

**Administration:**

- Members Present: Alice Lanczos, Laura Markley, Chris Thompson, Kris McArthur, Ross Gilliland, Tom Grant
- SPU Staff Present: Julie Burman, Al Dietemann, Sherry Crawford, Rich Gustav, Sheryl Shapiro, Joan Kersnar, Sue Morrison, Al Dietemann, Liz Fikejs
- Guests Present: Kelly McCaffrey, Kendra Aguilar

Meeting called to order at 4:00PM

July meeting notes reviewed and accepted as written.

**AGENDA TOPICS:**

**SPU Update – Water rate proposal review by the City Council**

**Sherry Crawford,  
SPU Finance Director**

Sherry Crawford reported that the rate proposal was submitted in July to the City Council. The review process is underway and Council has asked seventy-four questions of SPU - some basic and some in depth. Concerns from ratepayers regarding the Utility tax rate have emerged. Sherry will keep the committee informed if anything significant changes in terms of the rate proposal.

**Water Conservation – regional Water Use Efficiency Goal 2013-2018 “Why Conservation?”**

**Chris Thompson,  
WSAC Vice-Chair  
Julie Burman, SPU  
Water Planning**

Julie opened by saying that the water conservation “Why Conservation” discussion is timely and may continue into September. Setting objectives for the 2013-18 Water Use Efficiency rule is part of the upcoming water system plan. A discussion with SPU’s Operating Board (wholesale customers) on this topic will be September 1<sup>st</sup>. SPU is preparing for that meeting which includes a briefing for Ray Hoffman. Anything WSAC has to say can be incorporated so Ray can take to the meeting. Once WSAC has agreed on the values, the next step in September will be for Julie and the conservation staff to determine what the conservation program would look like.

Chris would like to keep the discussion today to the values that are important and not at a detail level of what the programs should be. The committee should stay at a high level and discuss what product WSAC would like to provide to Julie so she can go forward.

Chris Thompson recorded information on the white board as WSAC members contributed values that were important to them. Members who contributed values also provided explanations. A total of fourteen values were contributed. Members then individually scored the values. Below is a summary of the values and scoring:

SCORE	VALUE
4	Preserving stream flow for fish and other wildlife
2	Reducing wastewater
1	Inspiration and examples for other non water rich utilities

- 8 Developing good habits and maintaining conservation capabilities for when we don't have enough water. Can meet changing conditions associated with climate change
- 3 Education for customers on saving money
- 3 Education for customers on benefits of conservation
- 5 Being good stewards of the resource / environment
- 3 Meeting supply demands and spikes - especially in drought years
- 0 Keep bills low for customers - no upward pressure on rates
- 6 Keep bills low for low income customers
- 2 Ensure financial health of SPU
- 0 Providing conservation services to all citizens and underserved groups
  
- 4 Aligning with other City, County, State conservation / sustainability activities and initiatives
- 1 Preserving holistic relationship and sacred connection to water

Kris McArthur will develop a first cut at summarizing the values. Laura will take the first cut and polish up for Julie by 3:00PM on Tuesday, August 23<sup>rd</sup>. Options for presentation might be to group by high, medium, and low. Sue will transcribe the values and scoring from the white board and provide to Kris McArthur ASAP.

**WSAC Business**

**Alice Lanczos,  
Chair**

The September meeting will focus on a conservation program around the values that are selected

Cedar River Watershed fieldtrip will be held Saturday, September 10<sup>th</sup>. Ralph Naess will guide the tour

WSAC support staffer, Sue Morrison will be stepping down from her role in order to attend school. She will continue in a support and training role for as long as needed.

The September meeting date is to be determined.

Meeting was adjourned at 6:00PM