



**CITY OF RIALTO  
REGULAR MEETING OF THE UTILITIES COMMISSION  
MAY 18, 2021 - 6:00 P.M.  
MINUTES**

In compliance with social distancing protocols, the Regular meeting of the Utilities Commission of the City of Rialto was held from remote locations via teleconference within the guidelines of Governor Newsom's Executive Order N-29-20 on Tuesday, May 18, 2021.

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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 Chairperson Hayes called the meeting to order at 6:03 P.M.

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**ROLL CALL**

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

**Present:**

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

**Absent:**

Chairperson Barbara Zrelak-Rickman

**City Staff Present:**

Tom Crowley, Susanne Wilcox, Amy Crow, and Dayan Malfavon.

**Also Present:**

Rolf Ohlemutz, Chandrasekar Venkatraman (CV), Richard Perna, Robert Lee, David Terry, Marlon Brosco, and Stephanie Valencia.

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**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Commissioner Kobbe led the pledge of allegiance.

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**INVOCATION**

Commissioner Chitwood led the Invocation.

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**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

- ◆ Commissioner Chitwood moved to approve the minutes for the Regular Meeting of March 16, 2021 as written.
- ◆ Commissioner Shields seconded the motion.
- ◆ Motion carried.
- ◆ Vote: 4 to 0 in favor of approval of the minutes as written.
- ◆ Commissioner Chitwood moved to approve the minutes for the Regular Meeting of April 20, 2021 as written.
- ◆ Commissioner Shields seconded the motion.
- ◆ Motion carried.
- ◆ Vote: 4 to 0 in favor of approval of the minutes as written.

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## **ORAL COMMUNICATIONS**

- ◆ Vice- Chairperson Hayes asked if there were any oral communications from the public not on the agenda. There were none.

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## **NEW BUSINESS ITEMS**

**ITEM 1-** Monthly Activity Report for  
City of Rialto Waste Management  
Services- April  
**(RECEIVE AND FILE)**

- ◆ Amy Crow briefly reviewed the monthly Waste Management Report.
- ◆ Crow reviewed the tonnage, scavenger report, and special collection.

### **Questions & Comments**

- ◆ There were none

### **Action**

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

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**ITEM 2-** Monthly Activity Report for  
City of Rialto Waste Management  
Services- May  
**(RECEIVE AND FILE)**

- ◆ Amy Crow reviewed the monthly Waste Management Report.
- ◆ Crow reviewed the tonnage, scavenger report, and special collection.
- ◆ Crow informed the Commission that the County of San Bernardino is having difficulties obtaining sharps containers possibly due to a plastic shortage.

### **Questions & Comments**

- ◆ Chitwood asked when the next Community Clean-Up date is.

### **Action**

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

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**ITEM 3-** Rialto Utility Commission  
Programs and Compliance Updates  
**(RECEIVE AND FILE)**

- ◆ Richard Niño reviewed the PowerPoint presentation on “Programs and Compliance Updates” for the Food Recycling Pilot Program.
- ◆ A discussion ensued regarding the requirements and enforcement of the Food Recycling Program.
- ◆ A conversation ensued regarding the organics waste collection bags in terms of durability

### **Questions & Comments**

- ◆ Commissioner Kobbe asked Niño when the pilot program will be updated based on the study.
- ◆ Commissioner Kobbe asked Niño if there were other local cities participating in the organics waste pilot program.
- ◆ Vice-Chairperson Hayes asked Niño how much data was provided in the outreach flyers mailed out to residents.
- ◆ Commissioner Kobbe asked Niño if the residents will be provided a fourth container for the organics waste.
- ◆ Vice-Chairperson asked Niño if a customer will have to ensure to leave enough space in the green waste barrel for the organics waste bag.

- ◆ Commissioner Kobbe asked Niño how trash truck drivers would confirm a customer is collecting organic waste and disposing of it as per the program.
- ◆ Commissioner Kobbe asked Niño who would enforce compliance of the organics waste program.
- ◆ Commissioner Chitwood asked Niño what is the criteria for selecting a neighborhood to participate in the organics waste pilot program.
- ◆ Vice-Chairperson Hayes asked Niño how Burrtec knows Commerical customers are not compliant with the Organic Waste Program.
- ◆ Vice-Chairperson Hayes asked Niño to explain what “paper products” are meant to be included in the organic waste vs. what goes in the blue barrell.

#### **Action**

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

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**ITEM 4-** Request Utilities  
Commission to Recommend that  
City Council Approve Municipal  
Solid Waste Collection, Recycling  
and Disposal Service Rates for  
Fiscal Year 2021/2022, Effective  
July 1, 2021.

**(ACTION)**

- ◆ Richard Niño reviewed the PowerPoint presentation on “Annual Rate Review for FY 2021/2022”.
- ◆ A discussion ensued regarding the Franchise fees associated with the rate increases.

#### **Questions & Comments**

- ◆ Vice-Chairperson Hayes asked Crow what AB939 fees for now if it’s only to be utilized for education purposes.
- ◆ Vice-Chairperson Hayes spoke about her concerns with the rate increase
- ◆ Commissioner Chitwood commented he has mixed feelings regarding the proposed rate increase.
- ◆ Commissioner Kobbe asked Niño if Burrtec is still offering bulky item pick-up.

#### **Action**

- ◆ **Commissioner Kobbe made a motioned to recommend that City Council approve Municipal Solid Waste Collection, Recycling and Disposal Service Rates for Fiscal Year 2021/2022, effective July 1, 2021, as presented.**  
**Commissioner Shields seconded the motion.**
- ◆ **Vote: 2 in favor of approval, 2 opposed of the recommendation.**
- ◆ **Motion not approved.**
- ◆ **Revised motion:**
- ◆ **Commissioner Kobbe made a motioned to recommend that City Council approve Municipal Solid Waste Collection, Recycling and Disposal Service Rates for Fiscal Year 2021/2022, effective July 1,**

**2021 with possible reductions or adjustments to the proposed rate.**

- ◆ **Commissioner Shields seconded the motion.**
- ◆ **Vote 4 to 0 in favor of the revised recommendation.**

**ITEM 5-** Recommend the City Council/Rialto Utility Authority Board Receive and File the 2020 Consumer Confidence Report and approve its distribution to the public.  
**(ACTION)**

- ◆ Tom Crowley introduced Stephanie Valencia to review the report.
- ◆ Valencia spoke about the 2020 Annual drinking Water Quality Report (Consumer Confidence Report).

Questions & Comments

- ◆ Commissioner Chitwood asked Valencia if the report will be mailed to the residents.
- ◆ Commissioner Kobbe asked Valencia if the residents will be notified when the report is available for their review on their monthly bill.

Action

- ◆ **Commissioner Chitwood made a motioned to recommend that the City Council/Rialto Utility Authority Board receive and file the 2020 Consumer Confidence Report and approve its distribution to the public.**  
**Commissioner Kobbe seconded the motion.**
- ◆ **Motion carried.**
- ◆ **Vote: 4 to 0 in favor of approval**

**ITEM 6-** Recommend the City Council/Rialto Utility Authority Conduct a Public Hearing to Receive Public Comment Related to the Placement of Sewer Service Charges on the County Property Tax Roll for Delinquent Accounts.  
**(ACTION)**

- ◆ Robert Lee reviewed the staff report with the Commission.

Questions & Comments

- ◆ Vice-Chairperson commented that the lien placement is for sewer accounts that have water accounts with west valley water and fontana water customers.

Action

- ◆ **Commissioner Kobbe made a motioned to recommend that the City Council/Rialto Utility Authority conduct a Public Hearing to receive public comment related to the placement of sewer service charges on the county property tax roll for delinquent accounts.**
- ◆ **Commissioner Chitwood seconded the motion.**
- ◆ **Motion carried.**
- ◆ **Vote: 4 to 0 in favor of approval**

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**ITEM 7-** Veolia's Monthly Maintenance and Operations

- ◆ Lee reviewed the monthly Customer Service Report.
- ◆ Lee informed the Commission about the new billing system.

Report- February  
**(RECEIVE AND FILE)**

- ◆ Perna reviewed the Wastewater Operations Report and provided current updates.
- ◆ Terry provided current updates to the monthly Water Operations.
- ◆ CV provided an update on the following Capital Improvement projects:
  - S1- Wastewater Treatment Plant Improvements Project.
  - Water Meter Replacement Program
  - Billing Sytem Software

Questions & Comments

- ◆ Vice-Chairperson Hayes asked if customers will have to update their information with the new service account number.
- ◆ Commissioner Kobbe asked Terry about the Cascade Pipeline security monitoring measures.

Action

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

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**ITEM 8-** Veolia's Monthly  
Maintenance and Operations  
Report- March  
**(RECEIVE AND FILE)**

- ◆ Lee briefly reviewed the monthly Customer Service Report for the month of March.
- ◆ Perna reviewed the Wastewater Operations Report and provided current updates.
- ◆ Terry provided current updates to the monthly Water Operations.

Questions & Comments

- ◆ There were none.

Action

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

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**OLD BUSINESS**

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**ITEM 1-** Previous Discussion  
Updates

- ◆ There were none.

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**ITEM 2-** To Do List

- ◆ To Do List was discussed
- ◆ Crowley will present the Integrated Regional Urban Water Management Plan to the next regular Utilities Commission meeting for recommendation.

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**UTILITIES MANAGER UPDATES**

- ◆ Crowley informed the Commission that Stephen Dopudja formed his own company, Dopudja Wells Consulting.

- ◆ Crowley stated the Water Subcommittee requested that any remaining scope of work that Dopudja was involved in during his time with West Yost be moved to Dopudja Wells Consulting.
- ◆ Crowley invited the Commission to attend the Building Industry Association (BIA) Annual Southern California Water Conference on August 13, 2021.

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### **COMMISSIONER'S REPORT**

- ◆ Vice-Chairperson Hayes asked Crowley to look into getting a student Commissioner on the Utilities Commission.

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### **ADJOURNMENT**

- ◆ **Commissioner Shields made a motion to adjourn the meeting.**
- ◆ **Commissioner Kobbe seconded motion.**
- ◆ **Motion Carried.**
- ◆ **Meeting adjourned at 8:27 P.M.**