

Minutes October 3, 2024 - Final

Seattle Water Supply System Operating Board

1. Welcome, Roll Call & Announcements

a. Attendance as follows:

First Name	Last Name	Utility	Official Operating Board Role	Attendance Type
Hilary	Allison	SPU		In Person
Sean	Bauer	Cedar River	Utility Rep	In Person
Julie	Belt	Woodinville		In Person
Boyd	Benson	Bothell	Utility Rep	In Person
Leslie	Brinson	SPU		In Person
Regina	Carpenter	SPU		In Person
Alex	Chen	SPU	Utility Rep + Board Member + Chair	In Person
Julie	Crittenden	SPU	Utility Rep + Alt Board Member	In Person
Jamie	Crookston	Coal Creek		In Person
Kathy	Curry	Woodinville	Utility Rep	Virtual
Bob	Danson	Olympic View	Utility Rep + Alt Board Member	In Person
Jeremy	DelMar	Highline	Utility Rep + Board Member	In Person
Pete	Eberle	WD 90	Utility Rep	In Person
Abdoul	Gafour	Renton	Utility Rep	In Person
Elizabeth	Garcia	SPU		Virtual
Terri	Gregg	SPU		In Person
Charlotte	Haines	North City		In Person
Patricia	Hale	North City		Virtual
Roxanne	Heller	WD 119		In Person
Keely	Hogan	Soos Creek		Virtual
Jason	Kintner	Mercer Island	Utility Rep + Alt Board Member	Virtual
Amy	LaBarge	SPU		Virtual
Andrew	Lee	SPU	Utility Rep + Board Member	In Person
Steve	Leniszewski	Duvall	Utility Rep	In Person
Ky	Lewis	SPU		Virtual
Wayne	Liou	SPU		Virtual
Ron	Little	n/a	Independent Member	In Person
Pam	Maloney	Woodinville		In Person
Michael	Martin	WD 20	Utility Rep	In Person
Suzi	O'Byrne	Coal Creek	Utility Rep	Virtual
Kelly	O'Rourke	SPU		In Person
Jorgan	Peadon	WD 49	Utility Rep + Alt Board Member	Virtual
Matthew	Porter	SPU		Virtual
Diane	Pottinger	North City	Utility Rep + Board Member	In Person
Kathleen	Quong-Vermeire	Highline		In Person
Ron	Ricker	North City		In Person
Robert	Russell	Coal Creek		In Person
Susan	Saffery	SPU		In Person
Jane	Vandenberg	Soos Creek	Utility Rep	In Person
Logan	Wallace	Soos Creek		Virtual
Max	Woody	North City		In Person

Shane	Young	WD 125	Utility Rep + Board Member + Vice Chair	In Person
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2. **Agenda/Minutes**

- a. September 5, 2024 minutes were approved 6-0.
- b. October 3, 2024 agenda was approved 6-0.

3. **Old Business - none**

4. **New Business**

- a. **SPU's Government Relations Program:** SPU's Susan Saffery gave an overview of SPU's government relations program which works with city, state, federal, tribal, and regional governments and agencies to advance the goals of SPU and key partners including wholesale water customers. The program covers all of SPU's Lines of Business however Susan highlighted SPU's drinking water advocacy elements. A special mention was made regarding Slide 13 and current funding available via the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund.
- b. **Impact on Water Utilities by HBs 1337 (ADUs) & 1110 (Middle Housing):** Boyd Benson (City of Bothell Utilities & Development Services Manager & OB representative) and Leslie Brinson (SPU Senior Policy Advisor) presented on these two bills passed by the WA State Legislature in 2023 that impact water utilities. HB 1337 focuses on accessory dwelling units (ADUs) and HB 1110 focuses on middle housing. Boyd and Leslie provided an overview of the bills, an explanation of how they impact water utilities, and shared Bothell & Seattle's experiences. These bills were aimed at supporting affordable housing, however they may not have fully considered the impacts on water utilities. Water utilities are encouraged to engage with their local land use planning agency to guide their implementation. Alex Chen then facilitated a group discussion regarding how others are planning to respond. The group discussed numerous potential implications including: need to re-examine policies for services/meters/connection fees, the desire to limit the number of connections to the main to protect main integrity, how this might trigger fire sprinkler requirements, how this could change storage requirements, how this changes traditional demand forecasting, and other topics.

5. Executive Summaries & Other Business

- a. **Water Consumption from Watersheds vs. Rate Studies:** Alex Chen referenced this document. Actual annual consumption to date is 2% higher than the 2020 Rate Study projection and 2% lower than this time last year.
- b. **Water Supply Update:** SPU's Julie Crittenden acknowledged the start of the new water year and shared that water supply is looking good.
- c. **Other Updates:** None.
- d. **Next Meeting:** November 4 – Virtual only on Teams; 1-3pm. Kelly O'Rourke mentioned she is starting to plan the 2025 meetings and at this meeting she will ask for input on the preferred mix of formats (in person, virtual, hybrid), as well as discuss the May meeting which conflicts with two conferences.

6. Good of the Order

- a. **Fluoride:** Alex Chen mentioned that a recent decision in a federal court case in California regarding fluoride means that EPA is obliged to take regulatory action (although the court did not prescribe what the specific regulatory action should be). SPU will follow these developments.

Board meeting was adjourned at 3pm.



Alex Chen (Nov 12, 2024 15:18 PST)

Chair, Alex Chen
Seattle Water Supply System Operating Board

Date