



# METROPOLITAN WATER POLLUTION ABATEMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

## Meeting Summary

**Tukwila Community Center  
Banquet Room A&B**

**Wednesday, February 24, 2016**

**Start 10:00 a.m.**

**Meeting adjourned 11:45  
a.m.**

### **1. MWPAAC Chair's Report – Pam Carter**

- a. Welcome and Introductions
- b. Determine Quorum
- c. Approval of January meeting summary (**action item**)
- d. Discuss potential letter to King County Council regarding proposed Ordinance 2016-0091, amending grant award process for WaterWorks grant program (**action item**)
- e. Highlights from MWPAAC Executive Board Retreat

The January meeting summary was approved as written. A motion was made to approve the letter to King County Council regarding proposed Ordinance 2016-0091 as written. The motion carried and the letter was approved with 13 “yes” votes and one “no” vote.

Pam encouraged members to attend committee meetings and emphasized that's where the nitty gritty is taken care of and the wordsmithing of the documents usually occurs. In addition, the general meeting agendas are pretty backed and doesn't always allow for that type of work to be done.

### **2. Wastewater Treatment Division Director's Report – Chris Townsend (on behalf of Pam Elardo), Environmental and Community Services Manager, Wastewater Treatment Division**

#### **Bond Refinancing**

On February 1st, WTD refinanced \$281.5 in bonds. We refinanced multiple issuances with an average of 4.5 percent to 3.25 percent which yields approximately \$65 million in savings to ratepayers over the next 25 years.

Also, in late January, Moody's and Standard & Poor's affirmed their respective ratings of the utility's sewer revenue bonds at Aa2 and AA+, citing WTD's strong management practices, consistent financial performance and the region's bright regional economic outlook.

#### **Overflow at Henderson Pump Station**

On Jan. 30, the Henderson Pump Station overflowed for 12 minutes, sending an estimated 18,000 gallons of sewage and stormwater into Lake Washington. The overflow was the result of an area-wide power outage and an on-site generator that did not start automatically. Operators quickly stopped the overflow by manually starting the generator and raw sewage pumps. There a faulty switch on the generator's control panel which has since been replaced.

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### **Update on Lake Hills and NW Lake Sammamish Sewer Upgrade Project**

To keep up with a growing population, WTD will be adding capacity to the sewer system in the Lake Hills and NW Lake Sammamish areas. Increasing sewer capacity will allow King County to continue to safely and reliably move wastewater flows to be treated at a regional treatment facility.

The Lake Hills and NW Lake Sammamish Sewer Upgrade Project involves replacing the Lake Hills Trunk with a new pipeline, repairing the existing NW Lake Sammamish Interceptor, and constructing a new parallel pipe to the NW Lake Sammamish Interceptor to add capacity.

WTD has briefed the Redmond City Council and community outreach efforts are underway.

Project design will begin in 2016. Design, including environmental review and permitting, will continue through 2017. Construction is expected to begin in 2018 and be completed in 2021.

### **Update on Two Bills Mentioned Last Month**

HB 2386 relating to biosolids (labelling) bill did not get a hearing. So it's very unlikely it will move forward during this session.

SB 6191 relating to wastewater treatment and removing pharmaceutical and personal care product chemical constituents also did not get a hearing although there has been some suggestion a study could be included in the budget. We haven't seen that yet.

There was some discussion of an article in the Feb. 23rd Seattle Times. Article can be found at this link: <http://www.seattletimes.com/seattle-news/environment/drugs-flooding-into-puget-sound-and-its-salmon/>

### **Biosolids Booth at the Northwest Flower and Garden Show**

WTD's staff hosted a biosolids booth at the annual Northwest Flower and Garden Show last week. We gave out approximately 6,500 samples (a total of five cubic yards of compost) which is more samples than in any previous year. And we won an award for the 2016 Outstanding Educational Display.

## **3. Subcommittee Chair's Reports**

### **a. Engineering and Planning Subcommittee (02/04/16 subcommittee meeting)**

- i. WTD's Long-Term Flow Monitoring Program
- ii. Initial Discussion of Scope of Work to Explore and Evaluate MWWPAAC I/I Task Force Options
- iii. Update on Industrial Waste Rates and Code Changes (joint topic with Rates and Finance Subcommittee)
- iv. Update on efforts of Technical Working Group on Cost-Estimating (joint topic with Rates and Finance Subcommittee)

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### **b. Rates and Finance Subcommittee (02/04/16 subcommittee meeting)**

- i. Initial Discussion on Issues to Identify in the 2016 Rate Letter

### **c. Advisory Committee on Sewage Disposal Agreements**

- i. There was no meeting in February.

### **4. State's Proposed Rule on Water Quality Standards for Toxics, Fish Consumption Rates and Scoping Process of 303d Listing of Water Bodies, Richard Jack, Water Quality Planner, Toxics Assessment Unit, Water and Land Resources Division & Betsy Cooper, NPDES Administrator, WTD**

Richard and Betsy shared information and answered questions on the State's proposal for updating water quality standards for protecting human health (fish consumption rates), and the scoping process for TMDL listing of water bodies. Sharman Herrin reported that WTD will comment on the rule and asked if MWWPAAC wants to comment on it as a body or individually. Sharman shared WTD's comments should be available in March and would also include what's happening on the stormwater side. MWWPAAC members expressed preference for agencies to comment on an individual basis. WTD will send out information in advance of 7 day notice requirement to give MWWPAAC an opportunity to review, determine if they want to comment as body or individually and it can be discussed at next meeting.

### **5. Broad Concepts Under Consideration for Rate Recommendation Letter, Jack Broyles and Maria Coe, Chair and Vice Chair of Rates and Finance Subcommittee**

Jack and Maria reviewed the rate letter topic areas and asked for comments. A final draft will be prepared based on comments received and the presentation and continued discussion on the letter at the March 3 Rates and Finance subcommittee. The final draft will be provided for action at the March 23 General MWWPAAC meeting.

### **6. General Announcements**

None

The meeting was adjourned at 11:45 a.m.

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