

METROPOLITAN WATER POLLUTION ABATEMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

General Meeting
Summary

**Bellevue City Hall
Room 1E-108**

Wednesday, April 24, 2013

10:00 – 12:00

1. MWWPAAC Chair’s Report – Scott Thomasson

- a. Introductions
- b. Approval of March meeting summary (**action item**)
-**March 27 meeting minutes approved unanimously**

Wastewater Treatment Division Director’s Report – Pam Elardo, P.E.

-The consent decree approved by the King County Council in January 2013 has been signed by the U.S. Department of Justice and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and was lodged on April 16 in federal court along with the City of Seattle’s consent decree. There will be a public comment period. This is one of the final steps towards the federal court’s approval of the consent decree.

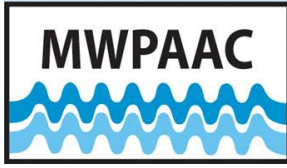
2. - As a follow-up to the verdict with Brightwater contractor, Vinci/Parsons RCI/Frontier-Kemper JV, the court awarded King County an additional \$14.7 million for attorney’s fees and costs. The court also denied the post-trial motions from the contractor. The 30-day appeal period should start soon once the court has certified the jury’s verdict.

-There have been several complaints regarding exhaust emissions that occurred during the testing of diesel generators at Brightwater’s Influent Pump Station in Bothell. WTD is developing a detailed plan of action to correct the problem. Until then, non-emergency operation of the generators has been suspended.

-South Plant has started up their two new high-speed turbo secondary agitation air blowers that will save approximately 2,225,000 kWh of electrical energy per year, resulting in a cost savings. Installation of the new equipment will earn King County a \$331,785 efficiency grant from Puget Sound Energy.

3. Subcommittee Reports

- a. **Rates and Finance Subcommittee - April 4, 2013**
 - Meeting summary – (**Informational**)
 - Approval of MWWPAAC Recommendation Letter to the Councilmember Larry Gossett, Chair, King County Council Regarding the 2014 Sewer Rate (**Action Item**)



METROPOLITAN WATER POLLUTION ABATEMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

General Meeting Summary

The subcommittee spent some time discussing some of the confusion regarding a recent table on WTD's estimated lifetime spending for CIP through 2040. Suggestions were made to improve the table. It was also noted that it is better to finalize some financial data before distribution to avoid further confusion.

The rest of the meeting was devoted to finalizing the rate transmittal letter to the King County Council. The letter now is addressed to the Council Chair Larry Gossett and the Executive will be sent a copy. The submittal of the rate has not yet been sent by the Executive to the Council, but is expected to be delivered by the end of the week. Considering that the rate transmittal has not yet been sent, the MWPAAC Executive Board is suggesting a conditional approval of the letter and any minor modifications to the letter will be considered at the next Rates and Finance Subcommittee meeting in May.

Motion: Approve the letter of recommendation.

Decision: Voting members unanimously agreed (19-0) to conditionally approve the recommendation letter.

b. **Engineering and Planning Subcommittee**

- Follow-up on Development of Report on Options for a Summary Document (**Informational**)

King County staff and members of the subcommittee continue to refine the options it will propose for a Summary Document. The upcoming Engineering & Planning subcommittee will devote time to this item during its May 2nd meeting and a final draft proposed document will be shared for final input at the next General Meeting on May 22nd. The three options are a Matrix (spreadsheet), Analog (hard copy binder), and electronic (internet based) document.

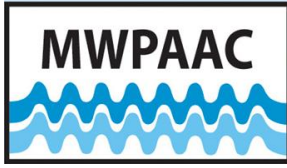
- Review of MWPAAC Letter to EPA regarding the Recommended Cleanup Plan for the Lower Duwamish Waterway (**Action Item**)

Committee members offered a few comments regarding the overall tone as well as on specific details contained in the letter that will be sent to the EPA regarding the Duwamish Cleanup. There was a motion to conditionally approve the letter with proposed edits.

Motion: Approve the letter of recommendation as amended.

Decision: Voting members agreed to conditionally approve the recommendation letter. Sixteen members approved and one abstained from voting.

Action Item: The final draft letter will be sent to all MWPAAC members in MS Word format so that individual members may use it as a template if their agency wishes to send its own comment letter to EPA.



**METROPOLITAN WATER POLLUTION ABATEMENT
ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**General Meeting
Summary**

c. Advisory Subcommittee on Sewage Disposal Agreements

- No meeting was held

<p>4.</p>	<p>2014 Sewer Rate and Capacity Charge Update – (Informational)</p> <p>Tom Lienesch, WTD Economist, presented information and answered questions from the members about the establishment and implementation of the WTD Capacity Charge program. The King County capacity charge is an additional fee that new connections (growth) to the regional wastewater system pay in addition to the regular monthly sewer rate. The underlying rationale for a capacity charge is that existing customers must pay for the capacity necessary to serve growth customers before the growth arrives. The capacity charge is designed to provide a means by which the growth customers can pay their equitable share of the cost of their service. The basic approach is to identify (allocate) the costs of serving each customer group and then design rates and the capacity charge so that each pay their equitable share.</p>	
<p>5.</p>	<p>Meeting Summation – Robert Tovar, Facilitator</p> <p>MWPAAC member Bobbie Wallace (City of Kirkland) shared her work with other agencies to control and prohibit the use of non-flushable items into our sewer systems. She requested that member agencies work to quantify the impacts and costs these items have on our systems.</p> <p>Robert Tovar, Facilitator, summarized the items acted upon in the meeting including the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conditional approval of the rate letter from MWPAAC to the King County Council regarding the Executive’s Proposed 2014 rate. • The approved letter from MWPAAC to EPA regarding the Duwamish River cleanup proposal. • The commitment by WTD Staff to send out the proposed EPA letter to member agencies in Word format for their consideration to send their own letters. • MWPAAC’s clearer understanding of the development and implementation of the WTD Capacity Charge Program. 	