



CITY OF RIALTO
REGULAR MEETING OF THE UTILITIES COMMISSION
February 18, 2025 - 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, March 18, 2025.

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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:

None.

City staff present:

John Rossi, Interim Utilities Director
Amy Crow, Administrative Analyst
Nicole Hemmans, Senior Administrative Analyst
Lona Laymon, Deputy City Attorney

Also present:

Nancy Jackson, Customer Service Manager – RWS/Veolia
Andrew Coleman, Field Operations Supervisor – RWS/Veolia
Jason Howard, 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 March 18, 2025.

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 was oral communication from the audience of items not on the agenda.

- ◆ None.

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NEW BUSINESS ITEMS

UC-25-0203

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

Amy Crow went over the Monthly Waste Management Report for the month of March 2025. (February Reporting Period).

Questions & Comments

- ◆ None

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UC-25-0199

Update of Federal and State Grants

Utilities Director, John Rossi, provided an update on the Federal and State Grants for the Rialto Utilities Authority.

Questions & Comments

- ◆ None

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UC-25-0198

Veolia's Operations and

Receive and file the Monthly Operations Report from Veolia for the month of February 2025 (December 2024 Reporting Period).

Customer Service update provided by Nancy Jackson:

Questions & Comments

- ◆ Chair Rickman asked what caused the consumption to increase by 25.7% between what was reported in January 2024 compared to the January 2025 reporting?
 - Nancy Jackson advised that she will return with an update at the next Utilities Commission meeting.

Water update provided by Andrew Coleman:

Questions & Comments

- ◆ None

Wastewater update provided by Kenneth Aplon:

Questions & Comments

- ◆ None

CIP update provided by Jason Howard:

Questions & Comments

- ◆ Commissioners asked what is the difference between wet barrel and dry barrel hydrants?
 - Andrew Colmen advised that the difference between wet barrel hydrants and dry barrel hydrants lies in their water storage. Wet barrel hydrants always have water in the barrel, while dry barrel hydrants turn off underground, preventing freezing in cold climates.
- ◆ In relation to the Safe Routes to School project, explain the need for concrete pads around the hydrants.
 - Andrew Coleman advised that the concrete pads are installed to prevent property damage and conserve water.

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OLD BUSINESS

UC-25-0200

Previous Discussion

There were no items for discussion.

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UC-25-0201

To-Do List

No agenda items were posted for future discussion.

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**UTILITIES DIRECTOR
UPDATES**

UC-25-0202

Utilities Director Update

Interim Utilities Director John Rossi provided an update to the commissioners on the following items:

- 1) Update on Fire Preparedness
- 2) Retirement of RWS's Rolf Ohlemutz
- 3) Update on City's Commission Appointment Process
- 4) Update on AMI Project
- 5) Update on Nature Center CEQA Process

Questions & Comments:

- ◆ Chair Rickman asked if the Utility User Tax (UUT) that the City Council waived for one year will include the UUT on gas, electricity, and cable or if it is just for water and sewer utilities.
 - John Rossi advised he will confirm this information and provide an update at the next Utilities Commission meeting.

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COMMISSIONER REPORTS

There were no Commissioner Reports.

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ADJOURNMENT

Action

- ◆ Commissioner Kobbe made a motion to adjourn.
- ◆ Commissioner Shields seconded.
- ◆ All in favor.

- ◆ Motion carried.
- ◆ Meeting adjourned at 6:38 p.m.