



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

**PUBLIC WORKS COMMISSION  
REGULAR MEETING SYNOPSIS**

May 12, 2016  
8:00 a.m.

**MEETING CALLED TO ORDER**

Date/Time: May 12, 2016 / 08:03 am

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**ROLL CALL**

Commissioners Present: Commissioners Felsenthal, Pressman, Vice Chair Wolfe, Chair Aronberg  
Commissioners Absent: Commissioner Shalowitz  
Staff Present: Mark Cuneo, Vince Damasse, Chad Lynn, Trish Rhay, Caitlin Sims, Michelle Tse, Audrey Wright

**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: None

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

By Order of the Chair, the agenda was approved as presented.

**CONSENT CALENDAR**

1. Consideration of April 18, 2016, Public Works Commission special meeting minutes.

Motion: MOVED by Commissioner Pressman, SECONDED by Commissioner Felsenthal to approve the minutes as presented (4-0).

AYES: Commissioners Felsenthal, Pressman, Vice Chair Wolfe, Chair Aronberg

NOES: None

ABSENT: Commissioner Shalowitz

CARRIED

## REPORTS FROM PRIORITY AGENCIES

### Operations Reports from City Departments, Consultants and Outside Agencies

- **Metropolitan Water District (MWD) Director**

Dr. Wunderlich provided an update. MWD lowered the water supply allocation classification for Beverly Hills from Stage 3 to 2. MWD will encourage wiser water use as a way of life. Penalties have been rescinded. The System Access Rate, payable by property owners or by the City has been paid by the City since 1995. The City's Tier 1 rate is based on the Purchase Order signed with MWD. MWD is required to annually post salary ranges for all positions; this will be left with staff. MWD is moving forward with purchasing islands in the Delta area.

- 2. **Update on Energy Saving and Sustainability Projects**

Assistant Directors of Public Works Services Chad Lynn and Trish Rhay and Contract Project Manager Zara Farimani provided an update on the Climatec project to implement energy efficiency projects in City facilities. The program began in October and includes energy and water conservation, increasing efficiency and upgrading facilities, incorporating Executive Order B-29-15. The following were presented: Program Goals; Project Scope of Work; Financial Highlights; Completion Schedule; and Environmental Benefits.

## CONTINUED BUSINESS

- 3. **Draft 2015 Urban Water Management Plan**

Water Resources Manager Vince Damasse and Consultant Psomas provided brief background information and took questions. Staff is going to City Council for the first reading on June 6, 2016. The sixty-day notice period is ongoing; advertising will occur next week. The Urban Water Management Plan (UWMP) will be adopted by June 30, 2016. It is required by law and provides a broad strategic view of water resources planning over the next twenty years. It is not intended to address localized water infrastructure impacts and operational issues; those are addressed via the City's Water Master Plan and Will Serve process development.

- 4. **Capital Assets – Water Capital Improvement Projects**

City Engineer Mr. Cuneo and Mr. Damasse provided an update.

- a. **Water Treatment Plant** – Inspection is 85% complete; work is progressing. Coating of the Plant floor has begun, some testing was completed and staff anticipates water production in July. Staff is amending the contract with Tetra Tech in June for conveyance work. The first water quality testing results have been received; now is an appropriate time to begin work on conveyance due to treatment; treatment determines conveyance.

- b. **Shallow Groundwater Wells** – Both wells are complete and tested, yielding roughly 250 gallons per minute (gpm) each. Construction is slated for completion at months' end. The City is not allowed to comingle water; water from the two new wells will not initially be introduced into the Plant. Costs will go up as the City produces more water as it will be producing more expensive water; additional costs include chemical, power and operational aspects. Drilling new wells is not to lower costs but to increase reliability.

- c. **Greystone Reservoir Rehabilitation** – Concrete repairs will be done this month. Joint sealant will be replaced, the basin disinfected and refilled then work on the other side will

begin. Work to be completed by winter. The additional Coldwater spring located by Staff has an estimated flow of 1/2 million gallons yearly; time permitting, Engineering staff can

look into capture of the water. The water source is 1125 Maytor Place; billed consumption for that property is 200 gpm, indicating the homeowner utilizes the spring water for irrigation purposes. The visible water is overflow from the owner's containment system. Determining water quality requires a feasibility study to determine property rights and treatment.

**5. Update on Water Conservation Efforts and Penalty Surcharge Appeals Process**

Water Conservation Administrator Debby Fioni and Research & Planning Analyst Michelle Tse provided an update on water conservation efforts over the last month and the Conservation Subcommittee's discussion about the penalty surcharge appeals process. In April 2016, water use was reduced 23.4% over the same period in 2013. The following were discussed: Present Conservation Programs; Success of Water Leak Program; Water Efficiency; Water Use Efficiency; Water Audits; Water Leak Program; Multifamily Program; Single Family Program; Business Program; and Upcoming Workshop Schedule.

*The Commission took a recess at 10:06 am  
The Commission reconvened at 10:15 am*

**NEW BUSINESS**

None.

**PROJECT UPDATES & STATUS REPORTS**

**6. Update on Community Choice Aggregation**

Staff was available to answer any questions on the Report.

*(Out of Order)*

**9. General Information and Department Updates**

Mr. Damasse, Ms. Rhay and Mr. Lynn provided an update on lead pipes. Less than 1% of City pipes are unidentified due to record keeping and information availability; this does not mean pipes contain lead. There is no lead in the City's system and virtually no risk that a high level of lead exists in the City's distribution system. The City is bound to comply with the 2001 Lead and Copper Rule and is in compliance. Residents may have water entering their residences sampled by Truesdail Labs. Most lead issues occur on the customer side. The City's Water Utility does not have control over what happens downstream of its system. Mr. Damasse is assigned to the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (LADWP) project; the team is looking at properties the City of Los Angeles owns that may fit the City's needs. Concerning the 12 year old Melrose/Santa Monica Will Serve letter, the City is utilizing best management practices; it is deemed null and void. A one-year expiration will be placed in the City's new policy. While policy is developed, the current status is to practice that if a Will Serve letter is more than 12 months old, a new application must be made. Staff is working with Community Development to complete the policy.

*(Return to Order)*

**7. Public Works Commission Ad-Hoc Subcommittees**

Ms. Rhay suggested adding a Solid Waste subcommittee and postponing the Water Rates subcommittee until the audit is completed.

#### 8. Update on Water Rate Development

Ms. Rhay stated staff was directed by City Council to complete an operational and financial audit of the Water Enterprise Plan; it will be a four month process. Consultant Matrix began interviews; it was proposed they meet with the Commission in June. Council also requested staff complete public outreach; a framework is being developed.

### COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE COMMISSION

- Chair's Report – *None*
- Mayor's Cabinet Meeting – Chair Aronberg attended the meeting of May 2, 2016; minutes are online.
- Comments from Commissioners

Commissioner Felsenthal raised the following:

- The absence of a full time Director of Public Works Services; would like an update.
- Agendizing a report on the new spring to capture and use water.
- The Commission should be notified when funds are sought from City Council for projects.
- The Commission discussed and decided relevant Department information will be placed in the packet under *General Information and Department Updates*.
- Regarding timeliness, the Commission would like to hear about items in advance.

Chair Aronberg noted Public Works Services Day is May 15, 2016, 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

### COMMUNICATIONS FROM STAFF

- Director's Report – *None*
- Upcoming Events – Public Works Services Day
  - Mr. Lynn stated the City issued an RFP to recruit for the next Public Works Services Director. Bids were received and set to be awarded at the June 5, 2016, City Council Meeting. The process to hire has not been decided but is being discussed at City Council level. There are generally multiple interview panels in the process.

### ADJOURNMENT

Date / Time: May 12, 2016 / 11:09 a.m.