

**FORT WORTH WATER DEPARTMENT
WHOLESALE WATER AND WASTEWATER
ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING
TCC SOUTH CAMPUS
(SETC FUSION ROOM-NORTH BUILDING)
5301 CAMPUS DR. FORT WORTH, TEXAS 76119
Wednesday, December 11, 2024
2 p.m.**

<u>The following cities' representatives were present:</u>			
City	Attendee	City	Attendee
Aledo	Luis Gatica	Lake Worth	Absent
Benbrook Water Authority	David Smith/ Eric Morgan	Northlake	Drew Corn
Bethesda Water Supply Corp	Absent	North Richland Hills	Caroline Waggoner/ Boe Blankenship
Blue Mound	Sean Densmore	Pantego	Absent
Burleson	Errick Thompson/ Michelle McCullough	Richland Hills	Absent
Crowley	Randal Manus	River Oaks	Absent
Dalworthington Gardens	Absent	Roanoke	Robby Wallace
DFW Airport	Asciatu Whiteside	Saginaw	Randy Newsom/ Jarred Coursey/ Matt Regan
Edgecliff Village	Present (did not sign in)	Sansom Park	Absent
Everman	Absent	Southlake	Jack Thompson
Forest Hill	Absent	TRA	Kim Probasco
Grand Prairie	Cora Snyder/Noreen Housewright	Trophy Club MUD #1	Mike McMahon
Haltom City	Stormy Johnson	Watauga	Paul Hackleman/ Taylor Alvarez
Haslet	Absent	Westlake	Kyle Flanagan/ Cheryl Taylor
Hudson Oaks	Absent	Westover Hills	Scott Wilson
Hurst	Greg Dickens	Westworth Village	Cody Morse/ Cesar Martinez
Keller	Larry Jones	White Settlement	Larry Hoover/ Brittney Huff
Kennedale	Absent	Willow Park	Michelle Guelker/ Chase McBride/ Gretchen Vazquez

1. Call to Order

Paul Hackleman (Chair) Called the meeting to order.

2. Roll Call

Taylor Alvarez (Secretary) conducted the roll call.

3. Introduction of Water Department Staff and Guests

Chris Harder FW Water Director introduced and identified other Fort Worth city staff present

4. Approval of Minutes

Greg Dickens (Vice-Chair) moved for approval of the meeting Minutes from June 20, 2024 meeting. The meeting minutes were unanimously approved.

5. Impact Fee Update

Presenter: **Matt Kusnir**, FW Sr. Capital Project Officer

Matt reviewed the Impact fee process as governed by Chapter 395 of the Texas Local Government Code.

- For roads, impact fees are confined to city limits (multiple areas).
- For water and wastewater, impact fees can be assessed throughout the ETJ and wholesale customer service area.
- Impact fees can only cover growth-related projects.
- Proposed improvements that will accommodate growth within the next 10 years
 - Treatment Plant, Pump Station and Lift Station, etc.
 - Regional Water & Wastewater Conveyance
 - Raw Water Supply

Impact Fee calculation process:

- Determine the service area, land assumptions and population projections.
- Develop Capital Improvement Plan,
- Once the maximum assessable impact fee is determined we seek the committee's recommendation to present to the City Council.

6. Northside Master Plan Update

- Staff presented project recommendations from the Northside water master plan. Many of these recommendations were incorporated into the impact fee capital improvement plan.
- Projects included are the Eagle Mountain WTP Expansion Project, a ground storage tank, two elevated storage tanks, and transmission mains.

7. Water Conservation Efforts

Presenter: **Chris Harder**, FW Water Director

Presenter: **Micah Reed**, FW Conservation Manager

- The City of Fort Worth adopted an irrigation ordinance and penalties for violations. The irrigation ordinance has been in place since 2014, and Fort Worth's focus was on educational efforts for the public and customers to use irrigation systems responsibly.
- The wholesale water contracts require our wholesale water customers to adopt City of Fort Worth's mandatory water conservation practices.
- From July 2024 until December 2024, Fort Worth documented 260,000 irrigation violations.
- FW initiated notifications of violations through text, post cards and online presence.
- Enforcement of commercial dedicated irrigation meters is a high priority.
- FW anticipates fees being assessed on bills starting in 2025.

8. PFAS Update

Presenter: **Chris Harder** FW Water Director

Presenter: **Jerry Pressley** FW Assistant Water Director

- While drinking water rules have been established, we anticipate rule-making activity impacting wastewater biosolids, and stream standards in the future.
- Fort Worth amended their pre-treatment ordinance to include numerical limits for PFAS in 2024.
- Sampling is on-going in the wastewater collection system to determine point sources that contain high PFAS levels.
- We anticipate a biosolids risk assessment to be released by the EPA shortly, which may impact future rules related to biosolids land application.
- States that have implemented biosolids rules related to PFAS have seen a dramatic reduction in PFAS concentrations in biosolids.

9. Lead and Copper Rule Revisions/ Lead & Copper Rule Improvements Update

Presenter: **Stacy Walters** FW Regulatory & Environmental Administrator

- We met the compliance requirements for the Revised Lead and Copper Rule, which included submitting our initial inventory by Oct. 16, 2024, and providing notices to customers with services designated as galvanized-requiring-replacement. The submitted inventory did not have any service lines classified as lead or unknown.
- A summary of Fort Worth's initial inventory submitted consisted of 32,590 customer-owned galvanized-requiring-replacement connections and 268,188 non-lead customer-owned service lines for a total of 300,778 connections.

The Lead Copper Rule Improvements rule is effective on Nov. 1, 2027. Those requirements include:

- Submitting a baseline inventory by effective date.
- Having a corrosion control plan.
- Classifying water line and meter replacements as a disturbance and requiring customer outreach.
- Communicating with the public in a wide variety of circumstances is a huge piece of this rule.
- Requiring school and childcare facility testing.
- Requiring replacement of all lead and GRR service lines by 2037 and eliminating all "unknown" classified service lines.
- Reducing the lead action level to 10 ppb.
- Requiring labs analyze both the 1st and 5th liter samples for lead, using the highest results for compliance.
- Requiring utilities add lead connectors to the inventory.
- Requiring making pitcher filters or point-of-use filters available to all customers if a utility has greater than three action-level exceedances in five years.
- Implementing a new standard of "reasonable effort" for attempting to engage customers in service line replacement.

10. Winter Weather/EPP Updates

Presenter: **Mary Gugliuzza** FW Media Relations/ Communications

- Emergency Preparedness Plan Updates
 - Plans were required after the winter of 2021.

- The two 2.5 MW backup generators at the Westside Water Treatment Plant are operational. The pump station enclosures at Westside WTP and Eagle Mountain WTP are complete.
- The other plant and pump station improvements are in progress. In many cases, we are still waiting on delivery of generators, which is projected for Fall of 2025.
- At the Eagle Mountain WTP, we provided an Oncor easement for an electrical substation and entered a service agreement with Oncor for electrical infrastructure and equipment.
- Overall, Fort Worth is adding about 20 megawatts of backup power to the water system at a cost of about \$80 million.

11. Subcommittee for FY2026 Rate Study Selection Committee

Presenter: **Brian Brown** FW Assistant Water Director

- An outside consultant will perform the FY206 wholesale wastewater rates study, and in-house staff will conduct the water study.
- Brian outlined the proposed schedule for the rate-study process and sub-committee meetings.
- Subcommittee members are the same from two years ago. If anyone wants to be added or removed, contact Water Wholesale at WaterWholesale@fortworthtexas.gov by January 15, 2025.

12. Election of Officers

Presenter: **Paul Hackleman (Chair)**

Election of officers

- David Smith (Benbrook Water Authority) was nominated as Secretary; no other nominations, unanimously approved.
- Luis Gatica (Aledo) was nominated as Vice Chair; no other nominations, unanimously approved.
- Paul Hackleman nominated Taylor Alvarez (Watauga) for Chair; no other nominations, unanimously approved.

13. Future Agenda Items and Comments

- Any other items let the City of Fort Worth know now, or through this email system

Please forward any items you may wish to have on the June meeting agenda to Water Wholesale at WaterWholesale@fortworthtexas.gov.

- Future agenda item: Fluoride briefing related to ruling in Food and Water Watch vs. EPA.
- If you work at a utility and want to be involved with the Texas Section AWWA Water Utility Council, you can email your contact information to Mary G. or Stacy.

14. Adjourn