

**Members, Alternatives  
& Guests Present:**

Pat Brodin  
Mark Cassell  
Dave Christensen  
Gary Cline  
Don Davidson  
Bob Elwell  
Vicky Henderson  
Don Henry  
Wes Jorgenson  
Laura Keough  
Arne Lind  
Ron Little  
Joyce Nichols  
Ron Nowicki  
Steve Ohlenkamp  
Bill Pelozo  
Randy Reece  
Paul Sentena  
Ron Sheadel  
Mary Shustov  
Ron Speer  
Scott Thomasson  
Bill Tracy  
Art Wadekamper  
Margaret Wiggins  
Fanny Yee

**King County Staff:**

Sharman Herrin  
Kathy Loland  
Christie True  
Laura Wharton

**Facilitator:**

Tamie Kellog

## JULY'S MEETING NOTES - DRAFT

### I. Chair's Report – Scott Thomasson, MWPAAC Chair

A. Introductions: were made.

B. An update was given on the Regional Water Quality Committee's (RWQC) Financial Policy Work Group. Christie True is to serve as the County Executive's representative on the work group. One person from each RWQC caucus will serve on the oversight committee. Potential items for the work program review include capacity charge, the 750 cubic foot conversion factor for a residential customer equivalent, reserve policies, asset management policies, and the affordability of the capacity charge. MWPAAC approved sending three representatives to the work group: Scott Thomasson, Wes Jorgenson and Trish Erickson. Suggestion was made that the charter for the work group should address the time commitment (i.e., when will the group conclude its work), their level of authority, responsibilities and who to whom the work group is accountable.

C. June Meeting Minutes: a motion was made and the minutes approved.

### II. Housekeeping:

Quorum: a short discussion and agreement that MWPAAC's bylaws state a quorum equals the number of voting members that exceeds 40% of those local sewer agencies with documentation on file designating who is their voting member and any alternates. A suggestion was made to indicate on the attendance sheet which agencies have their resolution/motion designating a voting member on file. A second suggestion was made to annually send out a letter inviting those who usually do not participate in MWPAAC to attend.

### III. WTD Director's Report – Christie True, Director

- South Treatment Plant: maintenance is being done during dry weather periods and the controls are being upgraded. Unfortunately, during dry periods, the Plant experiences low flows and odor issues. In response to a question, Christie explained how low flows contribute to pipe corrosion due to hydrogen sulfide turning into sulfuric acid.
- Decennial Flow Monitoring will occur this wet weather season. Approximately 215 new flow meters will be installed. Information gathered on the project will be shared with the local agencies.
- Results of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Performance Audit are expected in the next two weeks. EPA has come in and inspected the whole system. Their inspection was divided into two parts: overall sewer system and the Combined Sewer Overflow (CSO) program. EPA will be issuing separate compliance orders to the County and Seattle regarding CSO standards to be met. Under the compliance order, WTD will agree to three conditions: (1) implementation of a plan to observe and document CSO discharges at fifteen outfalls and monitor for the presence of solids or floatables; (2) implementation of a plan to improve the reliability of the disinfection system at the

Continued  
from Pg. 2

Elliott West CSO Facility; and (3) development of a plan that analyzes how the Elliott West CSO facility will meet its 50 percent total suspended solids removal efficiency requirement set out in our National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit. Overall, EPA felt that WTD was performing well and that the system was in good working order.

- Elliott West CSO facility: start-up at this facility has been difficult. Capacity can go from 0-250MGD and the system may only operate a few times per year. Storage and treatment goes to West Point Treatment Plant.
- In response to a question on the solids removal requirement for the Elliott West CSO facility, Christie explained that WTD is doing sampling. WTD has talked to the Department of Ecology regarding some way that we can get a better commissioning and start-up. Ecology does not want to do that unless there's a wet weather flow that requires its use. Part of the issue has been starting up the pumps.
- In response to a question on disinfection, Christie explained that chlorine is added and then removed.
- Bonds: the County plans to sell \$250 million worth of bonds in the coming month.
- RWQC update: At its last meeting, the committee discussed the Biosolids Proviso and reviewed the various alternatives for biosolids. The committee did make changes to the motion. The Government Accountability and Oversight committee has reviewed and adopted the motion. There was also a briefing on the reclaimed water proviso; the committee will continue their discussion on the report in September.
- WTD Budget has been submitted to the Executive. Christie expressed concern about the continuation of furloughs and its effect on WTD.
- Litigation Update (Cedar River Water and Sewer District and Soos Creek Water and Sewer District versus King County and its contracted agencies): an original trial date was set for February 2010, but will likely occur later.
- In response to a question, Christie gave an update on the status of the Brightwater tunnel (BT) boring machines. One tunnel has been completed, and the tunnel from Pt. Wells to Shoreline is progressing. BT2 and BT3 are under repair; experts are currently studying the machines and developing a repair plan. WTD is hopeful that the machines will be in operation by September. Christie mentioned that vertical boring has started to reach the machines for repair, but they are finding more water than anticipated.
- In response to a question on furloughs (10 unpaid days), Christie explained that almost all WTD employees are participating and plant staff are on alternative scheduling; a small group of supervisors are not furloughed.
- With respect to the Brightwater tunneling, a question was asked about remobilization after the repair work on the tunneling machines and costs associated with that process. Christie explained that the contractor is trying to keep some staff (a core group that they are retaining) but 160 employees were laid off. She is optimistic that many will come back. Equipment has not been moved to other sites.

#### IV. Subcommittee Reports

##### A. Engineering & Planning Subcommittee Chair Report

- Reclaimed Water Comprehensive Plan: MWPAAC approved four specific changes, as recommended by the E & P subcommittee, to the Purpose and Need Statement and the Regional

Continued  
from Pg. 3

Wastewater System Criterion. WTD agreed to make these changes before sending the documents to the Executive for review. Specifically, MWPAAC recommended adding the phrase “by what funding mechanisms” to the Purpose and Need Statement; the phrase “cost allocation to benefited parties” to the guiding principles for the planning process when recommending options; and the phrase “ability to obtain funding from benefited parties” to the criterion for regional wastewater system planning. Finally, MWPAAC recommended rewriting the criterion under Protecting Water Quality in Puget Sound to better match the description under “driver”.

- MWPAAC also approved two recommendations regarding the Plan. First, MWPAAC by an 8-6 vote recommended delaying the Reclaimed Water Comprehensive Plan until 2011 or beyond. Those voting in support of deferring the comprehensive plan stated it was a cost-savings measure. Those members voting to continue the planning process as scheduled stated they wanted a plan in place to guide WTD’s efforts with respect to reclaimed water or decisions may be made on an ad hoc basis. Second, the committee recommended that if the plan is not deferred, reclaimed water pricing policies should be developed as soon as possible before WTD markets or enters into new contracts for reclaimed water. It was suggested that the RWQC’s Financial Policies Work Group could include the development of reclaimed water pricing policies as part of its work plan. MWPAAC will send a letter to the County Executive with these recommendations.
- A question was asked about the next steps for WTD staff. Christie explained the reclaimed water comprehensive plan process will be transmitted first, followed by the criteria. The criteria will be sent to RWQC. County Council, at its own discretion, may also give it a dual referral.

B. Rate and Finance Subcommittee Chair Report – subcommittee did not meet in July.

C. Advisory Committee on Sewage Disposal Agreements Chair’s Report

The committee will discuss capacity charge reporting and winter averaging at its next two meetings. The next meetings are scheduled for July 30 and August 27 from 9:00 to 10:30 a.m.

#### V. MWPAAC General Business

Review of MWPAAC and subcommittee Work Plans for 2009: Due to time constraints, the work plans were distributed and MWPAAC members were asked to provide any comments to the subcommittee Chairs, Executive Board or Sharman Herrin at 206-684-1715 or [sharman.herrin@kingcounty.gov](mailto:sharman.herrin@kingcounty.gov).