

CUAB MEETING MINUTES
Wednesday, February 6, 2013
Johnson Creek Facility Conference Room
6101 SE Johnson Creek Blvd.

Members Present

Beth Kelland, Chair
Kevin Hasey
Monty Schroeder
Vincent Alvarez, Vice Chair

Staff Present

Gary Parkin, PW Director
Jason Rice, Engineering Manager

Two citizens of Milwaukie were also present to discuss the wastewater rate increase.

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting began at 6:10 p.m.

II. INTRODUCTIONS

III. CONSENT AGENDA

The meeting minutes of the January 9, 2013 meeting were approved.

Public Comment:

The two citizens present to discuss the wastewater rate increase. The issue raised by the first citizen was the fact that the rate increased the most for the low water users. The CUAB members explained that the rate ended up as it did because the treatment cost charged by the County was not based on use for all residential users. Each user paid the same amount regardless of their contributed flow. The CUAB advocated for the rate to retain some usage-based component and it does. However, because of the relative high fixed cost of treatment, the usage-based portion of the new rate comprises a much smaller portion of the overall rate than it previously did.

The second resident had the same issue with the wastewater bill and also asked about the stormwater billing for his duplex. Gary to check and get back to him.

IV. REPORTS

A. Jason Rice gave a preview of the sixth annual SSMP report he will be presenting to Council at their March 5th meeting. The group was shown the progress that has been made by the program in improving the major streets in the City. Jason brought up an issue with needing to bring existing crossings up to ADA requirements when the street surface is repaved. The group noted that transfers from the SSMP fund

seemed high compared to the promise made at the program's start that all funds would go to paying for street surface improvement. The group wanted to provide some indication of their opinion in the report. The following statement will be included in the report under the "Concurrence" section:

The Citizen's Utility Advisory Board (CUAB) received a briefing at their February meeting. The Board remains pleased with the program and the work that has been done. Concern was expressed over the increasing transfer amount leaving the fund. While not questioning the appropriateness of transfers, the program was implemented with a promise to apply funds to pavement maintenance.

B. A brief update on the update of the Stormwater Master Plan was provided by Gary. The report focused on the capital improvement projects recommended by the plan. Brad Albert will return next month (March) to review financial report and ask for CUAB recommendation.

V. DISCUSSION

A. Gary discussed that the Water division would be ramping up its Cross-Connection Program. More attention is needed to move this program to a desired level of service. Currently, Don maintains the program at a minimum level and without proactively surveying for potential cross-connections. With a change in personnel assignments, Don will be able to dedicate more of his time to this important program.

B. Moving the meeting site to PSB was discussed by the group. It was generally felt that the meeting should continue in its present location at JCB. The PSB conference room is too large for the CUAB group and there is more demand for its use.

VI. MATTERS FROM THE BOARD

None.

VII. INFORMATION SHARING

None.

VIII. FUTURE MEETING DATE/AGENDA ITEMS

Next meeting: March 6, 2013 – Casey will report on the billing issues previously raised, Brad will present the financial information from the Stormwater Master Plan.

IX. ADJOURN

The meeting ended at 8:30 p.m.



Beth Kelland, Chair



Gary Parkin, Scribe