

**San Francisco Public Utilities Commission
Citizens' Advisory Committee
Water Subcommittee**

**MEETING MINUTES
Tuesday, March 28, 2017
5:30 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.**

525 Golden Gate Ave., 3rd Floor Tuolumne Conference Room

Mission: The Water Subcommittee reviews water supply system reliability, water conservation, recycling, regional cooperation efforts and other relevant plans and policies.

Members:

Jennifer Clary (Chair) (D11)

Nicole Sandkulla (M-Reg'l Water Customers)

Suki Kott (D2)

Ted Loewenberg (D5)

D = SF District, M = Mayoral Appointment

Staff Liaisons: Tracy Zhu and Justin Gardner

ORDER OF BUSINESS

- 1. Call to Order and Roll Call:** The meeting was called to order at: 5:30pm

Members present at roll call: (3) Clary, Loewenberg, Sandkulla,

Members absent at roll call: (1) Kott

Members of the public present: Amy Nagengast, Heinrich Albert, Peter Drekmeier, Chris Shutes

Staff present: Suzanne Gautier

- 2. Report from the Chair**

- Chair welcomes committee members, staff, and the public

Public Comment: None

Member Kott arrives 5:33 (4 Members Present Quorum Maintained)

- 3. Approval** of the [January 24, 2017](#) meeting minutes

Motion was made (Loewenberg) and seconded (Sandkulla) to approve the [January 24, 2017](#) meeting minutes.

The motion PASSED by the following vote:

Edwin M. Lee
Mayor

Anson Moran
President

Ike Kwon
Vice President

Ann Moller Caen
Commissioner

Francesca Vietor
Commissioner

Vince Courtney
Commissioner

Harlan L. Kelly, Jr.
General Manager



Ayes: (4) Clary, Kott, Loewenberg, Sandkulla
NOES: (0)
ABSENT: (0)

Public Comment: None

4. Presentation and Discussion: [Bay-Delta Water Quality Control Plan Overview](#), Steve Ritchie, Assistant General Manager, Water Enterprise

5. Presentation and Discussion: Supplemental Environmental Document

- i. Steve Ritchie, Assistant General Manager, Water Enterprise – [Presentation on SFPUC comments](#)

Topics Covered:

- Our Comments on the Bay-Delta Water Quality Control Plan and Substitute Environmental CEQA Document
- Bay-Delta Plan Update
- The Sacramento and San Joaquin Rivers and the San Joaquin Tributaries
- 2016 Revised Proposal
- CEQA Analysis Deficiencies
- Hetch Hetchy Reservoir, January, 1991
- Total System Storage in Design Drought with 265 MGD Demand

- ii. Peter Drekmeier, Policy Director Tuolumne River Trust – [Presentation on TRT's comments](#)

- Mr. Drekmeier submitted this [document](#).

- iii. Nicole Sandkulla, Bay Area Water Supply and Conservation Agency – [Presentation on BAWSCA's comments](#)

Topics Covered:

- Overview of BAWSCA
- Communities Outside SF Rely on the System
- Future reliance on system and Investments in other supplies
- Conservation Investments Reduce Per Capita Water Use
- Average BAWSCA Residential Customer Uses 60 Gallons per Day
- Potential Impacts of 2016 Proposal on SF Regional Water System
- 40% Unimpaired Flow Proposal Results in Significant Cutbacks to BAWSCA Agencies
- What Would BAWSCA Agencies Do in Response to Severe Shortages?
- 12 Agencies Identified Development Moratorium as Possible Action
- BAWSCA Actions in Response to State Board Proposal
- BAWSCA Comments on Draft SED Support Better Path Forward

Topics of Discussion

- Chair Clary explains that the debate is basically between the water agencies that rely on the Tuolumne River and the environmental groups trying to protect the fish.
- The committee briefly discusses if and by how much can the decisions of the water board be manipulated by elected officials.
- Chair Clary would like to know why we have no plans to reduce our water imports.
- There is an extended debate about the different parties involved and what they are looking for out of this agreement
 - The water agencies who have a duty to meet the water requirements of the over 4 million people they serve. They are typically looking for a contractual guarantee of a specific quantity of water.
 - The Environmental groups who are concerned about the number of fish spawning and returning to the Tuolumne River.
- AGM Richie estimates it could be close to a year before the State Water Board takes an action on this issue
- Chair Clary would like updates about this topic on a regular basis.

Public Comment:

- Chris Shoots with the California Sport Fishing Alliance argues that more water flow could be achieved by conservation. He also says that that the reports made by the SFPUC regarding the amount of water flow needed to preserve salmon is disputed among scientists. Mr. Shoots submitted this [document](#).
- Heinrich Albert with the Sierra Club argues that people need to stand up to the agricultural lobbyists and make sure there is enough water flow before we lose native species. Mr. Albert submitted this [document](#).

Reference: Comment letters submitted for the Supplemental Environmental Document (SED)

- [Tuolumne River Trust](#)
- [California Sport Fishing Alliance](#)
- [Bay Area Water Supply and Conservation Agency \(BAWSCA\)](#)
- [SFPUC](#)

6. Presentation, Discussion, and Possible Action: [Stewardship Policy Resolution](#), Jennifer Clary and Suki Kott, Water CAC members

- The Chair asks for comment, amendments, and questions from the rest of the Water CAC.
- There was a brief discussion about the program costs and if the language should be more precise regarding the cost
- The committee also changed some of the language to more closely align with stated CAC objectives in Watershed management.

The Motion was made (Kott) and seconded (Loewenberg) to adopt the resolution and pass it on to the full CAC for a vote

The motion PASSED by the following vote:

AYES: (4) – Clary, Kott, Loewenberg, Sandkulla
 NOES: (0)
 ABSENT: (0)

Public Comment: None

7. Future Agenda Items and Resolutions

- Repair and replacement (tentative May)
- Groundwater update (tentative May)
- Resolution on Peninsula Watershed uses to provide EIR comment (late Spring)
- Legislative update on SB 7 and other water related legislation (tentative July)
- Level of investments for Environmental Stewardship Policy (tentative November)
- Drought resilience: 3 year water supply update and compliance with Governor's order
- Recycled water: construction of pipelines and onsite nonpotable
- Refer Customer Service as a topic for the Full CAC

8. Announcements/Comments

- The next meeting of the Water Subcommittee will take place May 23, 2017.

9. Adjournment

Motion was made (Sandkulla) and seconded (Kott) to adjourn meeting.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:06pm