

**FORT WORTH WATER DEPARTMENT
WHOLESALE WATER AND WASTEWATER
ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING
TCC SOUTH CAMPUS
(SETC FUSION ROOM-NORTH BUILDING)
5301 CAMPUS DR. FORT WORTH, TEXAS 76119
Thursday, June 20, 2024
2 p.m.**

<u>The following cities' representatives were present:</u>			
City	Attendee	City	Attendee
Aledo	Luis Gatica	Lake Worth	Gloria Rangel
Benbrook Water Authority	David Smith	Northlake	Present (did not sign in)
Bethesda Water Supply Corp	Absent	North Richland Hills	Absent
Blue Mound	Absent	Pantego	Absent
Burleson	Errick Thompson	Richland Hills	Present
Crowley	Randal Manus	River Oaks	John Paul Jones
Dalworthington Gardens	Kay Day/Marcus Day/ Cheyennena Althoff	Roanoke	Robby Wallace
DFW Airport	Asciatu Whiteside/ Tommy Uptmore	Saginaw	Randy Newsom/ Jarred Coursey
Edgecliff Village	Absent	Sansom Park	Rodney Jack/ Mathew Douglas
Everman	Absent	Southlake	Chad Henderson
Forest Hill	Absent	TRA	Absent
Grand Prairie	Absent	Trophy Club MUD #1	Absent
Haltom City	Present (did not sign in)	Watauga	Paul Hackleman/ Taylor Alvarez
Haslet	Mike Thetford/Katarina Fowler	Westlake	Absent
Hudson Oaks	Joe Glen Kincaid	Westover Hills	James Chamber
Hurst	Greg Dickens	Westworth Village	Absent
Keller	Absent	White Settlement	Larry Hoover
Kennedale	Kristian Sugrim	Willow Park	Michelle Guelker/ Nathan Withers

WCAC June 2024 Minutes

1. Call to Order

Paul Hackleman (Chair) Called the meeting to order.

2. Roll Call

Taylor Alvarez (Secretary) conducted the roll call.

3. Introduction of Water Department Staff and Guests

Chris Harder FW Water Director introduced and identified other Fort Worth city staff present

4. Approval of Minutes

Greg Dickens (Vice-Chair) moved for approval of the meeting Minutes from Dec. 7, 2023 meeting. The meeting minutes were unanimously approved.

5. Cost of Service and Rate Study for FY2025

Presenter: **Kristen Nutter** FW Sr. Utility Rate Analyst

Presenter: **Matt Thurber (Finance Manager)**

- The rate study is based on the Wholesale Water and Wastewater contract using 2023 actuals as the test year. This includes actual expenditures adjusted for measurable changes and actual billing volumes.
- This year's volumes are closer to average, unlike last year, which had large fluctuations in water and sewer volumes. Allocation factors may decrease, indicating Wholesale responsibility for fewer volumes.
- A rate report will be sent 60 days before city council rate adoption. This will be between late June and mid-July, with adoption between late August and mid-September.

Presenter: **Kristen Nutter** FW Sr. Utility Rate Analyst

- The rate process follows the same steps each year. Determining revenue requirements, functional assignments, cost classifications, and wholesale customer allocation to calculate rates.
- For Wholesale Water, allocation factors for volume, max day and max hour are stable, with a slight decrease from 2024 to 2025.
 - Revenue Requirements for water shows a 7.8% decrease from 2024 to 2025, driven by reductions in operations, return on rate base, and depreciation, totaling about \$2.5 million in savings. Rate decrease by 10.4%, although the TRWD rate increases by 1.8%.
 - A sample bill shows a 3% decrease in cost based on 2023 usage at current vs proposed rates.
- For Wholesale Wastewater, allocation factors (volume, BOD, TSS) show some increases, especially BOD (up 4.3%).
 - Revenue Requirements for wastewater increased by 15.9% due to rising health insurance, risk/IT allocations, and TRA cost (Denton Creek expansion). Rates will increase by 1.9% with BOD rising 12%.
 - A sample bill shows a 3.47% increase in sewer cost based on 2023 usage at current vs proposed rates.
- Rate reports will be mailed between June 27 and July 16, 2024.

6. Impact Fee Update

Presenter: **Matt Kusnir** – Sr Capital Projects Officer

- Briefly touch on the impact fee and master plan updates

WCAC June 2024 Minutes

- Impact Fee- Subcommittee Members- thank you- will be sending an email for the CIPAC meeting-asked anyone in the wholesale subcommittee to attend.
- Impact Fee Schedule
 - Already kicked off the study (May 4, 2024)
 - Began work on Land Use and Population Projections (June 3rd, 2024)
 - August, will have our first CIPAC meeting (LUA and Population Projections) again, the wholesale subcommittee, will ask that you all to attend that
 - Presenting to the Development Advisory Committee (DAC) in September 19, 2024
 - Back in front of this committee in December (December 2024) WCAC.
 - January we will have maximum allowable, but likely February-March we're going to have a recommendation from the CIPAC committee that will go to council to vote.
 - June 2025- will be our ultimate day to go to council, by contract we have to give you a 3-month heads up, so the earliest we can see new rates will be October 2025. More information in December. Nothing concrete until February March, the final answer after the council votes on it.
- As soon as council adopts, we will update the calculator and send it out, whether we go live October, January of the following year.
- Our sewer master plan we kicked off last year (January 2023) we did flow monitoring the spring of last year (April through May 2023) spent some significant amount of time in the year that followed calibrating everything, putting together a draft CIP, (May 2024) which has already been done, ultimately by the end of the summer, (August 2024) the sewer master plan will be wrapped up.

7. Northside Water System Capacity Improvements

Presenter: **Matt Kusnir** – Sr Capital Projects Officer

- Northside Water Master Plan
 - Kicked that off before the sewer master plan and is effectively done this month.
 - Active CIP-actively in design or construction on Northside- Northside Project Underway.
 - NSIII 54" Transmission Main from Eagle Mountain WTP
 - NSIV 24" Transmission Main to Crum Tank
 - Harmon Road Booster Pump Station
 - Eagle Mountain WTP HSPS Pump and Motor Purchase
 - NSIV Transfer Station
 - NSIII Elevated Tank
 - NSIV Elevated Tank
 - Downtown (Holly) Cast Iron Transmission Main Replacement
 - Holly to Northside 36" Cast Iron Main Replacement
 - Eagle Mountain WTP Plant Expansion

Chris Harder, FW Water Director commented:

- Peak water demands in north Fort Worth and those of our northern wholesale customers have increased substantially over the last three years.
- We are moving quickly to increase system capacity by expanding the Eagle Mountain Plant, adding another ground storage tank and two elevated storage tanks, increasing pumping capacity, and accelerating the replacement of cast iron transmission mains that move water from downtown to the north.
- We are working to have some of these improvements in service in time for the 2026 World Cup soccer matches.

8. Drought/Emergency Water Management Plan and Conservation Plan Updates

Presenter: **Micah Reed** – FW Water Conservation Manager

- 5- year Water Conservation Plan and Emergency Water Management Plan/Drought Contingency Plan were updated in May.
 - Plans were due May 1st
 - We ask that you submit us copies to Fort Worth when you turn those in to the Texas Water Development Board. If you missed the deadline, contact the TWDB to let them know you are late. They will make an exception to allow you to turn it in late
 - Every public water system must submit a plan if they have more than 3,300 connections or take a loan from TWDB.
 - The conservation plan is more of a strategy plan, a target setting plan
 - Annual conservation reporting is looking at how you are meeting those goals and what you did the previous year- also due May 1st of every year; except for the years that you have a 5-year plan due.
 - The requirements for the plan are found online at www.twdb.texas.gov/conservation/municipal/plans/index.asp
 - Made minor changes to our plan
 - Updated the goals, gallons per capita day (gpcd). Fort Worth uses a 5-year rolling average. This normalizes wet and dry years.
 - Done with low hanging fruit, when it comes to conservation. Next step doing something more aggressive
 - Want to get to 150 GPCD by 2029, and to 146 GPCD in 10 years
- Water Loss goals- TWDB is very interested in this number. If your utility takes a loan from TWDB, it will ask questions about water loss reduction efforts and seek proof of your actions. TWDB could require dedicating some of the funding toward waters loss efforts.
- For the drought plan, Fort Worth did not make many changes
 - Triggers stayed the same
 - Tarrant Regional did not make any changes to their triggers
 - We cleaned up some of language, with some flexibility with self-imposed water emergency, when we need to enact those stages for a short period of time or a very secluded area.
 - If you have turned one in, contact Jerry to get pointed in the right direction for getting it done.

9. PFAS Update

Presenter: **Chris Harder** FW Water Director

- There are many new developments related to PFAS since we last met and discussed the 3M and Dupont legal settlements.
- The final PFAS drinking water rule was issued by EPA, which establishes MCLs and a hazard index for six PFAS compounds.
- This rule will trigger the need to install PFAS treatment of Lake Worth source water at our Holly water treatment plants.
- We are working on treatability study and preliminary engineering for a granular activated carbon treatment process, with an estimated capital cost of \$130M.
- The goal will be to have this facility constructed and in operation prior to 2029.
- On the wastewater side, we are actively sampling at the Village Creek treatment plant and within the collection system.

- In April Fort Worth City Council approved an update to the industrial pretreatment ordinance which established PFAS limits for industrial discharges.
- We are monitoring biosolids regulations and anticipate EPA releasing a risk assessment covering biosolids that may have implications on land application.

10. Lead and Copper Rule Update

Presenter: **Mary Gugliuzza** - FW Media Relations/ Communications

- Lead and Cooper Rule Revisions LCRR take effect October 16, 2024.
 - EPA says they will finalize the LCRI before October 16.
 - In April, EPA Issued guidance to utilities on the things to concentrate on between now and October 16th
 - Submit an inventory by October 16, the initial inventory, because in the LCRI it becomes the baseline inventory
 - Large systems have to post it on the website. Large systems are defined as 50,000 or more people served, not based in connections, its people served.
 - The classifications to use in reporting inventory are Non-lead, Lead, Unknown and Galvanized-requiring-replacement. If a customer has a galvanized service line, unless the utility can prove its portion was never lead, it must be classified as galvanized-requiring-replacement
 - By November 15th send a letter to every customer that has a lead, galvanized requiring replacement or unknown service line. What goes in the letter varies slightly for each one of those three. There is required health language that must be in the letters.
 - When new customers set-up service the utility must inform them if the service line is Lead or Galvanized Requiring Replacement or Unknown.
 - Last thing is developing your Tier 1 public notice. Starting Oct. 16, a violation of the action level requires a Tier 1 public notice
 - Tier one- 24 hours to get it out
 - 60 days to get out a letter mailed to all bill paying customers
 - Offer pitcher filters and free tap sampling to all customers
 - A lot of info that must be included in that public notice, and the rule states that it has to be in a specific order in your public notice
 - Other requirements to notify certain organizations, such as pediatrician offices, WIC offices and anything child-related
 - Other requirements include quarterly put updates on bills, a news release, providing pitcher filters and offering free tap sampling

Chris Harder asked about GRR and construction implications

- EPA indicates it is delaying this requirement until the LCRI compliance date. The implications have to do with outreach.
 - There is an outreach requirement when water is turned off. Outreach that has to be done, before the water service is restored.
 - If doing a planned construction project that is not a lead service line replacement project, outreach is required at least 45 days in advance to customers with unknown, GRR or lead
 - Utility must offer to replace the customer portion of the service line at the time it is replacing its portion

11. CCR Rule Update

Presenter: **Mary Gugliuzza** - FW Media Relations/ Communications Coordinator

- Americas Infrastructure act of 2018, Congress put some requirements on EPA, were to have this implemented in 2020 and that did not happen

WCAC June 2024 Minutes

- Twice a year distribution, of your annual water quality report if you serve 10,000 people or more, not connections, people
- 1st one is due by the present July 1 deadline.
- 2nd one is due by December 31st, providing a 6-month window in which to do it
- Must update the information that goes out in the second one if the utility had any MCL violations, action level exceedances or new UCMR data, gathered between January 1st and June 30th.
- New requirement for a summary statement,
 - Must provide in multi-languages to reach those populations, but there is no definition, what constitutes a substantial population that speaks another language. TCEQ will have to provide guidance.
 - New rule allows options on how to display data required in the tables.
 - Corrosion control information must be included.
 - Lowered threshold size for posting to your website to utilities serving 50,000 or more.
 - Changes to the delivery certification and what is being required for good faith delivery efforts
 - Utilities who know they have a substantial population that does not have access to electronic notifications must use at least one non-electronic method.
 - Compliance date is, January 1, 2027

12. WCAC Housekeeping

Presenter: **Mary Gugliuzza** - FW Media Relations/ Communications Coordinator

i. Election of officers

- By-laws require electing new officers in even numbered years, this is an even numbered year, at December meeting you will be electing
- Two-year term-max three
- Only authorized voting members can hold an officer position
- All existing officers are eligible for re-election; Greg Dickens announced he is retiring
- Reminder that the water and wastewater contracts require the annual designation of the primary and alternate members to this committee, New forms will go out in August, -October to September fiscal year. Please return them as they are important for voting.

ii. AWWA Membership

- all memberships due October 1 or October 31st,
- AWWA will be sending invoices
- May have members that may not be part of the utility membership
- You have to pay those individuals ones, but if you are on the utility membership do not pay that invoice.
- I will be reaching out, to all of you, to let you know who is in the utility membership, email me or call me.
- How many people you have varies based on the utility, if it's going up in size category, let us know, I can tell you, AWWA is going up 5% on dues next year.

13. Future Agenda Items and Comments

- Any other items let the City of Fort Worth know now, or through this email system

Please forward any items you may wish to have on the June meeting agenda to Water Wholesale at WaterWholesale@fortworthtexas.gov.

14. Adjourn