

Agenda

CITY CLERK'S OFFICE

DATE 730-8 TIME 1:10

SERVED BY ARECEIVED BY

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMITTEE MEETING CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 6, 2008 5:15 PM

- 1. CALL TO ORDER
- 2. ROLL CALL
- 3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA
- 4. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA
- 5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR THE JULY 16, 2008 PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMITTEE MEETING
- 6. MATTERS FROM THE COMMITTEE

Outstanding Matters:

- a. Recommended ordinance changes to address a revised policy concerning the use of septic tanks by homes adjacent to sewer lines within the City limits. (Costy Kassisieh, Marcos Martinez, Jeanne Price and Robert Gallegos). To be presented at the September 3, 2008 PUC meeting.
- b. Request for Approval of Bill No. 2008-______. An Ordinance Repealing Sections 14-8.13, 14-8.16 and 14-8.17 SFCC 1987 Regarding Annual Water Budget, Water Rights Transfer Requirements and Water Rights Banking; Creating a New Section 14-8.13 SFCC 1987 Regarding the City's Water Budget, Development Water Budget Requirements, the Water Rights Transfer Program, and the Retrofit Program; Making Such Other Related Changes as are Necessary. (Dale Lyons) (Councilor Wurzburger and Councilor Ortiz) To be presented at 8/7/08 Planning Commission.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

- 7. Update on Current Water Supply Status. (Victor Archuleta)
- 8. Update on Solid Waste Division. (Bill De Grande)
- 9. Water Rights Transfer and Acquisition Program Update. (Dale Lyon)

CONSENT CALENDAR

- Request for Approval of Amendment No. 1 to the Project Management and Fiscal Services Agreement (PMFSA) for the Buckman Direct Diversion Project to Increase Project Manager Administrative Approval to \$30,000. (Nancy Long and Marcos Martinez)
- 11. Request for Approval of Amendment No. 1 to the Professional Services Agreement with Great Southwest Water Meter Service for an Additional \$70,000 Exclusive of NMGRT to Calibrate/Rebuild Large Water Meters. (Shannon Jones)
- 12. Request for Approval of Amendment No. 3 to the Professional Services Agreement Between the City of Santa Fe and Alpha Southwest, Inc. for an Additional \$329,600 for the City Wide Source of Supply Improvements Contract. (Michael Gonzales)
- 13. Request for Approval of Amendment No. 2 to the Legal Services Agreement Between the City of Santa Fe and Lee Wilson and Associates for an Additional \$50,000 Exclusive of NMGRT for Water Right Issues. (Dale Lyons)

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

- 1. Discussion Over the Disposition of Certain Real Property to PNM by the Governing Body, an Exception to the Open Meetings Act Pursuant to NMFA 10-15-1(H)(8).
- Reclassifications Within the Solid Waste Division.

End Executive Session

DISCUSSION ITEMS

- 14. Request for Approval of Disposition of Certain Real Property to PNM by the Governing Body. (Marcos Martinez & Rick Carpenter)
- 15. Request Review and Recommendation and Endorsement of the Water Division Draft 10 Year Financial Plan. (Gary Martinez)
- 16. Request for Consideration and Recommendation of Solicited Nominations for the Naming of the Water Division Building. (Maya Martinez)
- Request for Approval of Resolution No. 2008-_____. A Resolution Adopting the Long Range Water Supply Plan. (Claudia Borchert) (Councilor Wurzburger)
- Request for Approval of a Resolution No. 2008—_____. A Resolution Urging
 the New Mexico State Legislature to Pass a Budget for the Interstate Stream
 Commission that Includes a Recurring Budget Item of an Additional \$345,000
 for Ongoing Regional Water Planning. (Claudia Borchert) (Councilor
 Calvert)
- Request for Approval of Bill No. _____. An Ordinance Repealing Section 25-2.10 SFCC 1987 for the Purpose of Discontinuing the Rainwater Harvesting Barrel Rebate Program. (Dan Ransom) (Councilor Calvert)

MATTERS FROM THE CITY ATTORNEY

ITEMS FROM STAFF

MATTERS FROM THE COMMITTEE

NEXT MEETING: WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 20, 2008

ADJOURN

SUMMARY INDEX PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMITTEE August 6, 2008

IIEM	ACTION	PAGE
CALL TO ORDER	Quorum	1
APPROVAL OF AGENDA	Approved [amended]	1-2
APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA	Approved [amended]	2
CONSENT CALENDAR LISTING		2
APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR THE JULY 16, 2008, PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMITTEE MEETING	Approved	2
MATTERS FROM THE COMMITTEE OUTSTANDING MATTERS:		
RECOMMENDED ORDINANCE CHANGES TO ADDRESS A REVISED POLICY CONCERNING THE USE OF SEPTIC TANKS BY HOMES ADJACENT TO SEWER LINES WITHIN THE CITY LIMITS.	09/03/08 meeting	3
REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF BILL NO. 2008 AN ORDINANCE REPEALING SECTIONS 14-8.13, 14-8.16 AND 14-8.17 SFCC 1987, REGARDING ANNUAL WATER BUDGET, WATER RIGHTS TRANSFER REQUIREMENTS AND WATER RIGHTS BANKING; CREATING A NEW SECTION 14-8.13 SFCC 1987, REGARDING THE CITY'S WATER BUDGET, DEVELOPMENT WATER BUDGET REQUIREMENTS, THE WATER RIGHTS TRANSFER PROGRAM, AND THE RETROFIT PROGRAM; MAKING SUCH OTHER RELATED CHANGES AS ARE NECESSARY	Information only	3
INFORMATIONAL ITEMS		
UPDATE ON CURRENT WATER SUPPLY STATUS	Information/discussion	3-4

ITEM	ACTION	PAGE
UPDATE ON SOLID WASTE DIVISION	Information/discussion	4-5
WATER RIGHTS TRANSFER AND	1.0 0 1.0	
ACQUISITION PROGRAM UPDATE	Information/discussion	5-6
CONSENT DISCUSSION		
REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF AMENDMENT		
NO. 2 TO THE LEGAL SERVICES AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF SANTA FE AND LEE		
WILSON AND ASSOCIATES FOR AN		
ADDITIONAL \$50,000, EXCLUSIVE OF NMGRT,	A	
FOR WATER RIGHT ISSUES	Approved	6-8
<u>DISCUSSION ITEMS</u>		
REQUEST REVIEW AND RECOMMENDATION		
AND ENDORSEMENT OF WATER DIVISION	Ammanuad	0.40
DRAFT 10 YEAR FINANCIAL PLAN	Approved	8-12
REQUEST FOR CONSIDERATION AND		
RECOMMENDATIONS OF SOLICITED NOMINATIONS FOR THE NAMING OF THE		
WATER DIVISION BUILDING	Recommendation approved	12
REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION		
NO. 2008 A RESOLUTION ADOPTING		
THE LONG RANGE WATER SUPPLY PLAN	Postponed to 08/20/08	12
REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION		
NO. 2008 A RESOLUTION URGING THE NEW MEXICO STATE LEGISLATURE TO PASS		
A BUDGET FOR THE INTERSTATE STREAM		
COMMISSION THAT INCLUDES A RECURRING		
BUDGET ITEM OF AN ADDITIONAL \$345,000		44
FOR ONGOING REGIONAL WATER PLANNING	Approved	12-13

ITEM	ACTION	PAGE
REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF BILL NO AN ORDINANCE REPEALING SECTION 25-2.10 SFCC 1987, FOR THE PURPOSE OF DISCONTINUING THE RAINWATER HARVESTING BARREL REBATE PROGRAM	Approved	13
EXECUTIVE SESSION	Approved	13
DISCUSSION OVER THE DISPOSITION OF CERTAIN REAL PROPERTY TO PNM BY THE GOVERNING BODY, AN EXCEPTION TO THE OPEN MEETINGS ACT PURSUANT TO NMFA NMSA, §10-15-1(H)(8)	Discussion	13
RECLASSIFICATIONS WITHIN THE SOLID WASTE DIVISION	Postponed to 08/20/08	13
MOTION TO COME OUT OF EXECUTIVE SESSION	Approved	13-14
DISCUSSION ITEMS		
REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF DISPOSITION OF CERTAIN REAL PROPERTY TO PNM BY THE GOVERNING BODY	Approved	14
MATTERS FROM THE PUBLIC	None	14
MATTERS FROM THE CITY ATTORNEY	None	14
MATTERS FROM STAFF	None	14
MATTERS FROM THE COMMITTEE	None	14
NEXT MEETING: WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 20, 2008		14
ADJOURN		15

MINUTES OF THE CITY OF SANTA FE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMITTEE Wednesday, August 6, 2008

1. CALL TO ORDER

A meeting of the Public Utilities Committee was called to order by Councilor Rebecca Wurzburger, Chair, at approximately 5:15 p.m., on August 6, 2008, in the Council Chambers, City Hall, Santa Fe, New Mexico.

2. ROLL CALL

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Councilor Rebecca Wurzburger, Chair Councilor Christopher Calvert Councilor Rosemary Romero Councilor Ronald S. Trujillo

MEMBERS EXCUSED:

Councilor Matthew E. Ortiz

OTHER COUNCILORS ATTENDING:

Councilor Carmichael Dominguez

OTHERS PRESENT:

Galen Buller, Public Utilities Director Stephanie Lopez, Public Utilities Marcus Martinez, Assistant City Attorney Melessia Helberg, Stenographer

There was a quorum of the membership present for conducting official business.

NOTE: All items in the Committee packet for all agenda items are incorporated herewith to these minutes by reference. The original Committee packet is on file in the Public Utilities Department.

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Chair Wurzburger said Item #2 under Executive Session has been removed from the Agenda, and postponed to the next meeting.

MOTION: Councilor Calvert moved, seconded by Councilor Trujillo, to approve the Agenda as amended.

VOTE: The motion was approved unanimously on a voice vote.

4. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

MOTION: Councilor Romero moved, seconded by Councilor Trujillo, to approve the following consent agenda as amended.

VOTE: The motion was approved unanimously on a voice vote.

CONSENT CALENDAR

- 10. REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF AMENDMENT NO. 1 TO THE PROJECT MANAGEMENT AND FISCAL SERVICES AGREEMENT (PMFSA) FOR THE BUCKMAN DIRECT DIVERSION PROJECT TO INCREASE PROJECT MANAGER ADMINISTRATIVE APPROVAL TO \$30,000. (NANCY LONG AND MARCOS MARTINEZ)
- 11. REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF AMENDMENT NO. 1 TO THE PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH GREAT SOUTHWEST WATER METER SERVICE FOR AN ADDITIONAL \$70,000, EXCLUSIVE OF NMGRT, TO CALIBRATE/REBUILD LARGE WATER METERS. (SHANNON JONES)
- 12. REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF AMENDMENT NO. 3 TO THE PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF SANTA FE AND ALPHA SOUTHWEST, INC., FOR AN ADDITIONAL \$329,600 FOR THE CITY WIDE SOURCE OF SUPPLY IMPROVEMENTS CONTRACT. (MICHAEL GONZALES)
- 13. [Removed for discussion by Councilor Wurzburger]
- 5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR THE JULY 16, 2008, PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMITTEE MEETING.

MOTION: Councilor Romero moved, seconded by Councilor Trujillo, to approve the minutes of the meeting of July 16, 2008, as submitted.

VOTE: The motion was approved unanimously on a voice vote.

6. MATTERS FROM THE COMMITTEE

OUTSTANDING MATTERS:

- a. RECOMMENDED ORDINANCE CHANGES TO ADDRESS A REVISED POLICY CONCERNING THE USE OF SEPTIC TANKS BY HOMES ADJACENT TO SEWER LINES WITHIN THE CITY LIMITS. (COSTY KASSISIEH, MARCOS MARTINEZ, JEANNE PRICE AND ROBERT GALLEGOS). To be presented at the September 3, 2008 PUC meeting.
- b. REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF BILL NO. 2008-____. AN ORDINANCE REPEALING SECTIONS 14-8.13, 14-8.16 AND 14-8.17 SFCC 1987, REGARDING ANNUAL WATER BUDGET, WATER RIGHTS TRANSFER REQUIREMENTS AND WATER RIGHTS BANKING; CREATING A NEW SECTION 14-8.13 SFCC 1987, REGARDING THE CITY'S WATER BUDGET, DEVELOPMENT WATER BUDGET REQUIREMENTS, THE WATER RIGHTS TRANSFER PROGRAM, AND THE RETROFIT PROGRAM; MAKING SUCH OTHER RELATED CHANGES AS ARE NECESSARY (COUNCILOR WURZBURGER AND COUNCILOR ORTIZ). (DALE LYONS) To be presented at 8/07/08 Planning Commission.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

7. UPDATE ON CURRENT WATER SUPPLY STATUS. (VICTOR ARCHULETA)

A copy of the Weekly Water Report for the week ending August 3, 2008, is incorporated herewith to these minutes as Exhibit "1."

Victor Archuleta presented the information contained in Exhibit "1." Please see Exhibit "1" for specifics of this presentation.

Councilor Wurzburger said she spoke with the Mayor, and he wants to know at what point do we run water down the River, and she asked if we can we set a formula for that.

Michael Gonzales said, with regard to the oncoming rainfall which is predicted, we are anticipating a release. He said although it looks favorable going into the fall, they are looking at 50% the way things have been going. He asked how much she would like to be released.

Chair Wurzburger said she would like staff to come up with some sort of formula or framework to release water into the river.

Gary Martinez said they are having an internal meeting to discuss these kinds of situations. They also have an assimilation model, STELA, they will be working with to see how it jives with their modeling, and come up with some recommendations. The Long Range Water Supply Plan also has releases into the

Santa Fe River, so with the adoption of that Plan there will be a formulation and everything else that ties into that.

Chair Wurzburger would like some kind of formula by the second meeting in September, noting there will be no meeting on September 3, 2008, because of the Mayor's State of the City speech.

Chair Wurzburger asked if staff needs interim guidance, or if staff will be doing something with respect to releases over the next month.

Mr. Martinez said staff has always kept a buffering capacity in the reservoirs of no more than 95% in the event there are rain events, and staff is comfortable that an additional 5% of rainfall could be absorbed which would prevent the high flooding capacities the river normally would see. Staff's goal remains to maintain a 95% capacity, and if it goes above that, then staff will make a decision to start releasing to maintain the 95%.

Chair Wurzburger said then even though we are getting questions about the 93% reserve, there is a policy that says we don't release until it gets to 95%.

Mr. Martinez said it will depend on the season and the actions taken by the Council.

Councilor Wurzburger asked how we should respond to the constituent requests to send a little water down the river.

Councilor Calvert said if we get a good rain, we will let the water go down the river.

Councilor Romero said it seems, when the public asks for a release since we have a lot of water, the answer should be that it will depend on the modeling and several factors. She's not as concerned about a percentage from a policy perspective. She said the modeling will lead to a better understanding of what can be released, rather than a preconceived percentage.

Mr. Martinez said this is correct, and staff also wants to tie it into our Long Range Water Supply Plan, so there are criteria which should be considered.

8. UPDATE ON SOLID WASTE DIVISION. (BILL DEGRANDE)

Bill DeGrande presented information from his Memorandum of August 8, 2008, which is in the Committee packet.

Councilor Calvert said it would be nice if they could put the recyclables in the right bin.

Mr. DeGrande said that will take a little time, but believes we will see an increase in the percentage. He also ordered 100 of the clear blue stream containers, so we'll have 125 of them at Indian Market, noting he will have staff in attendance.

Councilor Romero said this was a great job. On market day, the Plaza was clean and impressive, and people were willingly using the containers. She thought the segmenting of the food in one area also was a great help. Overall, she was impressed that people were willing to do this, and with the great job done by staff.

Councilor Calvert said then we are going to continue with this for Indian Market, Fiesta and such.

Mr. DeGrande said yes, they will be doing every major event.

Chair Wurzburger asked if there is an industry standard objective.

Mr. DeGrande said we can do much better than we have. He said, in California the objective is 50%. He said we can get there, but it will take time. He said 33% is the State's goal and there is an publicity campaign coming out from NMRC. He said currently, the tonnages are up to 300 tons a month at BuRT above last year, so we are recycling more. He said programs such as pay as you throw, generally boost recycling rates by 15-17%. He said there are a lot of things in the works right now, but it will it will take some education, and unfortunately they don't have an outreach person at BuRT or in the City right now.

9. WATER RIGHTS TRANSFER AND ACQUISITION PROGRAM UPDATE. (DALE LYON)

Dale Lyons presented information from his Memorandum of July 29, 2008, which is in the Committee packet.

Councilor Romero asked the price for water rights in Taos County.

Mr. Lyons said he doesn't know, but that's irrelevant because we can't use water rights from Taos.

Councilor Romero said she is looking for a base line of what people are paying, noting Taos development is happening at the same rate as Santa Fe.

Mr. Lyons doesn't know if they can use middle Rio Grande water rights, and assumes they would have to use Rio Hondo water. He said Pojoaque water rights are selling at about \$22,000 afy, noting that Santa Fe is one of the only buyers in that market..

Councilor Calvert asked where the 8 afy of water we're purchasing will go.

Mr. Lyons said these are our own purchases, so they would go into the City's water bank.

Councilor Calvert asked if we know how much afy developers have brought in total, and what is the deficit for development which has already been approved.

Mr. Lyons doesn't know, but said the Hart Business Park project total demand is about 100 afy.

Chair Wurzburger asked Mr. Lyons to research this and send the answer by email to share with the Committee.

Councilor Calvert noted the development community search for water rights will affect the City's ability to find a lower price.

Mr. Lyons said the kinds of water rights sellers interested in talking with the City, are small water rights holders who prefer to work with the City rather than a developer or broker, because there is security in the transaction, the City does all the leg work on the transfer and pays all the fees.

Councilor Romero said it is naive to think that people would want to do the right thing to sell to the City, because the developer has more money and is willing to pay the price.

Mr. Lyons agreed, saying he does advise people that the water rights the City purchases will be used for affordable housing which is a bit of a "deal sweetener."

Councilor Trujillo asked, in addition to advertising in the <u>Journal</u>, if we are advertising in newspapers in the smaller communities.

Mr. Lyons said we are seeking Middle Rio Grande water rights, so the target market is covered by the <u>Albuquerque Journal</u>, with the assumption that it is the most widely distributed paper throughout the Middle Rio Grande Valley.

CONSENT DISCUSSION

13. REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF AMENDMENT NO. 2 TO THE LEGAL SERVICES
AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF SANTA FE AND LEE WILSON AND ASSOCIATES
FOR AN ADDITIONAL \$50,000, EXCLUSIVE OF NMGRT, FOR WATER RIGHT ISSUES. (DALE LYONS)

A copy of a graph on "Lee Wilson and Assoc. Contract Expenditure," is incorporated herewith to these minutes as Exhibit "2."

Chair Wurzburger said the total contract to Lee Wilson is \$190,000, and asked what time period is covered.

Mr. Lyons reviewed the information in Exhibit "2."

Mr. Lyons said although we have been receiving less transfer applications from developers, Wilson is still processing the transfer applications which are in the system, and we've asked him to do more since March when we've been advertising for Middle Rio Grande water rights. He said they've been busy reviewing those water rights for possible purchase.

Responding to Councilor Wurzburger, Mr. Lyons said the majority of the applications predated the information he put on this graph, noting a lot came in 2005, when Wilson did a lot of review work for the water rights submitted to the City by developers, so he doesn't have information on when the water came in.

Councilor Calvert said it would be more informative to him to graph the expenditures versus the water rights transferred.

Mr. Lyons said Wilson & Associates does a lot more for the City than just assist us with the water rights transfer program, which he noted in the Memorandum for the contract amendment. Wilson assists the City to manage its water rights portfolio and the Jicarilla Apache lease. He said there is no direct correlation of payments to Wilson with the number of water rights being brought to the City.

Chair Wurzburger said historically, that has been a very key issue about the contract, because the assumption is that there should be that correlation.

Mr. Lyons understands, saying they do so many other things.

Chair Wurzburger said it might be helpful to know what percentage of time is being spent on water rights, because the impression we had is that the majority of his time was being spent on water rights transfers.

Mr. Buller said the importance is that we get some assistance in paying Lee Wilson & Associates for the work he does in assessing the water rights from the developer. He said, "For the rest of it, it's coming out of rates, I mean essentially, it's coming out of their budget." He said around the time of the water rights purchase, at the time of the contract, he does a flurry of work. There is then a long delay while it goes through the process. If it goes to a hearing, then he comes back as a witness and he does those things. So, the correlation will have an odd time configuration.

Councilor Calvert asked, "Why is there that sort of flurry and then nothing, because I would think that we want to be continually looking. I mean, I know that there isn't always people offering it up."

Mr. Buller said he was speaking to any individual water right, but in the interim he should be working on another one, and that is what he thinks is reflected by how he's paid, but he believes that correlation could be figured out.

Councilor Romero said this is like someone you pay to write grants – you don't see the direct effect right away, and it might take a lot longer. She guesses that Wilson's activities are broken out in a variety of

ways, including protests which can take years. She said sometimes it takes two years to actually see an activity which you could track. She isn't as concerned about the contract as seeing how these work. She said Mr. Buller's answer is that it is much more relevant about the kinds of activities he's doing which include research, contacting people and such. She thinks it might be more important for us to look at that, than at the actual correlation between the work and the water rights.

Mr. Buller pointed out that at times, the value of Wilson's work is in the City not buying the water rights, which is a reverse correlation.

Chair Wurzburger said this is the first information we've received with regard to how many we looked at with which we did nothing, which is helpful information.

MOTION: Councilor Wurzburger moved, seconded by Councilor Romero, to approve this request.

VOTE: The motion was approved unanimously on a voice vote.

MOTION: Councilor Calvert moved, seconded by Councilor Romero, to amend the agenda to move the Executive Session and Item #14 after Item #19, and to approve the agenda as amended.

VOTE: The motion was approved unanimously on a voice vote.

15. REQUEST REVIEW AND RECOMMENDATION AND ENDORSEMENT OF WATER DIVISION DRAFT 10 YEAR FINANCIAL PLAN. (GARY MARTINEZ)

Councilor Dominguez arrived at the meeting

A copy of "6.99 Percent for a Safe and Sustainable Water Future," is incorporated herewith to these minutes as Exhibit "3."

A copy of "Frequently Asked Questions – 6.99% Water Rate Increase," is incorporated herewith these minutes as Exhibit "4."

Gary Martinez presented a brief overview and history of this issue, and introduced Ms. Angela Montoya Bricmont to present the study overview, financial plan and recommendation for discussion purposes.

Angela Montoya Bricmont, Senior Consultant, Red Oak Consulting, presented information via power point. Please see the text of the power point presentation in the Committee packet for specifics of this presentation.

Responding to Councilor Calvert, Mr. Martinez said the proposed increase is all across the board.

Responding to Councilor Calvert, Ms. Bricmont said there two pieces to the rate, the service charge and the volume charge, noting it is below the service charges where you will see the volume charges as well.

Councilor Calvert said he wants another tier, a penalty rate, for people who don't care what they pay and use as much water as they please, saying it is a matter of equity and fairness. He said it isn't fair that someone who can afford to buy as much water as they want doesn't pay a higher rate at some point.

Chair Wurzburger believes that would be best done in the revised rate structuring.

Mr. Martinez said we are looking at a finance plan update to the existing rate structure, and something like that shouldn't inhibit what we're trying to do today, and should come afterward. It can be evaluated, make fine tune adjustments and review the finance plan on the schedule.

Councilor Calvert said then the 7% is needed given the existing rate structure, but you also will be proposing a change to the rate structure.

Mr. Martinez said he isn't proposing a change to the rate structure.

Mr. Buller said this question arose at the PUC when this was presented as an informational item. The guidance from the Committee was to look at the rate increase, based on the financial plan now, and then look at a more comprehensive rate restructuring in the fall once the rate increase is in place.

Responding to Councilor Calvert, Mr. Martinez said he isn't looking at a rate restructure. He said the Committee needs to give direction if some fine tuning is to occur within the rate restructure.

Councilor Wurzburger believes it is semantics, and believes Mr. Martinez is looking at a rate restructure, saying the number or cost could change, depending on policy issues, which would be a change to the rate structure.

Responding to Councilor Calvert, Mr. Buller said at that meeting, it came up in the context of whether there are certain types of users who were not treated fairly by the rate structure under the commercial piece, and it was a tweak to the rate structure. You can call that an amended rate structure as Mr. Martinez is saying, or a rate restructure, but he thinks it is semantics as well.

Chair Wurzburger said the point is that this is a plan and it is subject to change.

Councilor Trujillo noted the average monthly bill for residential at \$3.51 in 2009 and \$57.50 in 2015.

Councilor Calvert said that is a 66% increase.

Mr. Martinez said there are recommended actions requested by staff, noting there is a one page handout which has been prepared on frequently asked questions if that is one of the recommendations of this Committee. He asked that the Committee recommend the Water Division draft Finance Plan recommendations, that the Committee approve staff to present the Finance Plan to the public, and that the Committee approve the submission of an Ordinance with the recommended rate increases.

MOTION: Councilor Romero moved, seconded by Councilor Trujillo for purposes of discussion, to approve the Water Division draft Finance Plan, authorize staff to present the Finance Plan to the public, and authorize staff to submit an Ordinance with the recommended rate increases.

DISCUSSION: Chair Wurzburger said this has been a long time coming, commenting this is never a fun experience, but this is based on our projected needs and the cost to meet those needs. She said Mr. Martinez's suggestion for a parallel track is a good strategy. She said normally we would just pass this, put it in ordinance form and then get public input, but what is being proposed is sensitive to expanding the process to include the public who most certainly will be concerned. She believes we need to move forward.

Councilor Romero said a right and a responsibility comes with water use, and it is a privilege to have water that comes out of a tap. She said it doesn't seem like a horrific increase, although there are those who are on fixed incomes. She said we have a responsibility to meet our own budget and to do business the best way that we can. If it is framed right, people will be more amenable. She said there also will be the issue of equity, particularly among commercial businesses. She said people understand they have to pay for using this precious commodity, and we will get some flak, pointing out that it is incremental.

Councilor Calvert said most of this is due to the Buckman Diversion project. If we want to avoid these kinds of increases, conservation would be good, and something to emphasize. It would be helpful to have a comparison to other cities in the west, if that's good information. We should reiterate that we have lifeline rates for people on fixed incomes in the context of doing this.

Councilor Romero said we should proceed with caution in comparing our rates with other cities, and we need to choose cities were we are on a par. She said there are many factors involved with regard to our rates, and this information needs to be presented so that it is equitable and not skewed.

Councilor Trujillo said everything is more expensive in Santa Fe, but this is a lot of money, and this is all because of the Buckman project.

Mr. Martinez said it isn't all because of Buckman, and we have to be careful how we phrase that. Buckman is part of our portfolio and part of our sustainable water supply. He said this plan does include Buckman, but it also includes all the operation and maintenance aspects of running a water utility.

Councilor Trujillo is concerned that in 2016, we will come back for another 10% increase – what happens after 2015.

Mr. Martinez said the last water rate increase was five years ago, and in January 2007 we did a rate restructure. He said there was a breakdown of costs among various cities in <u>The New Mexican</u> about two weeks ago, and Santa Fe wasn't the highest. He said the Eldorado water utility is in trouble because it doesn't have the financing to maintain its infrastructure. He said this is costly, and it does impact the citizens, but we are trying to maintain a sustainable water supply and infrastructure.

Councilor Dominguez said the reality is it costs money to do business in this community. He said it is a wonderful place to live, but it doesn't come free, nor is it cheap.

Councilor Dominguez asked how annexation fits with the increases associated with new growth.

Mr. Buller said there are several components. For example, the annexation of the Airport Road area won't require too much increase because we already serve a great portion of that area.

Councilor Dominguez said their rates will increase as well.

Mr. Buller said this is correct. However, areas such as Las Soleras, or other undeveloped areas, will be required to put in their own infrastructure and to pay UECs for that part of their demand that is new growth, which would be 100% for Las Soleras. They also are required to bring all of their own water. He said growth pays for itself under those combinations of ordinances. Once they are customers, they then fall into the same rate structure as everyone else and they pay the increased rates.

Councilor Dominguez asked about people who are not on a system now, but who will be annexed into the City.

Mr. Buller said they would be required to pay for the infrastructure. He believes we would need to look at these on a case by case basis, because there are some exceptions in the Water Rights Ordinance for existing homes in terms of public health and safety issues. However, none of this has been plugged into the cost for annexation.

Councilor Calvert said he believes the question will be asked: Are we just paying for more growth. He believes #3 can be expanded and put in terms laypersons can understand a little better.

Chair Wurzburger said it is important in both of the handouts to give further clarification on how the Buckman Direct Diversion resource will be used, not the wells, but the diversion project. The City is using it differently than the County, and that needs to be made very clear.

VOTE: The motion was approved unanimously on a voice vote.

16. REQUEST FOR CONSIDERATION AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF SOLICITED NOMINATIONS FOR THE NAMING OF THE WATER DIVISION BUILDING. (MAYA MARTINEZ)

Maya Martinez presented information regarding this matter to the Committee.

MOTION: Councilor Calvert moved, seconded by Councilor Trujillo, to name the Water Division building after former Councilor Arthur G. Sanchez, and to look for another opportunity recognize Mr. Pena's service to the City.

VOTE: The Motion was approved unanimously on a voice vote.

17. REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION NO. 2008-___. A RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE LONG RANGE WATER SUPPLY PLAN (COUNCILOR WURZBURGER). (CLAUDIA BORCHERT)

A copy of a power point presentation, "The Water Plan: How to Meet Our Future Water Needs," is incorporated herewith to these minutes as Exhibit "5."

The proposed Long Range Water Supply Plan is on file at the Water Division.

Claudia Borchert began reviewing the information in Exhibit "5," noting this process began 5 ½ years ago with the core screening.

Chair Wurzburger said she believes that Ms. Borchert needs more time to present this most information, and she would like to postpone this item to the next meeting, and give Ms. Borchert one hour for the presentation, placing this first on the Discussion Agenda, beginning with the policy options.

Ms. Borchert said she is presenting this to the River Commission on August 12th, and she would like to present to the Water Conservation Committee and any other committees they would recommend.

It was the consensus among the Committee to proceed as recommended by Chair Wurzburger.

18. REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION NO. 2008-___. A RESOLUTION URGING THE NEW MEXICO STATE LEGISLATURE TO PASS A BUDGET FOR THE INTERSTATE STREAM COMMISSION THAT INCLUDES A RECURRING BUDGET ITEM OF AN ADDITIONAL \$345,000 FOR ONGOING REGIONAL WATER PLANNING (COUNCILOR CALVERT). (CLAUDIA BORCHERT)

Councilor Romero asked if the \$345,000 is for a year or three years.

Ms. Borchert said there is \$55,000 in the recurring budget, so adding \$345,000 would make it \$400,000. The idea is that \$100,000 for four regions every four years would do a lot to get regions moving down the path toward updating or implementation of their regional water plan. She said we just spent \$50,000 doing phase one.

MOTION: Councilor Calvert moved, seconded by Councilor Trujillo, to approve this request.

VOTE: The motion was approved unanimously on a voice vote.

19. REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF BILL NO. ____. AN ORDINANCE REPEALING SECTION 25-2.10 SFCC 1987, FOR THE PURPOSE OF DISCONTINUING THE RAINWATER HARVESTING BARREL REBATE PROGRAM (COUNCILOR CALVERT). (DAN RANSOM)

MOTION: Councilor Calvert moved, seconded by Councilor Trujillo, to approve this request.

VOTE: The motion was approved unanimously on a voice vote.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

- 1. DISCUSSION OVER THE DISPOSITION OF CERTAIN REAL PROPERTY TO PNM BY THE GOVERNING BODY, AN EXCEPTION TO THE OPEN MEETINGS ACT PURSUANT TO NMFA NMSA, §10-15-1(H)(8)
- 2. RECLASSIFICATIONS WITHIN THE SOLID WASTE DIVISION [Removed from the Agenda and postponed to August 20, 2008]

MOTION: Councilor Calvert moved, seconded by Councilor Trujillo, to go into Executive Session to discuss the disposition of certain real property to PNM by the Governing Body pursuant to NMSA §10-15-1(H)(8).

ROLL CALL VOTE: The motion was approved on the following Roll Call Vote:

For: Councilor Trujillo

Councilor Calvert Councilor Romero

Against: None

The Committee went into Executive Session at 6:45 p.m.

MOTION: At 6:55 p.m., Councilor Calvert moved, seconded by Councilor Trujillo, to come back into regular session, stating that no votes were taken, and the only matter discussed was the matter on the agenda for the Executive Session.

VOTE: The motion was approved unanimously on a voice vote.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

14. REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF DISPOSITION OF CERTAIN REAL PROPERTY TO PNM BY THE GOVERNING BODY. (MARCOS MARTINEZ & RICK CARPENTER)

MOTION: Councilor Calvert moved, seconded by Councilor Trujillo, to approve the easement for the PNM right of way.

VOTE: The motion was approved unanimously on a voice vote.

MATTERS FROM THE PUBLIC

There were no matters from the public.

MATTERS FROM THE CITY ATTORNEY

There were no matters from the Assistant City Attorney.

MATTERS FROM STAFF

There were no matters from staff.

MATTERS FROM THE COMMITTEE

There were no matters from the Committee

NEXT MEETING: WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 20, 2008.

ADJOURN

There being no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 6:50 p.m.

Rebecca Wurzburger, Chair

Melessia Helberg, Stenegrapher