

CITY OF RIVERSIDE

BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES

Minutes of: Special Meeting of the Board of Public Utilities

Date of Meeting: May 21, 2019

Time of Meeting: 6:00 p.m.

Place of Meeting: Mayor's Ceremonial Room, 7th Floor
3900 Main Street (at Main and Tenth Streets)
Riverside, California

UNAPPROVED

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG WAS GIVEN

Roll Call

Present: Jo Lynne Russo-Pereyra (Chair) Elizabeth Sanchez-Monville (Vice Chair)
Dave Austin David Crohn
Jeanette Hernandez Gil Ocegüera

Absent: Ana Miramontes (absence due to business)
Jennifer O'Farrell (absence due to business)
Andrew Walcker (absence due to business)

CITIZENS PARTICIPATION

1 Mr. Rick Moslenko spoke on the water use for agricultural.

Mr. Carl Pongs spoke regarding the support letter from Gage Canal regarding the rate proposal WA-Hybrid and how the Agricultural Water Rates Task Force worked so well together.

DISCUSSION CALENDAR

2 AG Task Force Chair Seth Wilson gave a presentation overview of the final rate proposal recommendation from the Agricultural Water Rates Task Force and answered questions from the Board.

The following are the comments, concerns, and recommendations representing consensus of the Board:

- Requiring on-site property inspections to verify qualification for the proposed rate
- Revising the proposed rate allocation method for a water budget to first provide for indoor use and non-agricultural outdoor use
- How many current WA-3 And WA-9 customers will qualify for the proposed rate and if additional customers will be able to qualify for the new rate
- What the City's verification process for customers applying for the rate will consist of
- Whether applicants will be required to verify that they are commercial farmers
- The cost of the process to calculate the water allocation for trees, crops, and pastures and the financial impact of such allocation process on the proposed rate
- The schedule for consideration of the proposed rate
- The fiscal impact of the proposed rate
- Whether other customers will be subsidizing customers on the proposed rate
- Asked staff to inquire if further City Council action is required to extend the one-year rate freeze for customers on WA-3 and WA-9 water rates and, if yes, to seek such Council approvals

Following discussion, the Board of Public Utilities:

1. Received and filed the WA-Hybrid rate proposal recommendation from the Agricultural Water Rates Task Force; and
2. Directed staff to obtain outside validation of crop factors for agricultural purposes, and, for horticultural purposes, a review of past water use practices in determining the water use allocations; and
3. Recommended that the City Council receive and file the WA-Hybrid rate proposal recommendation from the Agricultural Water Rates Task Force; and
4. Directed staff to estimate the fiscal impact of the WA-Hybrid rate proposal recommendation including the fiscal impact of the one-year rate freeze approved by the City Council for customers on Water Rates WA-3 and WA-9; and
5. Directed staff to also prepare a revised WA-Hybrid rate proposal recommendation with a tiered agricultural rate that establishes a true budget-based rate, where indoor use is charged as the first tier of use (WA-1A tier one), the agricultural rate is the second tier of use, and the third and fourth tiers of use cover all use that exceeds the agricultural use (WA-1A tiers two and three); and
6. Directed staff to review whether an additional City Council action is needed to extend the rate freeze for customers on Water Rates WA-3 and WA-9 pending adoption of a new rate for agricultural customers.

Motion – Austin. Second – Ocegüera.

Ayes: Russo-Pereyra, Sanchez-Monville, Austin, Crohn, Hernandez, and Ocegüera.

Absent: Ana Miramontes (absence due to business)
Jennifer O'Farrell (absence due to business)
Andrew Walcker (absence due to business)

UPCOMING MEETING

Chair Russo-Pereyra adjourned the meeting at approximately 8:00 p.m. The next regular meeting of the Board of Public Utilities will be on Monday, June 10, 2019 at 6:30 p.m. in the Art Pick Council Chamber, at 3900 Main Street, Riverside, California.

By: _____
Todd M. Corbin, Secretary
Board of Public Utilities

Approved by: City of Riverside Board of Public Utilities

Dated _____