

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

Meeting
CENTRAL IOWA REGIONAL DRINKING WATER COMMISSION
Pleasant Hill Public Library
Tuesday, January 26, 2010
6:00 p.m.

1. Chair Items - Commission Chair Scott Cirksena called the meeting of the Central Iowa Regional Drinking Water Commission to order at 6:05 p.m. and welcomed all in attendance. Present were:

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

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

City of Bondurant – Mark Arentson (EX-O)

City of Carlisle – None

City of Clive – Scott Cirksena (Rep), Bart Weller (EX-O)

City of Cumming – Anita Enos (Rep), Scott Shelley

City of Johnston – Shane Kinsey (Staff)

City of Mitchellville - None

City of New Virginia - None

City of Norwalk – None

City of Panora - None

City of Pleasant Hill – None

City of Polk City – None

City of St. Charles - None

City of Waukee – Casey Harvey (Rep)

City of Windsor Heights – Louise Moon (Rep)

Des Moines Water Works – Robert Riley (Rep), Randy Beavers (EX-O), Gary Benjamin (Alt. EX-O), Amy Kahler (Staff), Linda Kinman (Staff)

Indianola Municipal Utilities – None

Polk County – E.J. Giovannetti (Rep)

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

Warren Water District – None

West Des Moines Water Works – Jim Wallace (Alt-Rep), Jerry Stevens (EX-O)

Xenia Rural Water – None

Motion was made by Jim Wallace, seconded by John McCune, to approve minutes of the October 27, 2009, Regular Meeting. Upon vote, motion carried.

After introductions, Chairman Cirksena recognized and congratulated Jerry Stevens on behalf of the Commission on being named American Water Works Association (AWWA) President-Elect.

2. Watershed Grant Update – Linda Kinman reported that CIRDWC did not receive the watershed grant funding requested in late 2009. The grant was awarded to M & M Divide. Ms. Kinman has conveyed to the recipient that CIRDWC still has a strong interest in watershed improvement, and asked that the Commission be involved in grant activities as appropriate. Linda has also been asked to be a member of a grant oversight committee and will be able to provide input through that committee. The Commission recognized Linda for the quality and strength of CIRDWC's grant application, and expressed appreciation for her work in preparing and presenting the proposal.

Ms. Kinman indicated that other grant opportunities are likely to come up, and she will monitor opportunities for future funding.

3. Legislative/Regulatory Update – Ms. Kinman reviewed highlights of the last legislative update. She announced Water Day at the Capitol was today. Des Moines Water Works sponsored a booth and met with legislators to talk about drinking water issues.

4. Establishing a Budget for CIRDWC - Chairman Cirksena expressed that, as future grant and advocacy opportunities arise, CIRDWC will need to be able to quickly respond to potential grant proposals. Applications are likely to require or expect that the Commission meets certain criteria, including insurance, an approved budget, etc. He questioned whether the Commission should position itself to be able to more quickly react to these scenarios and recommended that a Budget Committee be established to discuss the need and feasibility of a budget, as allowed and outlined in CIRDWC's 28E and Bylaws. It was determined that Mr. Cirksena will chair the committee consisting of additional representatives Tom Strait, John McCune, and Casey Harvey. The committee will report back at the next CIRDWC meeting.

5. Purchased Capacity Analysis – Randy Beavers reviewed that the Master Wholesale Agreement outlines that a purchased capacity analysis will be completed every five years to determine if, and when, additional purchased capacity will be offered for purchase by wholesale customers. Purchased Capacity was offered in 1996 and 2005, and has funded expansion of infrastructure that benefits the entire region (known as the Core Network), including additional Aquifer Storage and Recovery (ASR) wells, and the new Saylorville Water Treatment Plant currently under construction. When communities purchase capacity, they make an upfront investment in exchange for a lower water rate.

Mr. Beavers indicated the issue of whether to offer more purchased capacity will be discussed at the February DMWW Finance and Audit meeting. Staff will make a recommendation based on data from the recently completed Water Distribution and Water Treatment Long Range Plans, and an analysis of capital needs in the next five years. The results of the analysis and DMWW's recommendation will be presented at the Commission's July meeting.

6. Saylorville Water Treatment Plant Update – Gary Benjamin presented a Powerpoint slideshow, providing recent pictures of the new plant's construction progress. Mr. Benjamin reviewed schematics and gave an overview of the facility's layout and treatment process. The plant is expected to be commissioned on June 1, 2010.

7. 2010 Officers' Report – Mr. Cirksena requested a report from the Nominating Committee. Members of the Nominating Committee were identified as Louise Moon, Chairperson, John McCune and Michelle Sloan. Ms.

Moon reported the Nominating Committee recommended the following slate of officers for 2010: Chair – E.J. Giovannetti, Vice Chair – Scott Cirksena, and Secretary/Treasurer – Tom Strait. Mr. Cirksena requested additional nominations from the floor, and hearing none, declared nominations closed. Jim Wallace moved election of the slate of officers as presented. Michelle Sloan provided a second to the motion, which carried upon unanimous vote

Mr. Giovannetti expressed appreciation at the opportunity to serve the Commission as Chair, and asked that members pass along suggestions for new ideas.

8. General Discussion – There was a brief discussion on the status of Xenia Rural Water District. Mr. Beavers and Robert Riley clarified that Des Moines Water Works has submitted a proposal to Xenia’s Board, but has made no offer to buy Xenia as has been reported by local media outlets. This proposal outlines that Water Works proposes to form a new entity under its control to assume ownership of the key assets of the District’s system. The new entity would contract with DMWW for management and operational oversight, but the new entity would not assume Xenia’s debt. Mr. Beavers and Mr. Riley emphasized that current DMWW customers would not finance or subsidize within their rates any portion of Xenia operations under this proposal.

9. Adjournment - The meeting was adjourned by the Chair at 8:00 p.m.