

MINUTES OF THE
MARICOPA ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS
WATER QUALITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

Tuesday, June 11, 2002
MAG Office Building
Phoenix, Arizona

MEMBERS ATTENDING

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| Roger Klingler, Scottsdale, Chairman | Phoenix: Robert Hollander |
| *Avondale: Esmeralda Avila | Tempe: David McNeil |
| Chandler: Paul Bishop for Dave Siegel | Maricopa County: Dale Bodiya for John Power |
| Gilbert: Lonnie Frost | *Pinnacle West Capital: John Boyer |
| Glendale: John Watkins for Chris Ochs | *Salt River Project: Ray Hedrick |
| Goodyear: Joel Wade | *U of A Cooperative Extension: Patrick Clay |
| *Mesa: Bill Haney | *Citizen Representative: Eugene Jensen |
| Peoria: Kevin Kadlec | |

*Those members neither present nor represented by proxy.

OTHERS PRESENT

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| Carollo Engineers: George Shirley | Salt River Project: Tom Sands |
| Arizona Municipal Water Users Association: Val Danos | PBS&J: Frank Turley |
| Maricopa Association of Governments: Brenda Geisen | |

1. Call to Order

A meeting of the MAG Water Quality Advisory Committee was conducted on Tuesday, June 11, 2002 at 2:00 p.m. Roger Klingler, Chairman, City of Scottsdale, called the meeting to order.

2. Approval of the April 23, 2002 Meeting Minutes

The Committee reviewed the draft minutes from the April 23, 2002 meeting. Robert Hollander, City of Phoenix, moved and Dale Bodiya, Maricopa County Environmental Services Department, seconded and it was unanimously carried to approve the minutes from the April 23, 2002 meeting.

3. Draft Revision to the MAG 208 Water Quality Management Plan

Chairman Klingler indicated that agenda item three was for information, discussion, and possible authorization to conduct a second public hearing on the Draft Revision to the MAG 208 Plan. He indicated that Brenda Geisen, MAG staff, would provide a status update on the Draft 208 Revision.

Ms. Geisen indicated that, it was announced during the April 23, 2002 public hearing on the Draft 208 Revision that, due to requested changes, a second public hearing would be conducted and more time would be needed to accommodate the changes.

Ms. Geisen indicated that a new complete Errata, which addresses requested changes, such as the addition of the City of Goodyear planned Gila River Basin Cotton Lane Water Reclamation Plant, has been developed and attached to the agenda packet for Committee review. She indicated that this Errata would be inserted into the February 2002 Draft Final Revision to the MAG 208 Water Quality Management Plan, and the complete draft document would be made available for public review at least thirty days in advance of the second hearing.

Chairman Klingler indicated that the Committee was invited to discuss the Errata. Mr. Bodiya indicated that it is possible that the Rancho Marana Wastewater Treatment Plant name may have been changed to Town of Cave Creek Wastewater Treatment Plant. He inquired whether it was beneficial to retain the current two tables which outline the criteria for feasibility reports for MAG 208 Small Plant Review and Approvals, or to change the Draft 208 Revision by combining the two tables into one. He indicated that he found that some items between the two tables are similar, and 208 applicants can sometimes be confused about which table to use for their particular feasibility report.

Ms. Geisen indicated that one table outlined criteria specifically for proposed plants within the Municipal Small Plant Planning Area, and the other outlined criteria for proposed plants outside of the Municipal Small Plant Planning Area. She indicated that she believed the two tables were distinctly designed when the Small Plant Review and Approval Process was originally developed.

Chairman Klingler indicated that there may have been specific reasons for designing the two separate tables. He indicated that, if there were a valid reason to combine the tables at this time, care should be taken to ensure that no negative impacts would occur with such a change. He indicated that, as a group of municipalities, it may be beneficial for the Committee to know about plants that are proposed both within and outside of Municipal Small Plant Planning Areas.

Mr. Kadlec moved to authorize that MAG conduct a second hearing on the Draft Revision to the MAG 208 Water Quality Management Plan, which includes the Errata Sheet. Lonnie Frost, Town of Gilbert, seconded, and it was unanimously passed by the Committee.

4. Agua Fria Reclaimed Water Groundwater Recharge Project

Chairman Klingler indicated that agenda item four was for information and discussion. He indicated that Mr. Hollander would introduce the guest speaker. Mr. Hollander indicated that Frank Turek, PBS&J, would provide a presentation on the Agua Fria Reclaimed Water Recharge Project.

Mr. Turek indicated that the project is sponsored by the Multi-City Subregional Operating Group (SROG) and the Bureau of Reclamation. He indicated that the objective is to develop a plan to use 40,000 to 60,000 acre-feet of reclaimed water available in the off-peak winter season from the Multi-City SROG 91st Avenue Wastewater Treatment Plant. Potential uses include groundwater recharge, direct use, recreation and habitat enhancement.

Mr. Turek indicated that the study area is designed as a linear structure, with laterals located at almost every mile along a stretch of the Agua Fria River. He indicated that the linear recharge is beneficial in minimizing the potential for groundwater mounding which can occur with recharge to just one spot.

Mr. Turek indicated that the project is divided into four phases: Phase 1 Stakeholder Coordination and Public Information; Phase 2 Technical Investigations; Phase 3 Preliminary Designs; and Phase 4 Final Designs and Implementation. He indicated that Phase 1 is anticipated for completion in June 2003, the Environmental Impact Statement would begin during Phase 2, and initiation of actual recharge is targeted for year 2008.

Val Danos, Arizona Municipal Water Users Association, inquired what triggers the need for an Environmental Impact Statement.

Mr. Turek indicated that projects involving federal money, federal land, or the need for a 401 Permit are examples of such triggers.

Mr. Turek indicated that Phase 1 goals include obtaining public input, selecting preferred alternatives with public input, and developing a consensus plan. He indicated that the project is currently in Phase 1, and has included at least 50 stakeholder interviews, coordination of steering and technical committees, distribution of 14,000 project newsletters, 2 major public meetings and website development.

Mr. Turek indicated that the key issues for stakeholders included the project purpose, coordination with other projects, collective impacts, water quality, best use of water, design, sand & gravel operations, and bird strike issues.

David McNeil, City of Tempe, inquired whether the project would be managed or constructed.

Mr. Turek indicated that the project would be constructed where the earth dikes are located to get credit for water recharged from the Arizona Department of Water Resources.

Chairman Klingler inquired what type of opportunities might be presented for east valley communities.

Mr. Turek indicated that there may be alternatives for working with the east valley cities, such as exchange opportunities.

Chairman Klingler inquired whether construction of pipelines had been noted as an issue by anyone. Mr. Turek indicated that it had not, and the project is designed to use the Maricopa County Flood Control District right of way.

Mr. Kadlec inquired whether there was potential for west valley communities to buy into the recharge capacity.

Mr. Turek indicated that he would leave that up to the political decision makers on the project. He

indicated that City of Surprise and City of El Mirage have inquired about the possibility of joining in the future, but details have not been discussed.

5. Salt River Project Recycled Water Assessment Study

Chairman Klingler indicated that agenda item five was for information and discussion. He introduced Tom Sands, Salt River Project (SRP), to provide a presentation on the SRP Recycled Water Assessment Study. Mr. Sands indicated that the purpose of the study is to identify and assess opportunities to exchange or transport recycled water within the SRP water delivery system.

Mr. Sands indicated that the study approach included three phases: Phase 1 Identify and Evaluate Alternative Roles and Concepts; Phase 2 Evaluate Feasibility of Alternatives; and Phase 3 Implement Appropriate Alternatives. He indicated that Phase 2 consultants include DCI Incorporated, Bookman Edmonston, Tri-Core Engineering, and LJ Farrington.

Mr. Sands indicated that in 1998, SRP adopted Reclaimed Water Guidelines which include no discharge upstream of municipal water treatment plants, most stringent water quality standard (A+), NPDES permit, instream monitoring, back up discharge location, SRP license and service fee, and SRP Board approval.

Mr. Sands indicated that Black and Veatch have discovered 38 opportunities in the valley for exchange or transport of recycled water, and he discussed potential opportunities and recommendations including areas of Chandler, Mesa, Tempe, Glendale, Phoenix, and Peoria. He indicated that the Phase 2 Report is being finalized, and will be provided to valley cities.

Mr. Sands indicated that the results of the report were reviewed by the SRP Board Water Committee on June 6, 2002, and the Committee asked for more discussion on how reclaimed water fits into SRP's future. He indicated that future activities include finalizing the Phase 2 Report, requesting SRP Board approval to begin Phase 3 activities, and considering other opportunities as they arise.

Mr. McNeil inquired whether SRP had considered possible regulatory hurdles to the project, and whether SRP had consulted with ADEQ about reclaimed water requirements.

Mr. Sands indicated that Ray Hedrick, SRP, has been working to see that applicable regulatory issues are encompassed in the project.

Mr. McNeil inquired whether SRP is concerned about public perception on use of reclaimed water.

Mr. Sands indicated that the SRP Public Involvement Specialists have indicated that such concerns can likely be overcome with appropriate effort.

Mr. McNeil inquired whether SRP had shareholder approval yet.

Mr. Sands said they did not, but the project has been to the SRP Board four times so far with positive response.

Mr. McNeil indicated that municipalities would need to take such a project to their City Council for approval.

Mr. Hollander indicated that the water would be required to be treated to Class A+ standards, which is high quality water, and interested cities may be able to overcome any negative public perception by focusing on the fact that water is a limited resource in our arid desert climate.

Mr. Sands indicated that SRP anticipates that greater use of reclaimed water is more likely to be accepted by the public in the future, as the SRP reservoirs are already depleted 75-80%, and the drought may not end soon.

Chairman Klingler inquired about the impetus for this study, and whether cities had approached SRP with the idea.

Mr. Sands indicated that cities have been asking about the possibilities of recycled water through SRP for twenty years, and the new ADEQ Water Quality Rules, which allow reclaimed water to be used at schools, parks, and homes, prompted SRP to formally initiate the study.

Mr. Bodiya inquired whether SRP could send a copy of the Phase 2 Report to the County when final.

Mr. Sands indicated that hard copies of the Phase 2 Report would be sent to the cities and County, and copies would also be available on Compact Disc.

Mr. McNeil inquired whether SRP had considered recharge and recovery as part of this project.

Mr. Sands indicated that recharge and recovery is also being considered, and it is anticipated that higher costs would be associated with this alternative.

6. Call to the Public

An opportunity was provided to members of the public to address the Water Quality Advisory Committee. No comments were received and the meeting was adjourned.