

# Utility Commission Regular Meeting Approved Minutes

City Council Chambers | 50 Natoma Street, Folsom CA 95630 July 19, 2022 6:30 PM

# Call to Order

Chair Mutchler called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

## Roll Call

PRESENT:

B. Mutchler, D. Groat, T. Widby, A. Silva, Z. Akhter, D. Kozlowski,

M. Menz

STAFF PRESENT:

Marcus Yasutake:

Environmental & Water Resources Director

Mark Rackovan:

Public Works Director

Emma Atkinson:

Administrative Assistant, EWR

# **Business from the Floor**

None.

Chair Mutchler congratulated Director Rackovan on his recent marriage.

### **Minutes**

Approval of the Minutes of the May 17, 2022, Regular Meeting.

Commissioner Groat motioned to accept the minutes.

Commissioner Silva seconded the motion.

Motion carried with the following vote:

AYES:

Commissioners Mutchler, Groat, Akhter, Kozlowski, Menz.

ABSTAIN:

None.

# **Directors' Reports**

**Director Rackovan** provided an update on the organics recycling program. It was noted that staff is rolling the program out while experiencing vacancies within the division. Staff is working through a large back log of voicemails (>500) and emails (>1000) pertaining to the program and increases in charges for solid waste services. Application of the additional charge for 2<sup>nd</sup> green waste carts has been deferred until August to allow more time for residents to adapt to changes in the program and return unwanted carts.

### Commissioner Silva:

• What should residents do if they do not have a green can, for example where the HOA has been responsible for landscape maintenance? The strategy is that the carts will be rolled out to non-green

can neighborhoods en masse, so all residents in that neighborhood will receive them at the same time. If a resident wants the green can now, the resident can call to request it and delivery will be moved up the list.

#### Commissioner Menz:

- Residents have requested he ask what to do with a variety of items including various filters, containers
  for toiletries or drinks, and food packaging. Broad answer any items that have food waste on or in
  them would go in the green can. Oil filters are hazardous waste. Cereal boxes and cans, once clean of
  organic material can be recycled. Yes there are some items that could potentially be placed in more
  than one container. Director Rackovan invited Commissioner Menz to forward the full list to him directly
  by email, for a more specific response.
- Are any cities or counties pushing back on this ordinance? Not aware of any individual jurisdictions, but the League of California Cities is advocating on behalf of all, for help with easing of penalties, and assistance with funding and grants.

# Director Yasutake, reported on recent staff changes in EWR.

The Water Treatment Plant Chief Operator position has now been filled through an internal promotion. Consequently, there have been two more internal promotions, and interviews for the resulting vacant maintenance worker position will be held next week. One of the shift operators is planning to retire before the end of the year, and due to the certification requirements for this position, EWR is working with HR to seek external candidates for this future vacancy.

The department has welcomed three new members of staff; the new position in the Meters Division, which was approved in the recent budget, was filled at the beginning of July, and two new staff started in the Utility Maintenance division yesterday, filling vacancies created by internal promotions that occurred earlier in the year.

# **New Business**

# Environmental and Water Resources Fiscal Year 2021-2022 Capital Improvement Program Recap.

**Director Yasutake** provided an update on Capital Improvement Plan projects including anticipated schedules for completion of design and construction.

# Questions from the Commission:

### WTP Backwash Project.

### Chair Mutchler:

Are we still paying a company to remove sediment? No; we stopped doing that approximately 7
vears ago.

### Greenback Sewer and PS#3 Improvements Project.

### Chair Mutchler:

What do we do with the 200 HP pumps? It is in the contract that they are taken out. They are then
of no use to us; they cannot be relocated or kept on the shelf, as they do not match other equipment
that we have.

### Commissioner Menz:

• Can the pumps be turned into a portable pump station? Not sure if this would be physically feasible as the pumps are different; their application is different to that of a portable bypass system.

### Basin 4 Sewer Project.

Chair Mutchler:

• What size is the replacement PVC pipe? 8"; our minimum sewer pipe size is now 8".

Director Yasutake reminded the Commission that will be no meeting in August, to match the City Council recess; there is no City Council meeting on August 9.

# Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 7:20 pm

Respectfully Submitted:

Emma Atkinson, Administrative Assistant.

Approved:

Daniel Groat, Utility Commission Vice-Chair.