



Environmental Services Commission

Minutes

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Zoom Meeting

June 9, 2022

Chair Seaman called the meeting to order at 4:03 p.m.

Commission Members Present: **Esther Beaumier (arrived at 4:24 p.m.), Matthew Benedict, Marty Campbell, Emily Hall, Ken Howes, Rachael Laitila, Jeff Paradise, Erich Sachs, and Deanna Seaman.

Commission Members Absent: **Richard Doenges, Frankie Johnson, Grant Middleton, Janette Simon, and Wayne Wooster.

Approval of Minutes

Commissioner Campbell moved to approve the February 10 and March 10, 2022 minutes. Seconded by Commissioner Howes. Voice vote was taken and carried. The minutes were declared adopted.

Discussion ensued regarding notes from discussions where a quorum was not present. Chair Seaman, with the concurrence of the other commissioners, requested the notes from those informal discussion be posted on the ESC website. Staff stated that notes would not be voted on because due to the lack of a quorum, no action was taken.

Changes to Open Public Meetings Act

Director Slevin reminded the Commission of the discussion from last meeting about recent amendments to Washington State's Open Public Meetings Act (OPMA) that went into effect June 9, 2022, and effects on the Environmental Services Commission meetings. He noted the main amendment is the requirement to allow public comment at meetings where action is taken. Discussion ensued regarding changes to the Commission's by-laws to add public comment to the order of business, and the desire to accept comments both written and verbal.

Commissioner Campbell moved to amend the Environmental Services Commission by-laws as proposed. Seconded by Commissioner Benedict. Voice vote was taken and carried. The motion was declared adopted.

Commissioners expressed general support to conduct future meetings in a hybrid format.

Baseline Budget for Upcoming Biennium

Christina Curran, ES Rates & Budget, briefly reviewed the timeline for the budget development process. She provided an overview of budget growth over this biennium and

**Non-voting Commissioner

projected growth next biennium in Solid Waste, Wastewater, and Stormwater Funds; and discussed budget impacts to all three utilities.

Commissioner Beaumier arrived here, at 4:24 p.m.

Ms. Curran provided in data on the Bill Credit Assistance Program PLUS (BCAP); discussed capital cost drivers, capital cost planning, and the financial forecast of the utility. Director Slevin recommending Commissioners watch the Budget and Finance Directors' presentation at the June 7, 2022 City Council Study Session regarding challenges facing the City.

Next steps include updating the 2023-2024 revenue requirements, Environmental Services budget proposals, and reporting back to the Commission on July 14, 2022.

Other Items of Interest

Director Slevin provide a brief update on the Nutrient Permit, stating the judge ruled in the City's favor to the procedures act and the Department of Ecology will appeal. Work is continuing.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 4:49 p.m.