

Final Minutes  
 Seattle Water Supply System Operating Board  
 April 1, 2021  
 1:00 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>
Ron Speer, Alt	Eli Zehner	Mike Amburgey	James Amspacher	Lynne Danielson
Diane Pottinger, Chair	Dave Barnes	Boyd Benson	Jennifer Arthur	Patty Hale
Shane Young	Paul Faulds	Peter Eberle	Chad Buechler	Pam Maloney
Ron Little, 7 <sup>th</sup> Member		Steve Leniszewski	Regina Carpenter	Darcey Peterson
Mami Hara		Mike Martin	Kathy Curry	Kathleen Quong-
Alex Chen, V. Chair		Al Nelson	Elizabeth Garcia	Vermeire
Paula Laschober		Suzi O'Byrne	Michael Godfried	Ron Ricker
		Terry Olson	Terri Gregg	Robert Russell
		Patrick Sorenson	Bob Keenan	Chip Shafer
			Martha Neuman	Ron Straka
			Maura Patterson	Gary Moore
			Ned Worcester	Laurie Tish

1. Welcome, Introductions and Announcements

Diane Pottinger, Operating Board (OB) Chair, welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Kathy Curry, Wholesale Water Contracts Manager, confirmed Board Member attendance, noting that Ron Speer, Large Utility Category Board Alternate, would be acting as Board Member in Matt Everett's absence.

2. Agenda/Minutes

a) The Chair noted that February 4, 2021 minutes showing the corrected year were included in the monthly meeting packet and are on the OB website. The **March 4, 2021** minutes were then **approved 6-0**.

b) The **April 1, 2021** agenda was **approved 6-0**.

3. Old Business

a) **2022-2027 Capital Improvement Plan**

Maura Patterson, Seattle Public Utilities (SPU's) Drinking Water Planning and Policy Advisor, presented the 2022-2027 Capital Improvement Plan (CIP), provided an update on the annual CIP review process and introduced a new Project that will appear on the Final CIP Table to be provided at next month's Board meeting. Maura concluded by relaying that Utility Representatives can send comments or questions to their OB Member for compilation and transmittal to SPU by April 12 for discussion at the 3<sup>rd</sup> CIP Workshop on April 21 from 10am to noon.

3. New Business

a) **Wholesale Annual True Up Procedures**

Laurie Tish from Moss Adams, along with Regina Carpenter, Seattle Public Utilities (SPU) Principal Economist, presented information on the Annual True Up process and highlighted some of the procedures to be performed. The Board was asked if they would like any changes to procedures.

One Utility Representative requested clarification on whether the true up procedures were largely the same as last year. Another Utility Representative asked if previous Representative Byron Murgatroyd's input was still included. Ms. Tish confirmed that they are.

The Board voted 6-0 to proceed with the Annual True Up procedures without modification.

b) **Water Supply Update**

Elizabeth Garcia, SPU Water Resources Hydrologist, provided a water supply update and shared information on how SPU manages and provides water to meet multiple objectives.

A Utility Representative asked about the frequency of monitoring; Elizabeth explained that SPU reviews the data very frequently at this time of year.

A Board Member asked how SPU balances instream flow objectives with reservoir levels and water security for people and who makes those decisions. Elizabeth said that there are prescribed protocols that assist in making those decisions, including a water shortage contingency plan with mechanisms to reduce instream water flows if indicators suggest a need to do so to maintain sufficient water supply for customers.

c) **Cyber Security Assessment**

Bob Keenan, SPU Operations Technology Manager, provided an overview of information included in SPU's America's Water Infrastructure Act (AWIA) Assessment related to security measures in place to guard against cyber and physical attacks. The group shared questions and comments, and engaged in discussion following the presentation.

d) **Water Issues in the News**

Alex Chen, SPU Acting Deputy Director Water Line of Business and Shared Services, provided information on recent power and water outages in Texas, SPU system resilience, redundancy, and staff readiness measures in place to address circumstances like these.

5. **Executive Summaries and Other Business**

- **Contract Review Updates** – Mami Hara, SPU's General Manager and Chief Executive Officer, described the upcoming, topic-focused contract workshop – scheduled for April 6<sup>th</sup>. Mami shared that the April workshop would cover overall contract changes, water quality, and regional water conservation.
- **Water Consumption from Watersheds vs. Rate Studies** – Alex Chen went over Attachment 5a pointing out that consumption was approximately 3% lower than expected and is being tracked.
- **Lake Youngs Algae Bloom Update**– Paul Faulds went over Attachment 5c commenting on graphs that reflect that algae levels are low, including *Lindavia* biovolume.

6. **Future Meetings**

Kathy Curry provided reminders for upcoming meetings:

- April 2021
  - Contract Workshop #2: April 6, 3-5pm
  - CIP Workshop #3: April 21, 10 am to noon
- May 2021
  - Monthly OB Meeting: May 6, 2021
  - Contract Workshop #3: May 17, 2-4pm
  - CIP Workshop #4: May 19, 10-noon
- June 2021

- Monthly OB Meeting: June 3, 2021
- Contract Workshop #4: June 10, 1-3pm
- Contract Workshop #5: June 29, 1-4pm
- July 2021
  - Monthly OB Meeting: July 1, 2021
  - Contract Workshop #6: July 29, 2-4pm

**7. Good of the Order**

The Board Chair requested that Mami Hara provide an update on SPU's plans for permanently replacing Rick Scott. Mami shared that a national search for his replacement would occur soon.

A meeting participant asked Alex Chen if SPU was providing information to the public about the use of reservoirs as a water supply source in case of emergency, as these questions have been posed by water customers. Alex shared that SPU is working with Seattle Office of Emergency Management to coordinate on logistics: in particular, customer preparedness with water, food and supplies at their residences compared to use of bottled water distribution across the city compared to reservoirs as a water supply source during emergencies.

A question was raised by another meeting participant regarding whether and when SPU would conduct OB meetings in-person again. Mami Hara said that she looks forward to seeing everyone in person but will need to ensure that it is first safe to do so and suggested that a poll would help SPU best understand the wishes and needs of all Board members. Some members have expressed to SPU that the remote monthly meetings are working much better for them. Kathy Curry will poll Board members and designated Utility Representatives regarding monthly OB meeting preferences in the coming months.

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

Approved by:



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Chair, Diane Pottinger  
Seattle Water Supply System Operating Board



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Date