



STANDING ADVISORY COMMITTEE

MINUTES

October 3, 2023

The Standing Advisory Committee (SAC) met at TMWA, 1355 Capital Blvd, Reno, NV. Chair McGuire called the meeting to order at 3:01 p.m.

1. ROLL CALL

Primary Members and Voting Alternates Present: Fred Arndt, Jordan Hastings, Neil McGuire, Ken McNeil, Chris Melton, *Jonnie Pullman, Alex Talmant and Jerry Wager.

Alternates Present: Ken Becker and Kevin Ryan.

Primary Members and Alternates Absent: Robert Chambers, Colin Hayes, Karl Katt, John Krmptic, Dale Sanderson, Ann Silver and Jim Smith.

Staff Present: Matt Bowman, John Enloe, Sophie Cardinal, Sonia Folsom, Andy Gebhardt, Bill Hauck, David Kershaw, Lauren Jones, Dan Nubel, Shawn Stoddard, Sandra Tozi, John Zimmerman, and Legal Counsel Justina Caviglia (PBL).

**Member Pullman left the meeting at 4:03 p.m.*

2. PUBLIC COMMENT

Chair McGuire welcomed Justina Caviglia, TMWA's new general counsel, to the Committee.

3. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Chair McGuire requested to move item #10 to the next meeting since there were a number of Committee Members absent.

Upon motion duly made by Member Pullman, and seconded by Member Melton, and carried by unanimous consent of the members present, the Committee approved the agenda as amended.

4. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF AUGUST 1, 2023 MEETING

Upon motion duly made by Member Melton and seconded by Member Arndt, and carried by unanimous consent of the members present, the Committee approved the minutes of August 1, 2023.

5. PRESENTATION OF FISCAL YEAR 2023 FINANCIAL RESULTS

Matt Bowman, TMWA Chief Financial Officer, presented the staff report.

Members of the Committee inquired how the financial results have impacted the proposed rate adjustments and if they were better, would the proposed rate adjustments be reduced. Mr. Bowman replied no, the proposed rate adjustments are as balanced as possible to ensure TMWA's financial stability. Mr. Bowman further explained the Board had requested two additional scenarios (higher rates and delayed implementation) at the August Board meeting which were presented at the September Board meeting and the Board decided to approve Scenario B, which the Committee approved at the August meeting, of 4.5%, 4.0%, and 3.5% in fiscal years 2024, 2025 and 2026 (with the option to defer or lower the rates before final implementation). He added that there will be four open houses to gain public feedback and answer questions which will be followed by two readings in front of the Board at their January and February Board meetings; implementation will be the June billing cycle.

6. WATER SUPPLY UPDATE

Bill Hauck, TMWA Water Supply Supervisor, informed the Committee that the snowpack in Lake Tahoe Basin was the largest on record and effectively ended the drought, Lake Tahoe rose about 5.8 feet from December 2022 to mid-July 2023, normal river flows are projected through the end of 2024 and into 2025, and the region is well positioned from a water supply perspective.

Committee Members inquired about the status of the springtime releases and flood management and how much water is used for irrigation. Mr. Hauck replied that the study with the Army Corps of Engineers is almost complete. A draft report will be available in November 2023, but it will take some time for it to be finalized. However, TMWA can apply for deviations to start filling earlier than April. Mr. Bowman added that 12% of revenue is from commercial customers and only 1-2% is from irrigation.

Andy Gebhardt, TMWA Director of Distribution, added that TMWA uses only 3% of water out of the river in a normal year and 8-9% during dry years.

7. AQUIFER STORAGE RECOVERY UPDATE

Lauren Jones, TMWA Hydrogeologist, presented on TMWA's Aquifer Storage and Recovery (ASR) program. Ms. Jones explained how regulations changed in 2016 regarding permitting and compliance sampling, which prompted staff to be more strategic in the well sites where to inject water and how resting of wells during the winter, especially on the Mt. Rose-Galena Fan area, has improved water table levels.

8. UPDATE ON STANDING ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

Sonia Folsom, TMWA SAC Liaison, presented the updated Committee membership for 2024-2025 that will be presented to the Board at the December meeting.

9. PRESENTATION AND POSSIBLE APPROVAL OF 2024 MEETING SCHEDULE

Ms. Folsom presented the 2024 meeting schedule.

Upon motion duly made by Member Wager and seconded by Member Arndt, and carried by unanimous consent of the members present, the Committee approved the 2024 meeting schedule.

10. ELECTION OF CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR FOR 2024

This item was not heard.

11. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE REQUESTS FOR AGENDA ITEMS FOR FUTURE MEETINGS

Upon motion duly made by Member Melton and seconded by Member Hayes, and carried by unanimous consent of the members present, the Committee approved the request for future agenda items.

Next meeting:

1. Election of Chair and Vice Chair for 2024
2. Amendment to the Standing Advisory Committee Governing Rules
3. Water supply update
4. Presentation on the rate adjustment public open houses
5. Presentation of FY2023 Annual Comprehensive Financial Report (ACFR)
6. Presentation of Q2 financial performance

12. STAFF ITEMS

John Zimmerman, TMWA General Manager, introduced Dan Nubel, TMWA's Attorney, who joined in September.

13. COMMITTEE ITEMS

Chair McGuire inquired if it was appropriate to introduce staff who are sitting in the meeting. Ms. Folsom replied that it would be okay to do so.

14. PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

15. ADJOURNMENT

With no further items for discussion, Chair McGuire adjourned the meeting at 4:12 p.m.

Approved by the Standing Advisory Committee in session on Tuesday, January 9, 2024.

Sonia Folsom, Recording Clerk

**Member Pullman was present for agenda items 1 thru 8 only.*