

**FINAL Minutes**  
**Seattle Water Supply System Operating Board**  
**November 5, 2020**  
**1 PM to 3:00 PM**  
**WEBEX Teleconference**

<u>Board Members</u>	<u>Board Alternates</u>	<u>Utility Representatives</u>	<u>SPU Attendees</u>	<u>Other Attendees</u>
Alex Chen, Chair	Shane Young	Al Nelson	Regina Carpenter	Patty Hale
Mami Hara	Byron Murgatroyd	Abdoul Gafour	Paul Faulds	Darcey Peterson
Diane Pottinger, V. Chair		Boyd Benson	Kathy Curry	Kathleen Quong-
Ron Speer, Alt		Eli Zehner	Terri Gregg	Vermeire
Paula Laschober, Alt		Steve Leniszewski	Martha Neuman	Laura Marrone
Lynne Danielson		Patrick Sorenson	Kelly O'Rourke	Katie Nolan
Ron Little, 7 <sup>th</sup> Member		Mike Martin	Michael Godfried	Charlotte Haines
		Mike Amburgey	Jennifer Arthur	Roxanne Heller
			Maura Patterson	Renee Blanchette
			Amy LaBarge	Pam Maloney
			James Amspacher	Steve Pfaff
			Paul Hanna	Ron Straka
				Lauren Imhoff

### 1. Welcome and Introductions

Alex Chen, OB Chair welcomed everyone and covered the protocol for the WEBEX meeting and the staff who help to keep these meetings running smoothly (Jennifer Arthur, James Amspacher, Kathy Curry and Terri Gregg). Alex announced the sad news of the passing of John Thompson from WD 125 and recognized and appreciated all his years participating the Operating Board. Alex then asked Terri Gregg, Acting Wholesale Contracts Manager to go through who was in attendance.

### 2. Minutes/Agenda

- The **October 1, 2020 minutes** were **approved 6-0**.
- The **November 5, 2020 agenda** was **approved 6-0**.

### 3. Old Business

#### a. Municipal Watershed Wildfire Management

SPU's Amy LaBarge, Watershed Management Director began her presentation with an overview of the 2020 wildfire season. Amy highlighted the difficult fire season with the number of fires that occurred throughout the region and state. Amy noted that the Cedar River watershed's highest fire season generally occurs between July and August and wraps up roughly by October 15<sup>th</sup>. This year the watershed had a couple of small fires outside the watershed that started from lighting strikes but were quickly contained. Amy then covered the duties of the SPU Wildland Fire Team that performs initial attack, their training and experience and the cooperative agreements we have with other agencies. Other highlights included a look at the historically large burning periods, the general behavior of fires and the future considerations Seattle is looking at regarding wildfire management. A few general questions and comments ensued.

**b. 2020 Wholesale Customer Annual Survey**

Kelly O'Rourke, SPU's Water Conservation Manager, shared key results from the 2020 Annual Survey. Highlights included direct purchases from SPU, retail sales, residential and commercial rates, including how they shaped up for the region. A couple of questions followed the presentation.

**c. America's Water Infrastructure Act (AWIA)**

Michael Godfried, SPU Hazard Mitigation Planner, began his presentation with an overview of what the AWIA is and highlighted the substantial increases in federal government spending on disasters since 2005. He then gave an overview of the Risk and Resilience Assessment process and the certification deadlines. Michael wrapped up his presentation on Emergency Response Plans, the process and what SPU has done with their emergency response plan to date. A few questions ensued.

**4. Executive Summaries and Other Business**

- **Water Consumption** – Alex Chen shared that water demands were a few percent lower than expected, but overall, we are where we should be, and the slight demand drop did not appear to be Covid related.
- **Water Supply Conditions** – Alex Chen shared water supply conditions were good, drawdown was occurring as normal, preparing for flood management and the yearly watch and wait for the snowpack to return. It appears we will be in a LA Nina weather pattern this year which means generally conditions tend towards a wetter and cooler weather patterns.
- **Reclaimed Water Update** – Alex Chen shared that we will know more from King County in the next 2-3 months. KC shared water quality data and that PFOA was twice the proposed Washington State Action Level of 20 ppt. Alex met with the Operating Board Reclaimed Water Task Force and will also brief the full Operating Board at a later date.
- **CIP Updates** – Alex Chen shared the Lake Forest Park project bids came in \$1.5M over-estimates. Construction still hot in this area which is driving up costs.

**5. Future Meetings**

- December 3, 2020
- January 7, 2021

**6. Good of the Order**

- None

**7. Public Comment Period**

- None

**8. Material presented at Meeting: Electronic copies of the information described on the agenda were provided in advance of the meeting.**

**9. Board meeting was adjourned at approximately 3:00 p.m.**

Approved by:



Alex Chen (Jan 7, 2021 14:42 PST)

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**Chair, Alex Chen**  
**Seattle Water Supply System Operating Board**

01/07/2021

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**Date**