY of FEBRUARY, 2016

Sandra Aronberg, Chair