

FINAL Minutes
Seattle Water Supply System Operating Board
May 5, 2022
10:00 - Noon

CEDAR RIVER WATERSHED AUDITORIUM

Board Members

Alex Chen, Chair
Matt Everett, V. Chair
Andrew Lee
Dave Barnes, Alt.
Ron Little, 7th Member

Utility Representatives

Boyd Benson
Pete Eberle
Abdoul Gafour
Jason Kintner
Steve Leniszewski
Michael Martin
Al Nelson
Suzi O'Byrne
Ron Speer

SPU Attendees

Ray Brown
Julie Crittenden
Kathy Curry
Terri Gregg
John Holmes
Michele Koehler
Katie Klahn
Amy LaBarge
Brent Lackey
Maura Patterson
Susan Saffery
Tom VanBuren
Maggie Yuse

Other Attendees

Sam Amira
Dylan Bailey
Gary Cline
Chris Cordi
Jamie Crookston
Bob Danson
Jeremy Delmar
Bruce Gardiner
Suzanne Greathouse
Charlotte Haines
Patty Hale
Greg Hill
Roxanne Heller
Drew Huttenlocker
Patrick Martin
Alvin Materi
Katie Nolan
Marci Oda
Darcey Peterson
Kathleen Quong-Verneire
Ron Ricker
Robert Russell
Tim Schriever
Michael Smith
Logan Wallace
Max Woody

1. Welcome, Introductions & Announcements:

Alex Chen, Operating Board Chair and Deputy Director of Seattle Public Utilities' (SPU's) Water Line of Business and Shared Services Branch welcomed and thanked everyone for coming to the Cedar River Watershed for the Operating Board meeting, celebration of the retirement of two long term Operating Board members and for the afternoon tour of the watershed.

All attendees introduced themselves. Kathy Curry, SPU Wholesale Water Contracts Manager confirmed there was a quorum with enough Board Members in attendance to begin the meeting.

2. Agenda/Minutes

- a) The **March 31, 2022**, minutes were **approved 4-0**.
- b) The **May 5, 2022**, agenda was **approved 4-0**.

3. Old Business

a) **2023-2028 Capital Improvement Plan**

Maura Patterson, SPU Drinking Water Planning and Policy Advisor, gave a presentation on the remaining updates to the 2023-2028 Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) and the next steps in the Operating Board's annual CIP review process.

Alex Chen then provided a review of the facilities in the regional and subregional areas and the highlighted the current placeholders for potential upcoming Dam projects.

Attendees were reminded that questions from Board Members are due to SPU by May 12th in readiness for the May 26th CIP workshop.

4. New Business

a) **Cedar Falls Power Service Upgrade Project (C417017, Row 26)**

Brent Lackey, SPU Strategic Advisor and Project Manager, gave a PowerPoint presentation and highlighted that the Seattle City Light hydro-power generator was over 100 years old, and is believed to be the oldest municipally owned hydro-generator still in operation in the world. Brent then shared an overview of the Cedar Falls Power Service Upgrade project that involves a 50-50 cost sharing between Seattle City Light (SCL) and SPU, with SCL responsible for a more substantial proportion of project cost overages. Brent described issues that have added costs and time to the project current including delays due to pandemic impacts, management of contaminated soils identified during civil works, and delays in procuring concrete due to the Seattle area concrete strike. Brent shared that it is currently estimated that the new distribution/voltage portion of the project will be completed by January 2023, and that the entire project will be completed by mid to late-2023.

b) **Cedar Falls Phase 2 (C# tbd, Row 25)**

Ray Brown, SPU Watershed Operations Manager, gave a PowerPoint presentation on the future upgrades to Cedar Falls Phase II beginning with a look at the existing layout of Cedar Falls maintenance site, noting the campus is over 100 years old and buildings and structures were piecemealed together over time. Ray highlighted that the overall goal of the Cedar Falls Phase 2 project is to increase safety, efficiency and resiliency of watershed operations, and to retain some legacy buildings and replace others. The project still is in its early phase and needs to go through the 30% design process, and Stage Gate 2 approval to have a meaningful cost estimate to share with the Operating Board.

c) **Cedar Falls Regional Facility Improvements Program (C408045, C600324, C600394, Rows 24a-c)**

Amy LaBarge, SPU Watershed Management Director, began her presentation by highlighting that there are five functional areas within SPU's Watershed Management Division:

- 1) **Watershed Operations** (operations and maintenance of roads, buildings, and vehicles)
- 2) **Natural Resources** (scientists, long-term watershed monitoring, new forest management plans)
- 3) **Watershed Public & Cultural Programs** (educational focus, public facing to community, tribal partners)
- 4) **Watershed Protection section** (Watershed inspectors, fire safety)
- 5) **Administration team** (Management and IT)

Amy then shared a presentation with information on current Cedar Falls building improvement projects (e.g., upgrades and repairs to the Cedar Falls Learning Center) and on an erosion control building project (which is currently on hold).

d) **Overview of Cedar River Campus and Afternoon Tour**

Amy LaBarge shared an overview of the tour of the Watershed campus for the afternoon.

5. **Executive Summaries & Other Business**

- **Water Consumption from Watersheds vs. Rate Studies** – Alex Chen went over the current graph and reminded everyone that the largest predictor of increase in water sales is the weather.
- **Water Supply Update** – Alex Chen pointed out that we are still in a cooler and wetter weather pattern and currently in good shape for water supply. Current water supply synopsis can be found at: <http://www.seattle.gov/util/MyServices/Water/WaterSupply/index.htm>

6. **Future Meetings & Workshops**

Alex Chen and Kathy Curry provided reminders for the following upcoming Operating Board meetings:

- June 2, 2022 - regular monthly Operating Board meeting
- July 7, 2022 – regular monthly Operating Board meeting
- August 4, 2022 – regular monthly Operating Board meeting

Upcoming CIP Workshop Dates: May 26, 2022, 2-3:30pm

7. **Good of the Order**

- Kathy Curry, Wholesale Contracts Manager briefly described the Operating Board structure for newer members of the Operating Board and their guests.

Board meeting was adjourned at 12:00 p.m.

Approved by:



Chair, Alex Chen Wylie Harper, on behalf of Alex Chen
Seattle Water Supply System Operating Board

06/16/2022

Date