

## Meeting Summary – October 22, 2008

I. Chair's Report – Introductions were made and the meeting summaries for May and September were approved.

D. The meeting date for December was changed to Wednesday, December 17.

III. WTD Director's Report – Unfortunately, Valerie was not available to take notes.

## IV. Subcommittee Reports

1. Update on criteria to evaluate uses of reclaimed water discussed at 10/1/08 meeting

- The Reclaimed Water Workshop is October 30, 2008, and will focus on gathering initial criteria input.
- A question was raised on the workshop goal. The task is to take the information gathered and make the best recommendations as to what that criteria will be and have it reviewed by the stakeholders and then submitted to the Executive by the end of this year.
- A question was asked if there is sufficient time to complete the plan. It is expected to take two-three years to complete the Reclaimed Water Comprehensive Plan. The drive for the plan is the product and not the timeline.
- A concern was raised that missing from the criteria was a do-nothing category.
- Another comment was raised that conservation should also be considered as an alternative.
- A question was asked if allocation of cost will be included at the workshop. Yes, in terms of what criteria needs to be developed for the planning process.
- A question was asked if a consultant had been hired for the plan. A consulting team has been selected to work on the planning process team, and they will be involved in the workshop.
- A question was raised on the criteria listing. Example criteria were given out and then rewritten by the County and listed in categories by the E&P Chair. They were not prioritized or weighted.
- Several members commented that the plan needs to protect existing water rights, to keep reclaimed water from impairing ability to withdraw using water rights.
- Several individuals asked if there was a viable market for reclaimed water and if the public was willing to finance the environmental and social value.
- One comment was that the financial analysis should be done first and should not include the costs of social and environmental benefits. Tamie noted that it will be clear what the criteria costs are.
- A comment was that reclaimed water cost should have a limited impact on existing water utilities.
- A comment was made to identify incentives for public and private end-users of reclaimed water.

B. Rate and Finance Subcommittee Chair Report

- The committee went over the draft ordinance that made administrative changes to the Capacity Charge. It is scheduled to go over to the County Council.

- The committee chair met with Tim Aratani and Tom Lienesch to draft the 2009 work plan.
- The next committee meeting is scheduled for December.

#### V. MWPAAC General Business

##### A. RWSP 2007 Annual Report (September 2008)

- Odor Control: 64 system-wide complaints were received and 32 were attributable to the wastewater treatment system.
- Brightwater: 98% of construction contracts awarded, construction was completed of the North Habitat area and the tunnel-boring machines were launched for construction of East and Central Tunnels.
- Conveyance System Improvements: the CSI update was completed and there were some recommendations to amend conveyance policies. In 2007, there were seven projects in design and construction.
- Infiltration and Inflow: implementation of two-three initial projects is underway to test cost-effectiveness of I/I reduction on a larger scale. Sewer system evaluation survey work was conducted in four project areas (Bellevue, Issaquah, Renton and Skyway). Final projects will be selected in consultation with MWPAAC.
- Combined Sewer Overflow Control Program: underway with planning and predesign phase for the four beach projects. Currently conducting a pilot treatment technology program to find cost-effective treatments. Developed as part of the County's public notification system is a real-time website that shows if there have been overflows.
- Sediment Management Program: completion of the old Denny Way project, this work was closely done with DOE. Completed draft of the Lower Duwamish remedial investigation.
- A question was asked if that location was a Federal superfund site. Some of the County's clean-ups are considered Federal superfund sites and others are not.
- A question was raised if this was a one-time clean-up effort? At Denny Way, this is the second time that sediments have been mitigated. The state retains the right at any time to ask an agency to go back and clean-up.
- Local Treatment Plants: the Vashon and Carnation Treatment Plants are in operation.
- Biosolids: the County continues to recycle all of the biosolids that are produced. The program was awarded Platinum Level designation for reaching highest achievement of biosolids management and environmental stewardship.
- Reclaimed Water: the Feasibility Study was completed and two research studies are underway. Brightwater Reclaimed Water Pipeline is under construction.
- Water Quality Management & Compliance: South, West Point and Vashon Treatment Plants are in compliance with NPDES permits. There were 21 SSOs, the majority of which occurred during the extreme storm event of December 3-4.
- A question was raised that the RWSP was adopted in 1999 but costs have significantly increased. Is there a way to address those policy decisions through the Regional Water Quality Council? individuals may propose policies.

- Water Quality Monitoring Results: is part of the reporting requirement in the Regional Wastewater Services Plan being tasked with tracking the health and quality of King County's waters and assessing impacts of County operations?
- Freshwater swimming beaches are tested weekly for fecal bacteria. This is coordinated with Department of Health and Department of Parks.
- A question was asked if geese are one of the sources for fecal bacteria. Yes, but it is difficult to track what type of fecal bacteria it is following a summer storm. Also, swimming activities impair water quality.
- A question was asked on the source of funding for water quality monitoring. Funding for the program comes from the Wastewater Treatment Division and others, such as local agencies' parks departments.
- A concern was raised that constituents are not willing to pay for testing of all water bodies that the wastewater treatment system does not discharge to.
- A question was raised if regional funding was available to identify sources of fecal bacteria. At this time I'm not sure if regional funding is available.
- In response to a question, Jim stated that water quality monitoring is not limited to beaches. Two other areas of concern are Quartermaster Harbor and Elliott Bay. The program recently received \$625K to study the decomposition of phytoplankton in Puget Sound.
- A question was asked if other locations would be tested when Brightwater becomes operational. Yes, data is collected and shared with others; it's also used to establish databases. There are ongoing improvements to data management. There is also ongoing coordination with other jurisdictions. Most data is available on the web for most monitoring programs.
- In response to a question, Debra and Jim announced that they are available to make presentations to local agencies if requested.