

Administration:

Members Present: Alice Lanczos, Laura Markley , Ross Gilliland, Tom Grant; Frank Metheny;
Eric Anderson

SPU Staff Present: Dave Hilmoe, Bruce Flory, Julie Burman, Sheryl Shapiro, Linda Rogers

Meeting called to order at 4:10 PM

AGENDA TOPICS:**Water Supply, Water Rates and Other News****Dave Hilmoe**

Dave Hilmoe provided an update on demand for water, water supply and salmon spawning activity for both the Cedar and Tolt Rivers.

Water consumption for the previous seven days averaged approximately 104 mgd. That is less than the 107 mgd consumed during the same period last year, and less than the average of 119 mgd used during the same period over the years 1999-2008.

The overall water supply situation and outlook is good. Water releases from reservoir storage are actively being managed for water supply and fish habitat management objectives.

In the Cedar and Tolt rivers, Chinook salmon have nearly completed spawning and coho salmon are starting to spawn. Sockeye salmon continue to spawn in the Cedar River. Chinook spawning peaks in early to mid-October and continues through mid-November. Sockeye spawning peaks in mid- to late October and continues into December. Coho spawning activity is believed to peak in November or December and continues into February. Adult summer-run steelhead continue to hold in the South Fork Tolt where they will spawn this winter and early spring.

Dave then provided an update on the City Council's process related to both water rates and SPU's budget. Both are still being discussed by the Council and SPU is responding to questions. In response to a WSAC member question about the process for SPU revisiting the rate tiers, Dave indicated that may be one of the policy issues analyzed in the rate design process for 2015-17, and therefore an opportunity for WSAC involvement

2012 WSAC Work Plan and Committee Membership

Julie and Dave provided WSAC members with the first draft of the 2012 workplan (see handout "WSAC 1st Draft Workplan 2012") prepared by SPU. WSAC was asked for feedback on the topics and member level of interest. Of particular note is the item, Water Rates 2015-17 – SPU Finance is proposing to involve 2 WSAC members in a working group to look at rate design issues and then have the entire WSAC group review findings and proposals.

WSAC members asked for clarification of the role for WSAC. One member suggested WSAC move a step further in terms of helping to make decisions. Three other members noted that the WSAC role should be to ask questions, provide feedback, and help lobby on behalf of SPU. Julie suggested that WSAC members review the Citizens Advisory Committee charter that defines the committees' purpose and noted that committee involvement and role tends to vary depending on the issue and WSAC member interest. She asked that members provide her comments -- via phone or e-mail -- on the first draft of the workplan

by November 2. Julie will provide a second draft of the workplan at the November 16 meeting based on member feedback and any additional ideas from SPU. Julie also encouraged WSAC members to provide names for potential 2012 WSAC candidates to Sheryl Shapiro. She reiterated that if members whose terms began before 2011 are interested in serving on WSAC in 2012, the process for them is to reapply and be considered in the pool of candidates. Members who began WSAC in 2011 include Ross Gilliland, Kris Mc Arthur, and Chris Thompson.

Draft Water Demand Forecast

Ross Gilliland, Bruce Flory

The water demand forecast is an important component of the 2013 Water System Plan. Ross introduced Bruce, saying that they had a productive one-on-one meeting to go over the draft water demand forecast. Most of Ross's questions were answered in that discussion and in the presentation that will be presented to the committee. After Bruce's presentation, Ross asked for member comments and areas to probe.

Questions raised during presentation included:

- Is demand inelastic as it relates to price?
- Are commercial and industry currently a significant portion of demand?
- Does forecast for industrial activity get smaller as go out?
- What is the thinking about average vs. median income?
- What projections are there about household size going forward?

Ross asked that members with further questions or comments contact him to coordinate them before sending to Bruce.

WSAC Business

Alice Lanczos, Chair

WSAC fieldtrip to the West Point Treatment Plant will be Saturday, November 5. Kris McArthur is coordinating.

WSAC agenda items for November 16 include two more draft items for the 2013 Water System Plan 1) draft Capital Facilities Plan, and 2) draft Water Use Efficiency Goal.

Meeting was adjourned at 6:00PM