

(Amy Kahler, Des Moines Water Works, 2201 George Flagg Parkway, Des Moines, IA 50321, 515-283-8760)

Meeting
CENTRAL IOWA REGIONAL DRINKING WATER COMMISSION
Ankeny Public Works
Tuesday, April 26, 2011
6:00 p.m.

1. Chair Items - Commission Chair E.J. Giovannetti called the meeting of the Central Iowa Regional Drinking Water Commission to order at 6:00 p.m. and welcomed all in attendance. Present were:

City of Altoona – Michelle Sloan (Rep), Karen Oppelt (Alt-EX-O)

City of Ankeny – Tom Strait (Rep), Jolee Belzung (EX-O)

City of Bondurant – None

City of Carlisle – None

City of Clive – Scott Cirksena (Rep) (had to leave prior to adjournment of the meeting)

City of Cumming – None

City of Johnston – David Lindeman (Rep), Brian Wilson (EX-O), Shane Kinsey (Staff)

City of Mitchellville – None

City of New Virginia – None

City of Norwalk – Tim Hoskins (EX-O)

City of Pleasant Hill – Mike Daspit (Rep)

City of Polk City – None

City of St. Charles – None

City of Waukee – John Gibson (EX-O)

City of Windsor Heights – Louise Moon (Rep)

Des Moines Water Works – Dave Carlson (Rep), Amy Kahler (Staff), Linda Kinman (Staff), Pat Ripley (Staff)

Indianola Municipal Utilities – Todd Kielkopf (EX-O), Mike Beals (Alt Rep)

Polk County – E.J. Giovannetti (Rep)

Urbandale Water Utility – John McCune (Rep), Rich Foust (EX-O), Dale Acheson (Alt EX-O)

Warren Water District – None

West Des Moines Water Works – Karen Novak Swalwell (Rep)

Xenia Rural Water – None

Approval of Minutes – A motion was made by Louise Moon, seconded by John McCune, to approve the minutes of the January 25, 2011, meeting. Upon vote, the motion carried.

Financial Statements – The 2011 Cashflow Worksheet was summarized by Amy Kahler. This is the first financial statement presented since the Commission adopted a budget this past January. Dues from all members are expected to be forthcoming in the next week or so. A motion to accept the financial statements was made by Mike Daspit and seconded by Karen Novak Swalwell. Upon vote, the motion carried.

Approval of 2011-2012 Budget – The 2011-1012 Budget Worksheet was reviewed. The new fiscal year will begin July 1, 2011. Requests for payment of membership dues for the new fiscal year will be distributed to Ex-Officios in the near future. Dues have remained unchanged. Members were reminded that the previous membership dues were for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2011. Scott Cirksena thanked Amy Kahler for her work. Tom Strait made a motion, seconded by David Lindeman, to approve the 2011-2012 budget. Upon vote, the motion carried.

2. Legislative Update – Linda Kinman reported there has not been a lot of legislative activity concerning water and waste water utilities. She provided an update on the Iowa Drainage Plan and mentioned the Governor has signed House File 299 which makes trespassing on utility property a Class B felony. There has been much discussion about transferring water quality responsibilities from the Iowa Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) to the Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship (IDALS).

3. Raccoon River Master Plan – IDNR Deputy Director, Pat Boddy, distributed a handout and highlighted the master plan, explaining how implementation might unfold and how CIRDWC could have a key role perhaps by taking the lead on a sub watershed committee and by providing comments on the plan.

4. Governance – The Commission Chair provided a copy of his memo and asked if there is interest in approaching the City Council and the Board of Trustees regarding a change in governance for representation on the Des Moines Water Works Board. E.J. Giovannetti said he has discussed it with City Council members but no one has absolutely agreed or disagreed. Numerous models are available, of which WRA is one. Reference was also made to a Capital Crossroads report which raised the possibility of creating a metro water utility. It was explained that report was very comprehensive, and water was only a small part of the recommendation. Discussion occurred and concerns were expressed regarding future rate increases, replacement and depreciation costs, and having to re-buy assets that the communities have already purchased. A comment was made that outside city sales will continue to grow, so a governance change makes sense. It was emphasized that the commission should make sure it will be controlling its own future and interests. It was agreed a study should be done to obtain more information and examine the pros and cons of changing governance, and whether it is necessary. Louise Moon made a motion to direct the Executive Committee to draft a resolution to consider mutual evaluation of the benefits of creating a metro water authority in Des Moines. John McCune seconded. The roll was called and the vote was:

AYES: Michelle Sloan, Tom Strait, David Lindeman, Mike Daspit, E.J. Giovannetti, John McCune, Karen Novak-Swalwell, Louise Moon, Mike Beals

NAYS: None

ABSTAINED: Dave Carlson

Upon vote, the motion carried. The Chairperson advised that a draft resolution/letter will be prepared and submitted for feedback from members.

Randy Beavers arrived at approximately 7:00 p.m.

5. Metro Group Report – Amy Kahler explained Metro Group is comprised of ex-Officios seated at this table. The group meets every other month with the intent of discussing current issues and sharing information. At the March 30 meeting, Linda Kinman provided a legislative update, and discussion occurred regarding utilities' issues with curb valves. Other discussion topics included service line warranties, foreclosures, and project updates.

6. Executive Committee Report – The Executive Committee met April 6 primarily to determine the agenda for this meeting.

7. General discussion – Rich Foust asked about receiving updates regarding the Capital Crossroads plan. Mike Daspit inquired about the status of efforts to balance water usage instead of experiencing peaks and valleys. Randy Beavers advised the Water Works is working on a water rate long range plan which will partially address peaks and how to have a stable revenue base. Consideration is being given to an inclining rate block structure vs. a declining rate structure for residential, commercial and high users.

8. Adjournment – The meeting adjourned at 7:25 p.m.