

**Utility Advisory Board  
Summary Notes  
June 17, 2009**

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**Members Present:** Chairperson John Goodrich; Vice-Chairperson Alice Richmond; Bill Bennett; Gretchen Katko; Edward Keonjian; Ray Kindley; Michael Monical

**Members Absent:** None

**Staff:** Dennis Wright, Engineering Manager

**1. Call to Order and Introductions**

Chairperson John Goodrich called the meeting to order at 6:04pm.

**2. Approve April minutes**

Bill Bennett motioned that the minutes be approved as they stand, Mike seconded the motion, the motion passed unanimously.

**3. South Fork Water Board (SFWB) wholesale rate increase letter handout**

A letter from John Collins, SFWB General Manager, was provided to the UAB members. John Goodrich recognized Alice Richmond as the Chairperson of the SFWB Budget Committee, saying through her effort and the effort of others the wholesale water rate that the city is charged was reduced from 7% to 5%. It was noted that others on the SFWB Budget Committee include Ed Keonjian and John Goodrich.

**4. Tri-City Service District budget discussion and information from Alice Richmond and Mike Monical**

Mike Monical explained that the Tri-City Service District recommended a rate increase from \$11.65 per dwelling unit (pdu) per month to \$12.00 per pdu per month. The increase was passed by county commissioners and five citizen members, which included Alice and Mike. This means that the wholesale rate that the Tri-City charges the City will increase.

The group discussed the history of the Kellogg Creek Water Pollution Control Plant in Milwaukie. Kellogg, Clackamas County Service District (CCSD) #1's main sewer treatment plant, sits on the Willamette river front, and has been planned to be dismantled. Kellogg had been fined by DEQ for sewer overflows. Kellogg paid \$4.65million last year to upgrade the Tri-City plant to handle Kellogg's over capacity. Currently, Tri-City is receiving a share of Kellogg's over capacity.

When Kellogg is dismantled, their sewer will be shifted to the Tri-City plant. We, (Oregon City, West Linn and Gladstone), are not paying for the dismantling of Kellogg. However, the shutdown of Kellogg may be postponed indefinitely because they don't have an adequate answer that Tri-City will have the capacity to service all of the CCSD.

Mike continued that right now the Tri-City sewer plant capacity is pretty good and it might be able to serve all of its customers. He believes Phase 1 was to take care of violations from Kellogg during storm events when they had sewer overflows, and they are now able to pump that over to Tri-City, which has excess capacity. Tri-City was paid for that, so West Linn had no rate increase for that and didn't pay for that expansion. He said Alice disagrees with that, so if that is within our purview, we should get a little more information on that.

John noted that from the UAB's standpoint, the 3% wholesale rate increase for environmental services would be a pass through, and then incorporated into whatever rate increase the city council asks for - which was 5% in the budget. He said, for the UAB the important thing is that, if there is a rate increase, we need to make sure that environmental services has the capacity to absorb it.

## **5. New business**

- The council asked for a green sustainability liaison to the UAB. It is a kiosk effort for community education on sustainability, and a lot of the work could be done by email. John Goodrich offered to be the liaison. Mike Monical nominated John Goodrich for green sustainability liaison to the UAB, it was seconded by Ray Kindley, and passed unanimously.
- Doug Gardner, the new consultant for the utility rate study from Pioneer Consulting Group, Inc., located in Waterbury, Connecticut, has been in contact with John. Doug will present to the City Council on Monday, July 20<sup>th</sup> and would like to meet with the UAB on the following evening. The UAB agreed by consent to move their July meeting to **Tuesday**, July 21<sup>st</sup>, so that Doug Gardner can meet with the group. The meeting is scheduled for 6pm-7pm in the Bolton conference room.
- Members requested that a copy of the revised letter to the council, of the Utility Rate Increase Recommendation, be added to the next meeting packet.
- Members requested that a copy of the Charter and subsequent direction from the recent council, be added to the next meeting packet. They will review mandates for the full scope of the UAB.
- The board requested that the minutes format include new business and old business.

## **6. Meeting adjournment**

Chairman John Goodrich adjourned the meeting at 6:50pm.