

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 *Thursday, December7*, 2023
2 p.m.

AGENDA

Paul Hackleman(Chair)

Call to Order

1.

City of Watauga 2. Roll Call Taylor Alvarez (Secretary) City of Watauga 3. Introduction of Water Department **Chris Harder** Staff and Guests FW Water Director Approval of Minutes **Greg Dickens** (Vice-Chair) 4. Minutes of June 7, 2023 meeting City of Hurst Minutes of Special Meeting on Nov. 15, 2023 5. PFAS Settlements Recap Chris Harder FW Water Director 6. Lead and Copper Rule Update **Stacy Walters** FW Regulatory & Environmental Administrator 7. TCEQ Water Inspection Results James McDonald FW Sr. Capital Project Officer

8. Northside Water System Capacity Improvements

Chris Harder
FW Water Director

9. Emergency Preparedness Plan Update

Chris Harder
FW Water Director

Jerry Pressley

10. Drought/Emergency Water Management and Plan And Conservation Plan Updates

r w water Director

and Conservation Plan Updates FW Assistant Director

11. Low-interest loans, grant applications and bond refunding

FW Finance Manager

12. Cost of Service and Rate Study for FY2025 rates

Kristen Nutter

Matt Thurber

FW Sr. Utility Rate Analyst

13. AWWA Memberships

Mary Gugliuzza
FW Media Relations/

Communications

14. Texas WaterTM 2024

Mary Gugliuzza
FW Media Relations/
Communications

15. Future Agenda Items and Comments
Please forward any items you may wish to have on the June meeting agenda to Water Wholesale at Water Wholesale @fortworthtexas.gov.

16. Adjourn

FORT WORTH WATER DEPARTMENT WHOLESALE WATER AND WASTEWATER ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

AMON CARTER CENTER AT LENA POPE 3200 SANGUINET ST. FORT WORTH, TEXAS 76107

Wednesday, June 7th, 2023 2:00 p.m.

The following cities' representatives were present:				
City	Attendee	City	Attendee	
Aledo	Luis Gatica	Lake Worth	Absent	
Benbrook Water Authority	David Smith	Northlake	Eric Tamayo	
Bethesda Water Supply Corp	Absent	North Richland Hills	Karen Manila/Caroline Waggoner	
Blue Mound	Absent	Pantego	Absent	
Burleson	Kevin North	Richland Hills	Kelly Morris/Kip Dernovich	
Crowley	Randal Manus/Matt Elgin	River Oaks	John Paul Jones	
Dalworthington Gardens	Kay Day	Roanoke	Robby Wallace	
DFW Airport	Brian Yancy	Saginaw	Absent	
Edgecliff Village	Joe Sloan	Sansom Park	Absent	
Everman	Absent	Southlake	Jack Thompson	
Forest Hill	Absent	TRA	John Bennett/Kim Probasco	
Grand Prairie	Cora Snyder	Trophy Club MUD #1	Mike McMahon	
Haltom City	Greg Van Nieuwenhuize	Watauga	Paul Hackleman/Taylor Alvarez	
Haslet	Absent	Westlake	Absent	
Hudson Oaks	Hayden Brodowsky	Westover Hills	Absent	
Hurst	Greg Dickens	Westworth Village	Cesar Martinez/Cody Morse	
Keller	Larry Jones	White Settlement	Larry Hoover	
Kennedale	Absent	Willow Park	Michelle Guelker	

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 Doug Black (FW Attorney) and identified other staff present.

4. Approval of Minutes

Greg Dickens moved for approval of the meeting minutes from December 01, 2022. Taylor Alvarez seconded the motion. The meeting minutes were unanimously approved.

5. Operational Reports

a. Plant Operations - Water Operations

Presenter: Shannon Dunne (FW Asst. Water Director)

- FW is about where we were last year. A lot of work has been done during the winter for stress testing.
- Projects have been finished.
- Tanks have been cleaned and the full system is up and running.
- The treatment plants are ready for summer.
- Chemical prices are stabilized.
- Pumps have been replaced and repaired at the lift stations as well as internal work to ensure everything is running well.
- Overall feel that we are in a better position this year than the prior year.

b. Plant Operations – Wastewater Operations

Presenter: Shannon Dunne (FW Asst. Water Director)

- Update on a couple of projects.
- A lot of work has been done at Village Creek. The thickening job has been used for about 3 months. There have been big improvements with the thickening of the sludge and going into the pellets program.
- Testing is being done on the grit project with hopes to have in operation by the end of the month to pull a lot of the grit out.
- The lift station is a little behind, but the walls are poured with all equipment being delivered so there are no delays expected.
- Diging has been started on the digester project about two months ago.
- The bio gas line from Village Creek to the dryer was awarded to have a notice to proceed soon. This is a good project that gives a lot of options.
- Primary clarifier is a very good project, a kickoff meeting design occurred and should take about a year which will make huge improvements
- All projects are moving along and going well on the wastewater side.

c. Field Operations: Roy Teal (FW Asst. Water Director)

- Update on the distribution and collection systems:
 - Preparing for summer breaks by making sure we have items to repair leaks and breaks in the system in the warehouse.
 - Staffing level have been successful with filling vacancies with the partnership of Human Resources.
 - O Due to the vacancies, there was an effect on service levels with a lot of leaks in the system without repair.
 - o FW leveraged the use of contractors to supplement staff to reduce leaks. FW utilized different sections from the division for assistance.

o Proactive survey group is focused on the large transmission lines to survey and search for leaks with leak detection equipment.

• Overall Operations:

- Supply chain issues with vendor availability with some leak times that have decreased.
 FW has had to reach out to vendors with whom there is no agreement with for assistance.
- FW is leaning on cooperative agreements for water pipe repairs, brass fittings, irrigation repair and barricades.

6. Cost of Service and Rate Study Schedule for FY2024

Presenter: Matt Thurber (FW Sr. Administrative Services Manager)

- In December 2022, FW met with the committee to inform of a rate change and per the contract staff would perform the wastewater wholesale cost of service study with a consultant doing the water wholesale cost of service study.
- An RFP was advertised in January 2023 for water services and the sub-committee met on February 16th selected New Gen as the consultant to perform the study.
- A contract was executed and in April the work had started. In May 2023 FW met with the sub-committee and presented a preliminary cost of service study.
- FW submitted the budget and will provide a report for comments after the meeting with 30 days to submit comment and will be provided no later than July 11th.
- FW will continue to track changes for the rest of the summer.
- The cost of service study is completed the same by Fort Worth and the consultant for the calculations.
- Wastewater calculation factors include flows and strengths, while water includes peaking factors and volumes.

a. Cost of Service - Water Rates

Presenter: Dave Yanke (Consultant New Gen)

- Overview Rate Process:
 - New Gen was selected to perform the review of the cost of service study for fiscal year 2024.
 - o The data being reviewed is the cost data from fiscal years 2021 and 2022.
 - Actual cost and volumes from fiscal year 2022 are used and the cost is adjusted for measurable changes to come up with the cost for fiscal year 2024.
 - o Fiscal year 2022 actual volumes are used for the rate calculations.
 - O Due to it being a very dry year, there are big changes in the consumption.
 - o The utility basis is used for the rate process.
 - O Components used are the cash basis and utility basis. Per the contract it is the same consistent methodology being utilized.
 - The fiscal year 2022 adjusted for know and measurable changes to determine what the total revenue requirement is.
 - O The revenue requirement is made of operation and maintenance cost, return on rate base (assets), rate of return (embedded cost to capital), depreciation expenses included which is based on the useful life of the asset and treated as an expense.
 - o The utility has to be constantly replacing and upgrading to keep the system current.
 - o Finally, the street, rental, franchise fees and payment in lieu of taxes and pilot.

- o The period of time being reviewed is the actual dollars spent for fiscal year 2022 October 1 through September 30 2022 to determine the revenue requirement.
- The cost is broken down by what is water treatment, water transmission the different components used by retail customers and wholesale customers.
- o Allocation is important to only what is used not used by retail customers.
- Cost classification goes to base and capacity cost. If the Wholesale customers do not have a
 big increase in the max hour as the retail customers then the cost should not share in the
 rates.
- The Water Revenue Requirement includes the O&M cost, return on rate base, depreciation, street rental franchise fee pilot which adds up to the revenue requirement.
- The components are allocated to treatment, pumping, distribution, meters and billing.
 Specifically, for Wholesale customers is the treatment, pumping and the component of distribution that is transmission related.
- O Per the contract, cost is shared for the transmission lines that are 16 inches and greater. A metering standpoint of a \$25.00 a month fee.
- O&M standpoint the key factors being reviewed are the people's salaries, benefits, the utilities supplies and other services.
- The fiscal year 2022 actual expenditures is 335 million dollars. There is about 25 million of increases or known and measurable adjustments made for various programs in O&M cost due to contracts that are related to the increased cost for services. Some are related to the salaries and benefits as part of the retention program.
- O Total cost is about an 8 percent increase due to inflation. There was a 30 million dollar adjustment related to a 2021 cash capital adjustment. The utility normally spends about 40 million on the water side with capital outlay and about 75 million in capital outlays in fiscal year 2021.
- o In fiscal year 2022 the actual cost is 40 million so there is an adjustment. The actual cost that occurred that are being shared in is about an 8 percent overall increase in the O&M related components or 9.4 percent.
- The Wholesale customer portion goes from 17 million dollars in fiscal year 2023 to about 18.6 million. A 9.4 percent increase for the O&M.
- O Rate base component original cost has the depreciation subtracted and developer contributions, grants or anything not funded through user fees. They are all not included in the rate base. The rate of return on the rate base is the interest payments or cost of debt for the water utility plus the risk premium of 1 ½ percent or 150 basis points. This is a risk premium for the rick associated with being a Wholesale provider from a legal standpoint regulatory operational.
- O The total debt service has gone from 321 million to 350 million with interest going up slightly and cost of debt going from 4 percent to 4.12, An increase of only 12 basis points, which is overall good.
- Return on rate base that was calculated is 5.62 percent an increase of 12 basis points. The rate is then calculated based on the rate base. The portion of the base that the Wholesale water customers share went from 7.9 million to 7 million dollars.
- Wholesale standpoint down about 11 percent. Some is related on how you see it in the max hour, but much less than the retail side.
- O Depreciation follows the rate base and it is the expenditure of the assets that are being used. There is an 8 percent decrease on this as well.
- Water allocation factors are the volume (total annual usage), max day and max hour. The cost are then allocated based on this.

- The max hour was down about 53 percent on how the cost gets allocated. The max hour should not be peaking off the Fort Worth system. This was caused due to a dry year.
- O The Wholesale system grew by 18.5 percent and the system by 13.7. Overall Wholesale went from 21 million to 25 million gallons, an increase of 4 million. As a result, the percentage of total water used on the system went from 30.27 to 31.57.
- o The Wholesale customers percent of the total water taken with growth that is occurring is in the 35 percentage. The total consumption was more in 2013 due to very dry weather.
- Max day for the system increased from 96.3 MG to 124.7 MG. This is bout a 30 percent increase in the max day. The overall system from 2023 to 2024 increased by 100 MG. The max day has decreased as a percentage of the system which means a percentage of the cost decreases.
- o Max Hour allocation decreased 53 percent.
- The rates are based on the 2022 actual data when a lot of water was sold. On average a decrease of 4.2 percent in the volume metric rate.

b. Cost of Service - Wastewater Rates

Presenter: Kristen Nutter (FW Sr. Utility Rate Analyst)

- The revenue requirements for wastewater rates are based on the utility basis. The historical test year of fiscal year 2022 was utilized.
- They are adjusted for the known and measurable changes to determine what the total revenue requirements are.
- The components of the utility basis are operations, maintenance, return on rate base, depreciation expense, street rental and pilot.
- The methodology uses the actual wastewater billing and actual dollars related to wastewater cost for fiscal year 2022. The 5 steps are the same as water with the exception of step 2 which would be functionalizing the items for wastewater treatment and wastewater collection. Cost classifications would be for flows and strengths.
- Wholesale revenue requirements include operation, maintenance, return on rate base, depreciation, street rental, franchise fee, pilot and other expenses.
- The test year of 2022 is utilized and broken down into classifications of people cost, utility supplies and other services related to wastewater. There will be known and measurable changes related to wastewater to come up with the 2024 budget.
- The overall operation and maintenance for the wastewater system has a revenue requirement of 242 million dollars for the 2024 budget. There is an increase of 9 percent with an actual cost that is Wholesales portion of the operation maintenance for 2024 is 22 million 741 thousand 424.
- The calculation for the return on rate base used is the same process to include items related to wastewater and collection less any contributions, impact fees, depreciation, plus any work in progress and work in capital allowance.
- The rate of return calculation is similar to water with the interest payments divided by the outstanding principal for debt related to wastewater plus a 1.5 percent risk factor that gives the rate base to multiply by the rate of return.
- In comparison with 2023 and 2024, the outstanding principal has increased along with the interest due and the embedded cost of debt bringing the total return on rate base to 4.73 percent for wholesale wastewater. There was an increase for the return on rate base of 9.8 percent.
- Depreciation expense has also increased of 4.8 percent with the asset growing as the wastewater system grows.
- Allocation factors related to the wastewater system are the flows, strengths, volume, BOD and TSS. In comparison with 2024 to 2023, it shows the system is stable. From 2022 to 2023 there was a

decrease and stability with how much is allocated. The system had about 45 MG of flow and reduced last year to 41 MG. It is a 6.3 percent decrease with a slight increase in the share for volumes.

- BOD vs Allocation factors have decreased for the Wholesale portion about 5.3 percent while the system slightly increased. The Wholesale cost portion has also decreased for TSS.
- Proposed rates variances have increased as a direct result of the revenue requirements increasing causing the per unit cost to increase. The actuals for 2022 were utilized with the current rate so that revenue can be generated for Fort Worth to cover cost needed to take care of flows and providing the strengths needed for processing the wastewater.

7. Lead and Copper Rule Update

Presenter: Stacy Walters (FW Regulatory and Environmental Administrator)

- The rule was effective in 2021, compliance is due October 16th, 2024.
- In preparation of compliance, FW must have a list of schools and child care facilities in the service area. Schools have been built prior to January 1st, 2014. Schools built after that date do not need monitoring.
- Inventory regardless of size will need to be submitted to TCEQ on or before October 16th 2024. The inventory must contain the service material on the private side as well as the public side.
- A lead service replacement plan must be in place and certified prior to submitting to TCEQ.
- Once service requirement has been met for TCEQ, the annual updates need to be completed by 2025.

8. PFAS

Presenter: Stacy Walters (FW Regulatory and Environmental Administrator) and Chris Harder (FW Water Director)

• Drinking water side:

- o PFAS rule requires FW to monitor 29 PFAS for drinking water. The two methods used for drinking water is EPA 533 and 537.1.
- FW monitors entry points for all treatment systems in 5 treatment plants. Monitoring occurred in January, April and the next scheduled monitoring is in July. Four quarters of monitoring is the requirement. Initial monitoring will begin within 3 years for the program.
- o PFAS rule requirements monitoring schedule depending on the system is quarterly for a 12 month period. Depending on the initial monitoring and what the results are, you may go into a reduced monitoring. If the system serves 3,000 customers, the 2 samples in 1 calendar year at least 90 apart from the 3 year compliance period. If the system serves less than 3,000 customers it is 1 sample per 3 year compliance period.
- O The proposed MCL from EPA is for PPT. The PFOA and PFAS has a 4 PPT proposed MCL with the other 4 PFAS and has a 1 hazard index. The enforced proposal for drinking water is 4 PPT. The monitoring requirement depending on the previous sampling will determine the reduced monitoring. Reduced monitoring requirements may be applicable if the trigger level requirements are met based on the system.
- O Public notification requirement for PFAS is 30 days once PFAS levels are discovered above standard. The results must be included in the consumer confidence report.
- FW is currently sampling with PFAS information set up in the website with results. FW submitted a project information form to the water development board for planning assistance.
- o FW does intend to work on a plan for testing.

• Wastewater side:

- The common denominator in both programs is testing to know if it is being discovered in the effluent, wastewater facility, as well as the drinking water plants to understand what levels are being produced after treatment.
- Sampling in the collection will also occur with the water development board as well for industrial and Wholesale customers. If there are any findings the customer will be contacted and FW will figure out where it is getting into the source.

9. Proposed Changes to CCR Rule

Presenter: Mary Gugliuzza (FW Media Relations/Communications Coordinator)

- The rule will take affect a year after the final rule is published which is anticipated to be in early 2024.
- To improve readability, clarity and understanding the revised definitions have been added to include in the reports.
- Information presented must be in a clear and understandable manner for consumers. A summary must be added to the beginning of the reports.
- If you serve more than 10,000 people, this applies. The first report has to be out by July 1st and the second report between July 1st through December 31st. The reporting is done twice. If there is a violation or action level exceedance, receive UCMR results between January 1st through June 30th, a supplement to the report must be included with the additional information with specifics.
- Corrosion control efforts the system is taking is being sent out as part of the report.
- If you serve over 100,000 people, a plan has to be developed for access to the reports for limited English proficient customers. The language must be evaluated for the English proficient customers served and how they will be receiving the report.
- The anticipation is that this starts with the reporting scheduled to go out in 2025.
- Everyone needs to be aware that changes will need to be made to the annual water quality reports.

10. Texas 811 Presentation

Presenter: Mark Shell (FW Technical Services Coordinator)

- The program started in 2010 along with a pilot program.
- Due to gas production sky rocketing. It caused hits and FW joined Texas 811.
- Line locates are for Raw, Potable, Sewer and Reclaimed.
- Excavation cost as a utility owner currently cost \$0.95 cents a ticket and will increase to\$1.15 in January.
- FW is currently spending \$160,000.00 a year on cost for just receiving the tickets and is free to the excavators.
- FW is utilizing a legacy software system due to being a best priced option for processing tickets at .13 cents a ticket. Maximo is the work order system.
- Due to staffing shortages, there are only 9 locators available.
- There is currently about 14,000 requests received monthly with only about 9 staff available to assist.
- FW averaged 22 hits overall per year with only 6 being the fault of FW.
- Numerous requests for locates received by FW, it is 4 out of every 100,000 request there is a hit for poor locates. This is a good number to be in.
- There are great results in the ability to back bill when someone hits a line that is marked correctly.
- To join 811 as a utility owner, you can contact them directly 811 or Mark Shell at 817-944-3718 for assistance.

11. Emergency Preparedness Plan Update (SB3)

Presenter: Tony Sholola (FW Assistant Water Director)

- The plan was submitted to TCEQ for approval. The plan was accepted and approved by TCEQ.
- Projects identified include Westside Water Treatment Plant generators with construction being at 30 percent complete, Backup generators at 4 pump stations (Como, Eastside, Alta Mesa, Edwards Ranch) Holly North and South backup generators with design at 90 percent complete, Holly Mountain Water Treatment Pump Station, Eagle Mountain Raw Water Pump Station is back up (future project) and enclosure projects at both the Westside/Eagle Mountain Treatment Plant.
- Project are going along nicely as planned.

12. LIHWAP Funding Update and Customer Assistance Summary

a. Low Income Housing Water Assistance Program

Presenter: Jerry Pressley (FW Assistant Water Director)

- The program was modeled after the low income household electrical assistance program to benefit the customers and utility.
- Helps to keep the customers out of delinquency and keep their water service on.

b. LIHWAP Program

Presenter: Sonia Singleton (FW Assistant Neighborhood Services Director)

- The program has had a big impact on the community.
- To become part of the program and you serve Tarrant County, the City of Fort Worth is the contact. If you serve any other counties, Texoma Council Governments and Texas Neighborhood Services agencies serve the other counties.
- To participate and if you are working with the City of Fort Worth to get payment, you have to sign up as a bidder. An application must be submitted along with the requested documents.
- The program only serves US citizens or legal residents. Verification of income must also be provided.
- The program is for people who are living at 150 percent of the federal poverty guidelines.
 - o Pays past due balances
 - o Reconnect charges, fees and penalties assessed
- The anticipation is that there will be funding leftover for assistance for customers that have applied by September 30th and benefit from the program.

c. LIHWAP Program Values

Presenter: Peggy Miller (FW Water Customer Relations Manager)

- There has been around 3,495 customers that have received assistance.
- Equates to 1.4 million dollars since June of last year.
- This program is all about the customers.
- The delinquency rate during COVID was at 15 percent with a target goal of 7 percent. The current year to date is at 3.11 percent.
- If a customer has had services disconnected for non-payment, the customers are contacted within 3 days to offer assistance and make aware of the programs available.
- Overall this has helped with the customer experience, customer assistance and most important customer satisfaction.

13. CY 22 Water Audit Results and Water Accounting Improvements

Presenter: Micah Reed (FW Water Conservation Manager)

- Texas Water Development Board requires a water loss audit to be turned in yearly by May 1st.
- The board reviews the data and expects good information to be received.
- Improvements:
 - o Assessment Scale
 - o AWWA tools
 - o Cross functional team for water loss management
 - Data collection and validation (AMI program, MyH20, Meter Data Management, Customer Portal)
- Benefits of the AMI system include:
 - o Accurate, consistent and repeatable data
 - o Authorized consumption
 - Unauthorized consumption
 - Water Loss
 - o Meter reading errors
 - o High level of confidence in reporting
 - o Clear, reliable and repeatable data
- Future Improvements for Water Loss:
 - o Fully automating data
 - o District metering
 - o Customer side issues prevention

14. Future Agenda Items and Comments

Please forward any future agenda items to WaterWholesale@FortWorthTexas.gov

15. Adjourn

FORT WORTH WATER DEPARTMENT WHOLESALE WATER AND WASTEWATER ADVISORY COMMITTEE SPECIAL MEETING

Virtual on Teams

Wednesday, November 15, 2023 10:00 a.m.

The following cities' representatives were present:				
City	Attendee	City	Attendee	
Aledo	Luis Gatica	Lake Worth	Mike Shelley	
Benbrook Water Authority	David Smith Rhett Clark	Northlake	Drew Corn Eric Tamayo	
Bethesda Water Supply Corp	Chad Crafton	North Richland Hills	Caroline Waggoner	
Blue Mound	Sean Densmore	Pantego	Absent	
Burleson	Kevin North	Richland Hills	Kip Dernovich	
Crowley	Matt Elgin	River Oaks	Marvin Gregory John Paul Jones	
Dalworthington Gardens	Absent	Roanoke	Sean Wilkinson	
DFW Airport	Tommy Uptmore Asciatu Whiteside	Saginaw	Absent	
Edgecliff Village	Absent	Sansom Park	Absent	
Everman	Mayor Ray Richardson	Southlake	Absent	
Forest Hill	Absent	TRA	Kim Probasco	
Grand Prairie	Noreen Housewright Jody Cason	Trophy Club MUD #1	Mike McMahon Alan Fourmentin	
Haltom City	Greg Van Nieuwenhuize	Watauga	Paul Hackleman Taylor Alvarez	
Haslet	David Rogers	Westlake	Kyle Flanagan Wade Carroll	
Hudson Oaks	Sterling Naron	Westover Hills	Tim Chambers	
Hurst	Greg Dickens Duane Hengst	Westworth Village	Cody Morse	
Keller	Larry Jones Alonzo Linan	White Settlement	Larry Hoover	
Kennedale	Kristian Sugrim	Willow Park	Michelle Guelker	

1. Call to Order

Paul Hackleman (Chair) called the meeting to order.

2. Discussion about PFAS Class-Action Lawsuit Settlements with 3M and Dupont

Chris Harder (FW Water Director) started the meeting by reviewing draft or pending regulations related to PFAS, affecting drinking water, CERCLA designations and waste disposal, and industrial pre-treatment requirements.

The discussion then shifted to the two class-action settlements related to PFAS contamination that are pending, one with Dupont and one with 3M.

Each qualifying water utility will be required to determine whether to opt in or opt out of the settlements. Opting in does not require any action – no response is equivalent to opting in. Opting out requires an affirmative action.

The deadline for these decisions is December 4, 2023 for the Dupont Settlement, and December 11, 2023 for the 3M Settlement.

Harder reviewed the reasoning and justification behind Fort Worth's staff recommendation to opt out of the settlement, which Fort Worth City Council would decide at the November 28th City Council meeting.

Harder stated that Fort Worth decided to hold this special meeting to ensure that our wholesale customers were briefed on proposed PFAS regulations, details and deadlines related to the class action settlements, and the course of action Fort Worth is planning related to the settlement decision.

Harder then addressed the issue of inter-connected systems. Since Fort Worth is responsible for treatment of the water provided to our wholesale customers, if Fort Worth is the customers sole source for potable water it may not make sense to opt in if Fort Worth is opting out. However, it was recognized that many of Fort Worth's customers have groundwater supplies as well as alternative surface water supplies. Those customers should make an independent decision based on what is best for their situation, and are encouraged to engage their legal counsel in that decision. However, for those customers who plan on opting in to the settlements, Fort Worth will be requesting that they eventually sign a MOU (a template of the MOU was provided prior to the meeting) that would exclude the water supply provided by Fort Worth from their future settlement claim. This process would occur after the deadlines related to the settlements have passed, but prior to the claim applications.

Harder's presentation was followed by a brief question and answer period.

3. Adjourn

Paul Hackleman (Chair) adjourned the meeting.