



**CITY OF RIALTO
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
UTILITIES COMMISSION
July 16, 2019 - 6:00 P.M.**

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, July 16, 2019.

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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

Chairperson Zrelak-Rickman called the meeting to order at 6:00 P.M.

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ROLL CALL

The roll call was taken by the Commission Clerk, Dayan Malfavon.

Present:

Chairperson Barbara Zrelak-Rickman
Vice-Chairperson June Hayes
Commissioner Richard "Kim" Chitwood
Commissioner Kevin C. Kobbe
Commissioner James M. Shields

City Staff Present:

Tom Crowley, Susanne Wilcox and Michele Aguirre

Also Present:

Rolf Ohlemutz, David Terry, Chandrasekar Venkatraman (CV), Richard Perna, Robert Lee and Aaron Kraft

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PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chairperson Zrelak-Rickman led the pledge of allegiance.

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**MOMENT OF SILENCE/
INVOCATION**

Tom Crowley led the Invocation.

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APPROVAL OF MINUTES-

Regular Meeting of May 21,
2019

- ◆ Vice-Chairperson Hayes moved to approve the minutes for the Regular Meeting of May 21, 2019 as written.
- ◆ Commissioner Chitwood seconded the motion.
- ◆ Motion carried.
- ◆ Vote 5 to 0 in favor of approval of the minutes
- ◆ Commissioner Kobbe moved to approve the minutes for the Regular meeting of June 18, 2019 as written.
- ◆ Commissioner Shield seconded the motion.
- ◆ Motion carried.
- ◆ Vote 5 to 0 in favor of approval of the minutes.

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Regular Meeting of June 18,
2019

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

- ◆ None

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NEW BUSINESS ITEMS

ITEM 1 – Hear a Presentation on Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS) Found in Orange County’s Water Supply
(RECEIVE AND FILE)

- ◆ Tom Crowley introduced Jason Dadakis, Executive Director of Water Quality and Technical Resources for Orange County Water District.
- ◆ Dadakis provided a presentation on Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS) Found in Orange County’s Water Supply.

Questions & Comments

- ◆ Commissioner Chitwood referred to the information in the presentation that discussed other agencies that were likely affected that included a few in the Inland Empire and then jumped up to the Central Coast, and asked why.
- ◆ Vice-Chairperson Hayes asked:
 - If this was phasing out or if it was phased out.
 - If the Rialto Airport area use was at risk for this or would there be an expectation, that testing would need to be done in that area.
 - What happens if a type of treatment was used which resulted in a product, what was done with that product.
- ◆ Vice-Chairperson advised the Commission that the presentation was video recorded and available to anyone who would like a copy.

Action

- ◆ **The Commission received and accepted the presentation.**

ITEM 2 – Recommend City Council/Rialto Utility Authority Approval of the Rialto Utility Authority Fiscal Year 2019/20 Budget
(ACTION ITEM)

- ◆ Crowley reviewed the staff reported and provided a presentation on the item.
- ◆ Crowley advised that he did not include the CPI as this would be taken to the 1st Council meeting in August and would bring that item back to the Commission if Council sets the public hearing.

Questions & Comments

- ◆ Chairperson Zrelak-Rickman asked and discussed the following:
 - What the \$6,000 for Fines, Forfeits and Penalties was based on and who the City would charge those fines to.
 - Why was this not budgeted in the past.
 - What the “Use of Money Income” was.
 - Why there was a decrease in income on the wastewater side and what was that based on.
 - A discussion ensued regarding the current sewer rate issues and what was previously promised for increases.

Action

- ◆ **No motion was stated.**

ITEM 3 – Recommend City Council/Rialto Utility Authority Award a Construction Contract for the Frisbie Park Sewer Lift Station
(ACTION ITEM)

- ◆ Crowley reviewed the staff report and recommendations for the item.

Questions & Comments

- ◆ Commissioner Chitwood asked the following:
 - If the lift station would be on Acacia Avenue.
 - If there was something already there.
 - If there was no possibility of contamination.

- If construction would begin in August.
- During construction, if the park would be closed.
- If the City had any history with Kirtley Construction.
- ◆ Vice-Chairperson Hayes asked if the bidder's knew what the Engineering Estimate was.
 - A discussion ensued regarding what was previously decided for publishing Engineering Estimates and the rules for public vs. private when putting projects out to bid.
- ◆ Commissioner Chitwood asked the following:
 - If all the findings were available to be presented to the Commission to enable a decision.
 - If asking for the Commission's decision tonight as there were still items that were not known.
- ◆ Vice-Chairperson Hayes asked if any adverse information was found with the current company and if found, what would happen.
- ◆ Commissioner Chitwood asked when the next Council meeting was.

Action

- ◆ **Commissioner Kobbe made a motion to recommend to the City Council/Rialto Utility Authority Awarding a Construction Contract for the Frisbie Park Sewer Lift Station.**
- ◆ **Commissioner Shields seconded the motion.**
- ◆ **Motion carried.**
- ◆ **Vote 5 to 0 in favor of approval of the minutes.**

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**ITEM 4 – Veolia's Monthly
Maintenance & Operation
Report
(RECEIVE AND FILE)**

- ◆ Richard Perna reviewed the monthly Wastewater Report.
- ◆ Perna provided current updates for the following items:
 - Four (4) new staff were now on board and working well.
 - Lift station operation working routinely.
 - No residential call-outs in May or June.
 - Received a Notice of Violation for SCAQMD for two (2) issues, provided an explanation on what those issues were and what steps they took to remedy them.
 - July 5th & 6th required sampling of Hydrogen Sulfide (H₂S) in the gas line was not taken and was not reported and what step were taken once discovered.
 - On July 18th there would be a plant shut down just before 9:00 a.m. and would be diverting the flow into the equalization basins.
 - Introduced Kayla Ochoa the new Lab Coordinator who was attending the SAWPA and SARDA meeting for Veolia.
- ◆ David Terry provided an update on the following:
 - Exercising of valves in residential areas.
 - Focusing on the flushing program for dead ends.
 - Completing the PFOA-OS testing on Rialto 05.
 - A discussion ensued regarding carbon and its efficiency.
- ◆ Robert Lee provided an update on the following:
 - Monthly Customer Service and Water report.
 - Currently one (1) Customer Service Agent vacancy, which could affect the stats and was looking for a replacement.
 - Submitted \$1.2M in tax rolls, for sewer, to Willdan who would file that with the County of San Bernardino.

- Percentage of customers paying over the phone vs. online.
- The question by Chairperson Zrelak-Rickman's from June's meeting regarding "Unapplied Credits."
- ◆ CV provided an update on the following FIP projects:
 - W6 – City Well 2 Project
 - S1 – Wastewater Treatment Plant Improvements

Questions

- ◆ Concerning the CCT Camera project, Vice-Chairperson Hayes asked Perna how far Veolia was in terms of finishing the entire system for the first time.
- ◆ Vice-Chairperson Hayes asked Terry how the "GYM" class for the valves was going.
- ◆ Concerning the testing, Crowley asked if the source was at the well.
 - A discussion ensued regarding the detection levels in other cities and treatment.
- ◆ Commissioner Chitwood asked Terry:
 - What Ergonomics Industrial H & S training covered.
 - What did the chemical calcium hypo chloride do
 - Would that chemical affect the taste.
 - Why was the chemical found more during certain times of the year.
- ◆ Vice-Chairperson Hayes asked Terry:
 - How minor leaks were fixed and if they were clamped.
 - When a repair was necessary and chlorination was needed, do those tablets count or was that a separate chemical process that counts differently.
 - If some of the excess reported in April, comes from repairs.
- ◆ Concerning vacancies, Vice-Chairperson Hayes asked Lee if RWS hires temps.

Action

- ◆ **The Commission received and accepted the report.**

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OLD BUSINESS

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Item 1 - Previous Discussion Updates

- ◆ Susanne Wilcox advised that the question from the Customer Services report from the July meeting was responded to by Mr. Lee in his report.

Item 2 - To Do List

- ◆ The To Do List was reviewed and discussed.

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UTILITIES MANAGER UPDATES

- ◆ Wilcox discussed the 13th Annual San Bernardino County Water Conference, which would be held on August 9, 2019 at the Double Tree Hotel in Ontario, CA. She advised that she needs a list of which Commissioner's would like to attend by July 17, 2019 and would follow up with an email to the Commission before then.

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COMMISSIONER'S REPORT

- ◆ None.

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ADJOURNMENT

- ◆ Commissioner Shields made a motion to adjourn the meeting.

- ◆ Vice-Chairperson Hayes seconded motion.
- ◆ Motion Carried.
- ◆ Meeting adjourned at 7:59 P.M.