

FINAL Minutes
Seattle Water Supply System Operating Board
November 4, 2021
1:00 PM to 3:00 PM

WEBEX VIDEO CONFERENCE MEETING

Board Members

Matt Everett
 Diane Pottinger, Chair
 Shane Young
 Andrew Lee
 Alex Chen, V. Chair
 Paula Laschober
 Ron Little, 7th Member

Utility**Representatives**

Abdoul Gafour
 Boyd Benson
 Darcey Peterson
 Dave Barnes
 Mark Bethune
 Mike Amburgey
 Pete Eberle
 Michael Martin
 Al Nelson
 Suzi O'Byrne
 Patrick Sorenson
 Steve Leniszewski
 Ron Speer
 Jason Kintner

SPU Attendees

Jennifer Arthur
 Regina Carpenter
 Paul Faulds
 Paul Hanna
 Terri Gregg
 Kelly O'Rourke
 Maura Patterson
 Jonelle Mogi
 Eugene Mantchev
 Martha Neuman
 Jim Nilson
 Kathy Curry
 Ky Lewis

Other Attendees

Patty Hale
 Pam Maloney
 Robert Russell
 Ron Ricker
 Charlotte Haines

1. Welcome, Introductions & Announcements:

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

Terri Gregg, Acting Wholesale Water Contracts Manager, welcomed Kathy Curry, SPU's Wholesale Water Contracts Manager, noting that she was present and will be returning to work fulltime next Tuesday.

2. Agenda/Minutes

- a) The **September 2, 2021 and October 7, 2021** minutes were **approved 5-0**.
- b) The **November 4, 2021** agenda was **approved 5-0**.

3. New Business**a) 2021 Wholesale Customer Annual Survey**

Kelly O'Rourke, Seattle Public Utilities (SPU) Water Conservation Manager shared the results of the 2020 Annual Survey. A few questions and discussion ensued, particularly around water conservation.

b) Water Supply Forum Seismic Resiliency

Martha Neuman SPU Sr. Policy Advisor shared information on the Water Supply Forum's seismic resiliency funding effort. A few questions and discussion ensued, including tips for improved discussions with elected officials to gain infrastructure funding (links to jobs) and utility impacts from Sound Transit projects.

c) SPU Water Treatment

Jim Nilson, SPU Senior Water Quality Engineer, provided information about SPU's water treatment processes and the upcoming renewal and replacement projects. A few questions and discussion followed, including: backup power supply to the treatment plants; oxygen levels in water from ozonation; potential conversion of chlorine gas to liquid chlorine; concerns around diesel delivery to the treatment plants;

operator shortages; and the potential financial impacts to wholesale customers and Seattle when the design-build-operate (DBO) contracts at SPU's two treatment plants expire. [Under the twenty-five-year DBO contracts, the contractors are responsible for any CIP overages, and before they hand off the plant at end of contract term, the plants must be turned over to SPU in good operable condition as determined by a third-party, independent review. There are no extension provisions in the current contracts.]

4. Executive Summaries & Other Business

- **Water Consumption from Watersheds vs. Rate Studies** – Alex Chen went over Att. 4a noting that we will be 3% higher than that projected in the rate study due to the early and unusually hot summer.
- **Water Supply Update** – Paul Faulds went over Att. 4b, noting five inches of rain received in the watersheds and the resultant raised reservoir elevations (5-7 feet in both reservoirs).
- **Diane Pottinger, Chair asked about the Subregional Options.** Regina Carpenter said an updated spreadsheet would be forthcoming.

6. Future Meetings & Workshops

Terri Gregg provided reminders for the following upcoming meetings:

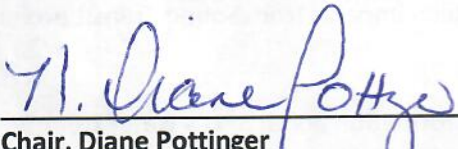
- December 2, 2021
- January 6, 2022 - Tentative
- February 3, 2022

7. Good of the Order

- **Kathy Curry** raised the 2022 Workplan, which will be presented at the December 2nd Board meeting, and asked if anyone had topics of interest that they would like SPU to present on next year. Patty Hale requested a presentation on salmon returns in the Cedar River.
- **Diane Pottinger, Chair, raised Contract Negotiations.** Next steps in the contract negotiations will be determined following a decision on Subregional rates.
- **Andrew Lee, Acting GM of SPU, raised an article in Seattle Times about Covid-19 exemptions and responsiveness.** Personnel that are not vaccinated were asked not to come into work starting October 19th; if personnel are teleworking, they are being allowed to continue teleworking for now. Seattle is working through the exemption process – some personnel are retiring (10-20 people), some people have decided to get vaccinated (10-20 people), and the remainder of around 40 people are still making their decisions. Overall, most personnel are still coming into work, and SPU is in a good position operationally.

Board meeting was adjourned at approximately 2:55 p.m.

Approved by:



Chair, Diane Pottinger
Seattle Water Supply System Operating Board



Date