



**CITY OF BEVERLY HILLS**  
455 N. Rexford Drive  
Beverly Hills, CA 90210  
Room 280A

**PUBLIC WORKS COMMISSION  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

April 11, 2019  
8:00 AM

**MEETING CALLED TO ORDER**

Date/Time: April 11, 2019 / 8:02 AM

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**CIVILITY STATEMENT**

**ROLL CALL**

Commissioners Present: Commissioners Alpert, Felsenthal, Wolfe, Vice Chair Greer, Chair Aronberg  
Commissioners Absent: None  
Staff Present: Gil Borboa, Mark Browder, Vince Damasse, Josette Descalzo, Samer Elayyan, Shana Epstein, Debby Figoni, Daren Grilley, William Hamilton, Michael Hensley, Ilene Knebel, Chad Lynn, Pamela Mottice-Muller, Tristan Malabanan, Joseph Matsch, David Perusse, Robert Welch

Commissioner Wolfe left the meeting at 11:40 AM.

**COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE AUDIENCE**

Members of the public may address the Commission regarding any items not on the Agenda that are within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Commission. By State law, the Commission may not discuss or vote on items not on the Agenda

Speakers: David Gingold

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

By Order of the Chair, the agenda was approved as with some modifications in the TAB order to be announced.

**CONSENT CALENDAR**

1. Consideration of March 14, 2019, Public Works Commission Regular Meeting Minutes.

Motion: MOVED by Commissioner Alpert, SECONDED by Commissioner Felsenthal to adopt the minutes as amended (5-0).

AYES: Commissioners Alpert, Felsenthal, Wolfe, Vice Chair Greer, Chair Aronberg

NOES: None

**CARRIED**

## **REPORTS FROM PRIORITY AGENCIES**

Dr. Pressman updated the Commission on the effects of the recent rain has on the Metropolitan Water District including the increase in allocations, variable revenue and other projects in progress.

Commissioner comments:

- The Commission inquired about involvement with the Salton Sea and the performance of the Oroville Spillway.
- The Commission also asked about possible changes in the water taste/appearance due to the increase of water coming from the state water project.

### **2. Capital Projects Update (Taken out of order)**

Project Manager Robert Welch updated the Commission on the Capital Improvement & Major Project items. Specifically updated were the Oil Well Plugging Project and the Civic Center Drive Reforestation Project.

Commissioner comments:

- The Commission commented about the oil well item/gas migration, Pump Station #8 and the Maple Crosswalk project bidding process.
- Also discussed were the Metro Purple Line noise complaints.

### **3. Stormwater Projects Update – Burton Way and La Cienega Park/Frank Fenton Field**

Project Manager Robert Welch reported on the current stormwater projects in progress to meet the MS4 requirements. There projects include the Burton Way Median and La Cienega Park/Frank Fenton Field. Director Epstein made additional comments.

Commissioner comments:

- The Commission asked about the change in watershed contribution that affects the cost allocation.
- The Commission inquired about the funding for the projects and the status of the Los Angeles Stormwater Projects.

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### **4. Foothill Water Treatment Plant Update/La Brea Subarea Update**

Project Manager Samer Elayyan and NV5 Consultant Charlie McKinley gave an update regarding the Water Treatment Plant and new information since the March Public Works Commission Meeting.

Commissioner comments:

- The Commissioners had questions about the timeline, cost and other details for the project.

Project Manager Tristan Malabanan and Water Resources Manager Vince Damasse reported on the La Brea Subarea Project.

### **5. Turf Replacement Rebate Program and Residential Landscape Irrigation System (Taken out of order)**

Water Conservation Administrator Debby Figoni presented information on new programs and an update on water conservation.

**6. Emergency Storage (Taken out of order)**

Assistant Director of Public Works/Utilities Gil Borboa presented a brief engineering report on the availability of the funds/budget for the Cabrillo Project. Also reviewed were current water storage sites, and future recommendations for emergency water storage sites.

**Commissioner comments:**

- The Commission asked how many days of storage are available in an emergency and how much of the reservoirs are filled at this time. Staff responded that there is currently 23 million gallons available equaling approximately four days of use.
- The Commission requested information about the December 2018 water leak.
- The Commission expressed interest in more emergency water storage.

Commenting on water usage and fire concerns, were Deputy Fire Chief Joseph Matsch and Battalion Fire Chief David Perusse. Director of Emergency Management Pamela Mottice-Muller spoke about preparing for disasters.

- The Commission asked the Fire Department representatives about local water pressure and brush clearance around the Los Angeles/Beverly Hills border and were advised this situation is a priority and monitored accordingly.
- The Commission inquired about allocation of resources during an emergency and were told by Emergency Management staff and Fire Department staff they are adequate.

The Commission took a break at 10:07 AM

The Commission returned at 10:17 AM

Director Epstein updated the Commission about the recent City Council priority session and the Commission's desire to advance the discussion about Cabrillo in the Integrated Water Resources Master Plan.

There was further discussion about the Cabrillo Reservoir and its uses.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**7. State Bill 998: Residential Water Service Disconnections**

This item was tabled until the next Commission Meeting.

**8. Water Conservation Standards in City of West Hollywood (Taken out of order)**

City Attorney Nicholas Ghirelli discussed the memorandum contained in the Commission packet in reference to will serve letters.

**Commissioner comments:**

- The Commission requested further discussion with regard to regulations/guidelines for will serve letters.
- The Commission had a discussion about other cities being in this unique situation of having an obligation to another city with a utility/what the cities do when they provide for another jurisdiction.
- The Commission discussed the update in 2020 of the Urban Water Master Plan and its impact on the entire water utility.

## **PROJECT UPDATES & STATUS REPORTS**

### **9. Water Efficiency Update**

Water Conservation Administrator Debby Figoni reported on the water use during the December 2018 MWD pipe leak as well as a drought update and the March statistics.

Commissioner comments:

- The Commission discussed the data and results.

### **10. Specific Information and Department Updates**

No discussion.

## **COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE COMMISSION**

### **11. Chair's Report**

- Mayor's Cabinet Meeting notes are online.
- The Commission commented on various items.

## **COMMUNICATIONS FROM STAFF**

### **12. Director's report**

- Director Epstein discussed scheduling for the IWRMP Workshop. The date will be forthcoming.
- Comments about past and future events were made.
- The June Regular Meeting will be rescheduled.
- There was a brief discussion about how Beverly Hills recycles and an upcoming tour of the Athens Environmental Services Facility.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Date / Time: April 11, 2019 / 12:00 PM

PASSED AND APPROVED THIS 13<sup>TH</sup> DAY of JUNE, 2019



Sandra Aronberg, M.D., Chair