

DRAFT Minutes
Seattle Water Supply System Operating Board
October 7, 2021
1:00 PM to 3:00 PM

WEBEX VIDEO CONFERENCE MEETING

<u>Board Members</u>	<u>Utility Representatives</u>	<u>SPU Attendees</u>	<u>Other Attendees</u>
Matt Everett	Abdoul Gafour	Andrew Lee	Charlotte Haines
Diane Pottinger, Chair	Boyd Benson	Ulysses Hillard	Patty Hale
Shane Young	Dave Barnes	James Amspacher	Pam Maloney
Mami Hara	Pete Eberle	Jennifer Arthur	Kathleen Quong-
Alex Chen, V. Chair	Michael Martin	Regina Carpenter	Vermeire
Paula Laschober	Al Nelson	Paul Faulds	Robert Russell
Ron Little, 7 th Member	Suzi O'Byrne	Terri Gregg	Ron Straka
	Terry Olson	Kelly O'Rourke	Jonelle Mogi
	Patrick Sorenson	John Edgerly	
	Ron Speer	Maura Patterson	
	Steve Leniszewski		
	Mike Amburgey		
	Mark Bethune		

1. Welcome, Introductions & Announcements:

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

Terri Gregg, Acting Wholesale Water Contracts Manager, relayed that a quorum was present.

Andrew Lee, Interim General Manager (GM), introduced himself to the Operating Board. Terri Gregg relayed that she would be setting up individual wholesale customer meetings with Andrew in the coming weeks.

Diane Pottinger, Board Chair with North City Water District, announced that Eli Zehner's alternate medium category member replacement is Mike Amburgey from Cedar River.

Terri Gregg provided an update on Kathy Curry, SPU's Wholesale Water Contracts Manager. She had a very successful surgery and is now home recovering.

The Operating Board then said farewell to Mami Hara, GM of SPU, wishing her well as the incoming CEO of the U.S. Water Alliance. Andrew Lee, Alex Chen, Paula Laschober, Ron Speer, Diane Pottinger and Al Nelson all conveyed their appreciation of her approach to leadership and looked forward to continuing to work together in her new role.

2. Agenda/Minutes

a) The **September 2, 2021** minutes were **approved 5-0**.

b) The **October 7, 2021** agenda was **approved 5-0**.

3. New Business

a) **Fall Water Supply Update**

John Edgerly, Seattle Public Utilities (SPU) Water Resources Hydrologist, provided an overview of the river and reservoir management seasons and their objectives. The presentation also presented a detailed Fall 2021 water supply update.

A question was asked about SPU's hydrologic model. John responded that SPU uses a computer hydraulic model called HFAM, developed by a company Hydrocomp for SPU, with over 90 years of historic data and forecasting capabilities. Diane Pottinger, Chair responded that the Board has a lot of confidence in SPU's capabilities to manage the reservoirs.

b) **Tolt Regulating Valve 15**

Ulysses Hillard, SPU Water Resources Engineer, will share information on the completion of work on the Tolt Regulating Valve 15 (Row #2c/C117016 on 2021 CIP, 9/13/2018 and 10/1/2020 prior presentations).

A few questions and discussion ensued.

4. Executive Summaries & Other Business

- **Water Consumption from Watersheds vs. Rate Studies** – Alex Chen went over Att. 4a noting the above average consumption for 2021 (2-3% higher than projected in the rate study).
- **Question regarding City of Seattle moratorium extension for housing and if that extended to utilities.** Alex Chen responded that the Mayor's Executive Order extended rent and utility moratoriums to mid-January 2022. SPU is extending payment plans, as well as longer-term planning to recover arrearages. The moratorium extension includes Seattle city limits, the western half of Shoreline, and parts of Lake Forest Park and Burien. SPU is also tracking federal funding opportunities, particularly the LIWAP (low-income water assistance program), as well as state assistance funds.
- **Diane Pottinger, Chair asked about future meetings and WebEx vs. in-person.** Alex reminded folks about the survey results, which varied from those that do not want to return to in-person at all to some that did. He said we will probably propose something in the middle with some virtual and some in-person. He added that we would like to do an in-person tour next year at Cedar Falls (April/May 2022).

6. Future Meetings & Workshops

Terri Gregg provided reminders for the following upcoming meetings:

- November 2021
 - Monthly OB Meeting: November 4
- December 2021
 - Monthly OB Meeting: December 2

7. Good of the Order

Board meeting was adjourned at approximately 2:20 p.m.

Approved by:



Chair, Diane Pottinger
Seattle Water Supply System Operating Board



Date