



CITY OF RIALTO
REGULAR MEETING OF THE UTILITIES COMMISSION
October 15, 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, October 15, 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

Vice Chair June Hayes called the meeting to order at 6:06 p.m.

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ROLL CALL

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

Present:

Vice Chair June Hayes
Commissioner James M. Shields
Commissioner Kevin C. Kobbe

Absent:

Chair Barbara Rickman
Commissioner Richard “Kim” Chitwood

City staff present:

John Rossi, Interim Utilities Director
Amy Crow, Administrative Analyst
Toyasha Sebbag, Assistant to the City Manager
Nicole Hemmans, Senior Administrative Analyst

Also present:

Rolf Ohlemutz, General Manager – RWS/Veolia
Nancy Jackson, Customer Service Supervisor – RWS/Veolia
Andrew Coleman, Field Operations Supervisor – RWS/Veolia
Stephanee Valencia, Operations Supervisor – RWS/Veolia
Jason Brandon, Project Engineer – RWS/Veolia
Frank Garza, Wastewater Chief Plant Operator – RWS/Veolia
Michael Heftman, Regional Manager – Burrtec Waste Management

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PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Vice Chair Hayes led the pledge of allegiance.

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**MOMENT OF SILENCE/
INVOCATION**

Nicole Hemmans led the invocation.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Regular Meeting of October 15, 2024.

Vice Chair Hayes 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

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

- ◆ None

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NEW BUSINESS ITEMS

UC-24-1770

Presentation Update on the California Integrated Waste Management Act (AB 939) provided by Burrtec.

Presentation Update on the California Integrated Waste Management Act (AB 939) provided by Michael Heftman with Burrtec Waste Management.

Questions & Comments

- ◆ Commissioner Kobbe inquired whether material is weighed upon entering and exiting the Burrtec Material Recovery Facility (MRF).
 - Mr. Heftman confirmed that weighing takes place on the way in and way out of the MRF.
- ◆ Vice Chair Hayes inquired if bimetal cans are still accepted and if plastic bags are going away.
 - Mr. Heftman confirmed that bimetal cans are still being received and that plastic bags for groceries will be banned indefinitely.

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UC-24-1771

Presentation on the City of Rialto's Sewer Cleaning Process provided by Rialto Water Services/Veolia.

Presentation on the City of Rialto's Sewer Cleaning Process provided by Frank Garza with Rialto Water Services/Veolia.

Questions & Comments

- ◆ Commissioner Kobbe inquired about the process of emptying a Vacuum Truck.
 - Mr. Garza stated that the wastewater from the Vacuum Truck is

taken to the wastewater treatment plant for processing and the solid waste material is sent to Burrtec.

- ◆ Mr. Ohlemutz advised that the purpose of the sewer cleaning process is to keep water flowing toward the treatment plant and that the mitigation of pests are not a part of the routine operation.

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UC-24-1765

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 October 2024. (September Reporting Period).

Questions & Comments

- ◆ None.

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UC-24-1768

Staff requests that the Utilities Commission discuss Section 5.1(p) of the Concession Agreement and, if necessary, provide direction to staff.

Staff request that the Utilities Commission discuss section 5.1(p) of the Concession Agreement and if necessary, provide direction to staff.

Section 5.1 (p) of the Concession Agreement states: *“Concessionaire or the Contractor, as applicable, will meet with the Authority’s Contract Administrator, or his designee, to review and discuss operating and Maintenance activities, plans and priorities for the Wastewater Facility. The frequency of such meetings shall be reasonable under the circumstances and mutually agreed to by Concessionaire and the Authority. Concessionaire shall attend the monthly meetings of the City of Rialto Utility Commission. Concessionaire shall additionally meet with representatives of the State, EPA, or other Governmental Agencies, or the City’s consulting or staff engineer, as reasonably required.”*

Questions & Comments

- ◆ Mr. Ohlemutz advised that Concessionaire representation will be present at the meetings in the future.
- ◆ Mr. Ohlemutz requested to attend the Utilities Commission meetings via ZOOM.
 - Vice Chair Hayes advised that she supports his request and requested staff to confirm if ZOOM can be provided.

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UC-24-1767

Request that the Utilities Commission provide feedback on the Water Conservation Update.

Request that the Utilities Commission provide feedback on the Water Conservation Update.

Questions & Comments

- ◆ Vice Chair Hayes requested reducing the current Drought Classification from stage 2 because we are no longer in a drought.
 - Ms. Sebbag suggested that any changes to the Drought Classification Stage occur after the final Drought Contingency Plan is available in 2025.
 - Mr. Rossi agreed and stated that waiting until Spring of 2025 will allow us to consider the upcoming winter season.

- ◆ Vice Chair Hayes asked the Commissioners if they would like to suggest changing the stage now or waiting until the Drought Contingency Plan is available in 2025.
 - The Commissioners agreed to wait until the Drought Contingency Plan is reviewed in 2025 before recommending any changes.

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UC-24-1774
 Veolia's Operations and
 Maintenance Monthly Report
 (RECEIVE AND FILE)

Receive and File the Monthly Operations Report from Veolia for the months of October and November 2024 (August and September 2024 Reporting Period).

Customer Service update provided by Nancy Jackson:
Questions & Comments

- ◆ Vice Chair Hayes asked how long it takes for services to be turned off after a bill is sent to collections.
 - Mrs. Jackson stated that services are disconnected after 30 days from going to collections, which is 90 days of non-payment.

Water update provided by Andrew Coleman:
Questions & Comments

- ◆ Vice Chair Hayes provided an overview of the Cactus Basin recharge.
- ◆ Mr. Coleman suggested that recharge can be done at the Cedar Reservoir.

Wastewater update provided by Frank Garza:

Questions & Comments

- ◆ None.

CIP update provided by Jason Brandon:
Questions & Comments

- ◆ None.

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OLD BUSINESS

UC-24-1773

Previous Discussion

Previous Discussion Update.

None.

Questions & Comments

- ◆ None.

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UC-24-1772

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**

Questions & Comments:

- ◆ Ms. Sebbag advised that the title of **Utility Manager** has changed to **Utilities Director**.

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COMMISSIONER'S REPORTS

No Commissioner's updates provided.

Questions & Comments:

- ◆ None.

ADJOURNMENT

Action

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

- ◆ Meeting adjourned at 7:36 p.m.

