



CITY OF RIALTO
REGULAR MEETING OF THE UTILITIES COMMISSION
December 17, 2024 - 6:00 P.M.
MINUTES

The Regular meeting of the Utilities Commission of the City of Rialto was held in the Civic Center Council Chambers located at 150 S. Palm Avenue, Rialto, California 92376, on Tuesday, December 17, 2024.

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This meeting was in accordance with the provision of the **Government Code §54956** of the State of California.

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CALL TO ORDER

Chair Barbara Rickman called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

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ROLL CALL

The roll call was taken by Nicole Hemmans, Senior Administrative Analyst.

Present:

- Chair Barbara Rickman
- Commissioner James M. Shields
- Commissioner Kevin C. Kobbe

Absent:

- Commissioner Richard “Kim” Chitwood

City staff present:

- John Rossi, Interim Utilities Director
- Amy Crow, Administrative Analyst
- Nicole Hemmans, Senior Administrative Analyst

Also present:

- Robert Lee, Customer Service Manager – RWS/Veolia
- Andrew Coleman, Field Operations Supervisor – RWS/Veolia
- Brandon Stallings, CIP Project Engineer – RWS/Veolia
- Frank Garza, Wastewater Chief Plant Operator – RWS/Veolia

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PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chair Barbara Rickman led the pledge of allegiance.

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**MOMENT OF SILENCE/
INVOCATION**

Nicole Hemmans led the invocation.

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APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Regular Meeting of December 17, 2024.

Chair Rickman asked if there were any comments pertaining to the minutes.

- ◆ None.

Action

- ◆ Commissioner Kobbe made a motion to approve.
- ◆ Commissioner Shields seconded.
- ◆ All in favor.
- ◆ Motion passed.

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ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

Chair Rickman asked if there were oral communications from the audience of items not on the agenda.

- ◆ None.

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NEW BUSINESS ITEMS

UC-24-1902

Presentation on the City of Rialto's Water Sampling Process.

Presentation on the City of Rialto's Water Sampling Process provided by Andrew Coleman with Rialto Water Services/Veolia.

Questions & Comments

- None.

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UC-24-1900

Monthly activity report for City of Rialto Waste Management Services. (RECEIVE AND FILE)

Ms. Crow went over the Monthly Waste Management Report for the month of December 2024. (November Reporting Period).

Questions & Comments

- ◆ Commissioner Kobbe inquired if the City gets anything back for the collected electronic waste that is received from the community?
 - Ms. Crow advised that we are paid by the contractor who collects our electronic waste, Golden West Surplus. Payment is based on the type and weight of material items collected.
- ◆ Chair Rickman asked what is the annual reimbursement we received for year?
 - Ms. Crow will update this information in the January 2025 report.

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UC-24-1894

Veolia's Operations and
Maintenance Monthly Report
(RECEIVE AND FILE)

Receive and File the Monthly Operations Report from Veolia for the month of
January 2025 (November 2024 Reporting Period).

Water update provided by Andrew Coleman:

Questions & Comments

- ◆ None

Customer Service update provided by Robert Lee:

Questions & Comments

- ◆ Chair Rickman asked what types of billing adjustments were made during the reported month.
 - Mr. Lee advised that out of the 22,541 bills, billing accuracy was 99.95% correct, with .05% adjustments due to meter read corrections and customer adjustment requests.
- ◆ Mr. Coleman suggested that recharge can be done at the Cedar Reservoir.

Wastewater update provided by Frank Garza:

Questions & Comments

- ◆ Chair Rickman requested an update on the Southern California Edison (SCE) billing issue.
 - Mrs. Hemmans advised that SCE combined the water and wastewater bills with the City's accounts, which prevented access to the monthly data. SCE is aware of the issue and will separate the bills as we advance.

CIP update provided by Brandon Stallings:

Questions & Comments

- ◆ None.

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OLD BUSINESS

UC-24-1897

Previous Discussion

Previous Discussion Update.

None.

Questions & Comments

- ◆ None.

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UC-24-1896

To-Do List

Future Agenda Items:

- 1) Sewer cleaning.
- 2) Water Sampling: How it's done.
- 3) How does a well work.
- 4) How does wastewater work.
- 5) Delta Conveyance
- 6) Sites Reservoirs.
- 7) Understanding Basins.
- 8) Forecasting Reservoir.
- 9) Update on Cactus Basin.
- 10) Update on Perchlorate.

Questions & Comments:

- None.

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**UTILITIES DIRECTOR
UPDATES**

UC-24-1898

Utilities Director Update

Interim Utilities Director John Rossi provided Utilities Director updates.

Questions & Comments:

- ◆ John briefly introduced himself and provided a 6-week update on his interim role as the Utilities Director.
- ◆ The City is moving forward with the Advanced Metering Infrastructure project that will upgrade over 11,000 meters.
- ◆ FY25/56 budgeting process starts this spring.

- ◆ The project to enhance security at the Combined Remedy Treatment Plant is underway.

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COMMISSIONER'S REPORTS

No Commissioner's updates were provided.

Questions & Comments:

Commission Kobbe asked if any members of the public who were present would like to speak.

- ◆ Public Comment#1

Pedro Molina
657 W. Cheshire Street
Rialto, CA

- Mr. Molina asked if Rialto Water Services (RWS) is privately owned or owned by the City of Rialto.
 - Mr. Rossi advised that the City does not own RWS. There is a contract between the City and RWS, and RWS contracts with Veolia to conduct the contract's operations.
- How much of the income from RWS goes to the City? How many of the employees that work for RWS/Veolia live in the City of Rialto? Is there a report that provides this information?
 - Mr. Rossi provided his information to Mr. Molina and advised that he can provide Mr. Molina with the information you are requesting.
- Robert Lee advised that the Utility for Water and Wastewater is City-Owned. Veolia does all of the operations. All revenue received by RWS goes into a separate account for the City of Rialto.

- ◆ Public Comment #2

Ana Gonzales
2nd Street & Lilac
Rialto, CA

- Ms. Gonzales stated she received a letter regarding lead testing in the water; however, the letter was not clear enough.

In the future, please make sure the message goes out more clearly. Ms. Gonzales also requested that the City make home test kits available for residents.

- Ms. Gonzales requested an update on the City Well that tested positive for Arsenic.
- ◆ Chair Rickman requested a copy of the letter that went out to residents regarding lead & copper testing.
- ◆ Chair Rickman suggested that all notices that go out to the residents be reviewed by the Utilities Commission prior to.
- ◆ Commissioner Kobbe requested a copy of the Service Line Inventory.

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ADJOURNMENT

Action

- ◆ Commissioner Kobbe made a motion to approve.
- ◆ Commissioner Shields seconded.
- ◆ All in favor.
- ◆ Motion carried.

- ◆ Meeting adjourned at 6:50 p.m.