



Agenda

DATE 10/24/11 TIME 1:10p
SERVED BY Stephanie Lopez
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**PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMITTEE
MEETING
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS
WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 2, 2011
REGULAR MEETING – 5:00 P.M.**

1. CALL TO ORDER
2. ROLL CALL
3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA
4. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA
5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM THE SEPTEMBER 7, 2011 MEETING

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

None

CONSENT – INFORMATIONAL CALENDAR

6. Status Report on the Environmental Services Division. (Regina Wheeler)
7. Update on Current Water Supply Status. (Victor Archuleta)
8. Drought, Monsoon and Water Resource Management. (Rick Carpenter)
9. Update and Discussion by Public Utilities Division Staff on the Proposed Modification of Los Alamos National Laboratory's (LANL's) Work Plan to Monitor the Buckman Well Field Piezometers. (Alex Puglisi and Claudia Borchert)
10. Update on Request for Federal Assistance (i.e. Emergency Watershed Protection Program Related to Las Conchas Fire). (Brian Snyder)

CONSENT – ACTION CALENDAR

11. Request for Approval of the 2012 Public Utilities Committee Meeting Calendar. (Stephanie Lopez)

PUC – 11/2/11

CC – 12/14/11

12. Request for Approval of Amendment No. 4 to the Professional Services Agreement Between the City of Santa Fe and Stepwise for the Total Amount of \$61,667.00 Inclusive of NMGR. (Brian Snyder)

PUC – 11/2/11

FC – 11/14/11

CC – 11/30/11

DISCUSSION ITEMS AND ACTION ITEMS

13. Request for Approval of the Criteria for Evaluating Alternatives Under the Treated Effluent Management Plan Update. (Claudia Borchert)

PUC – 10/5/11 – CANCELLED

PUC – 11/2/11

FC- 11/14/11

CC – 11/30/11

14. Request for Approval to Change the Average Winter Consumption from 6,700 gallons per month to 3,600 Gallons per month for Customers Not Connected to City Water and to Proceed With an Ordinance Modification That Will Decrease the Sewer Monthly Usage Fee Based on the New Value of 3,600 gallons per month. (Bryan Romero)

PUC – 10/5/11 - CANCELLED

PUC – 11/2/11

FC – 11/14/11

CC – 11/30/11

15. Discussion and Request for Approval of Alternatives for Funding On-Going Santa Fe Municipal Watershed Management Project Work. (Dale Lyons)

PUC - 9/7/11

PUC – 10/5/11 – CANCELLED

PUC – 11/2/11

FC – 11/14/11

CC – 11/30/11

16. Request for Approval of Resolution No. 2011-_____. A Resolution Opposing PNM's Renewable Energy Portfolio Procurement Plan for 2012 as it Relates to Diminished Renewable Energy Certificate Incentives; and Urging PNM to Consider Maintaining the Renewable Energy Certificate Incentive for the Size Category at 6 Cents Per KWH With a Commensurate 1 Cent Per KWH Drop in the Renewable Energy Credit Incentive Within a Defined Period of Time. (Nick Schiavo) (Councilor Calvert)

PUC – November 2, 2011

CC – November 9, 2011

PUC – 112/11

FC –

CC –

17. Request for Approval of Amendment No. 1 to the PSA Between the City of Santa Fe and Santa Fe Watershed Association for the Amount of \$17,240.00 Exclusive of NMGR. (Dale Lyons)

MATTERS FROM THE PUBLIC

MATTERS FROM THE CITY ATTORNEY

ITEMS FROM STAFF

MATTERS FROM THE COMMITTEE

NEXT MEETING: WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 7, 2011

ADJOURN

PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES IN NEED OF ACCOMODATIONS, CONTACT THE CITY CLERK'S OFFICE AT 505-955-6520, FIVE (5) WORKING DAYS PRIOR TO THE MEETING DATE.

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PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMITTEE MEETING
Wednesday, November 2, 2011

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REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF AMENDMENT NO. 1 TO THE PSA BETWEEN THE CITY OF SANTA FE AND SANTA FE WATERSHED ASSOCIATION FOR THE AMOUNT OF \$17,240, EXCLUSIVE OF NMGR	Approved w/direction to staff	11-13
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**MINUTES OF THE
CITY OF SANTA FE
PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMITTEE
Wednesday, November 2, 2011**

1. CALL TO ORDER

A meeting of the Public Utilities Committee was called to order by Councilor Rebecca Wurzburger, Chair, at approximately 5:00 p.m., on Wednesday, November 2, 2011, in the Council Chambers, City Hall, Santa Fe, New Mexico.

2. ROLL CALL

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Councilor Rebecca Wurzburger, Chair
Councilor Patti J. Bushee
Councilor Christopher Calvert
Councilor Matthew E. Ortiz
Councilor Ronald S. Trujillo

MEMBERS EXCUSED:

OTHERS PRESENT:

Brian Snyder, 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

MOTION: Councilor Trujillo moved, seconded by Councilor Bushee, to approve the Agenda as submitted.

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

4. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

MOTION: Councilor Ortiz moved, seconded by Councilor Calvert, to approve the following Consent Informational Calendar and Consent Action Calendar as amended.

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

CONSENT – INFORMATIONAL CALENDAR

6. STATUS REPORT ON THE ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES DIVISION. (REGINA WHEELER)
7. UPDATE ON CURRENT WATER SUPPLY STATUS. (VICTOR ARCHULETA)
8. DROUGHT, MONSOON AND WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT. (RICK CARPENTER)
9. *[Removed for discussion by Councilor Bushee]*
10. UPDATE ON REQUEST FOR FEDERAL ASSISTANCE (I.E. EMERGENCY WATERSHED PROTECTION PROGRAM RELATED TO LAS CONCHAS FIRE). (BRIAN SNYDER)

CONSENT – ACTION CALENDAR

11. REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF THE 2012 PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMITTEE MEETING CALENDAR. (STEPHANIE LOPEZ) PUB – 11/02/11; AND CC – 12/14/11
12. *[Removed for discussion by Councilor Calvert]*

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR THE SEPTEMBER 7, 2011 MEETING

MOTION: Councilor Calvert moved, seconded by Councilor Ortiz, to approve the minutes of the meeting of September 7, 2011, as submitted.

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

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.

There were no informational items.

CONSENT DISCUSSION

9. **UPDATE AND DISCUSSION BY PUBLIC UTILITIES DIVISION STAFF ON THE PROPOSED MODIFICATION OF LOS ALAMOS NATIONAL LABORATORY'S (LANL'S) WORK PLAN TO MONITOR THE BUCKMAN WELL FIELD PIEZOMETERS. (ALEX PUGLISI AND CLAUDIA BORCHERT)**

Councilor Bushee said she wants to know what is meant by "formally consult with the City," and what will happen.

Alex Puglisi, Environmental Protection Specialist, Public Utilities Division, said what was implied was only that they wished the NMED would formally consult with the City. He said we have had an informal relationship with NMED in the past where, before any monitoring or plan was approved by NMED, they would consult with the City and then staff would provide formal input, following which NMED would approve the document. He said this revision did not occur this time, and this is the reason staff is recommending that we send a letter to NMED to be sure it happens the next time around.

Councilor Bushee asked if we can require NMED to come before this Committee, commenting she doesn't want it just to be a letter.

Chair Wurzbarger said we could invite them and follow up, and make that part of the closing of this loop.

Mr. Puglisi said he can do this, and believes they would be more than willing to come before the Council.

MOTION: Councilor Bushee moved, seconded by Councilor Calvert, to approve this request, with direction to staff to invite NMED to come before this Committee to talk about this issue, in addition to writing a letter.

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

Chair Wurzbarger and Councilor Calvert, on behalf of the Committee thanked Regina Wheeler for her service with the City and wished her well in her new position.

12. **REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF AMENDMENT NO. 4 TO THE PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF SANTA FE AND STEPWISE FOR THE TOTAL AMOUNT OF \$61,667.00, INCLUSIVE OF NMGR. (BRIAN SNYDER) PUC – 11/02/11; FC – 11/14/11; AND CC 11/30/11.**

Councilor Calvert said he would like them to do a cost of service study and then develop a unit cost for treated effluent, and also would like to include the elasticity of demand of effluent vs. tap water –

what is the price point where people are no longer willing to pay for treated effluent and would just as soon use tap water.

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

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

DISCUSSION AND ACTION ITEMS

13. REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF THE CRITERIA FOR EVALUATING ALTERNATIVES UNDER THE TREATED EFFLUENT MANAGEMENT PLAN UPDATE. (CLAUDIA BORCHERT) PUC – 10/05/11 (CANCELED); PUC – 11/02/11; FC – 11/14/11; AND CC 11/30/11.

A copy of Suggested Changes to the Primary Objectives and Performance Measures is incorporated herewith to these minutes as Exhibit "1."

Ms. Borchert presented information regarding this matter from the Committee packet. She said the Treated Effluent Management Working Group has met twice, noting they have made suggested changes as outlined in Exhibit "1." She said the first public meeting is planned for December 1, 2011, at the Southside Library between 6:00 and 8:00 p.m., noting she will email the details to the Committee.

Ms. Borchert reviewed the suggested changes to the Primary Objectives. She said they screen a series of options using the criteria so they can rank them, to see which option rises to the top based what objectives we think are important. She said it is planned to take the objectives in Exhibit "1" to the City Council for adoption. She was hoping to get feedback on suggested changes, and for this Committee to move this forward to the next Committee and then to Council, so these can be applied to the treated effluent options. She said she was then hoping to come back to the next PUC meeting with 26 options lined out and to go through those with the Committee.

The Committee commented as follows:

- Councilor Bushee said Ms. Borchert indicated down-stream users which are out of the City and asked what community.

Ms. Borchert said the only down stream water user is Jose Varela Lopez who has dropped out, so there isn't anybody that represents that group.

- Councilor Ortiz said he would like to add a performance measure under "Ensure Community Acceptability, as follows: "prioritize or maximize municipal uses." He said this will further defines one of the performance measures to assure community acceptability. He said constituents may score certain projects higher than others. However, the reality is that some of that water will be used and continued to be used strictly for municipal purposes whatever that may be. He said

adding the language to bullet #1 will give sharper focus to some of the other projects, while saying the municipality has a particular use.

Ms. Borchert asked Councilor Ortiz if he thinks this should replace the "Maximum quality of life for community."

- Councilor Ortiz said no, it can be an additional performance measure which complements the quality of life component." He said it should be put in the acceptability so it is clear this isn't just a wish list we're doing, and we are maximizing to the extent possible, the municipal use for the treated effluent.

Ms. Borchert asked Councilor Ortiz if it would be okay with him, if we stay cognizant of the idea that for any kind of subjective use of what is a priority for municipal shouldn't be weighed again, such as for the Southwest Node Park [SWAN Park], if it scores well because it maximizes the municipal project it is using water for municipal purposes, as well as for quality of life. She said it is okay for it to score high on both.

- Councilor Ortiz said it is his understanding that projects could score high on any number, for different reasons.

MOTION: Councilor Ortiz moved, seconded by Councilor Calvert, to approve this request, with the addition of the additional performance measure added by Councilor Ortiz.

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

Responding to Ms. Borchert, Councilor Ortiz said he doesn't need to see this at Finance, so it will go to Public Works and then City Council.

14. **REQUEST FOR APPROVAL TO CHANGE THE AVERAGE WINTER CONSUMPTION FROM 6,700 GALLONS PER MONTH TO 3,600 GALLONS PER MONTH FOR CUSTOMERS NOT CONNECTED TO CITY WATER AND TO PROCEED WITH AN ORDINANCE MODIFICATION THAT WILL DECREASE THE SEWER MONTHLY USAGE FEE BASED ON THE NEW VALUE OF 3,600 GALLONS PER MONTH. (BRYAN ROMERO) PUC – 10/05/11 (CANCELED); PUC –11/02/11; FC – 11/14/11; AND CC 11/30/11.**

Councilor Ortiz said, then we're not doing this for everyone, and it is only for people who aren't connected, and asked if this is an equity argument or a request from people.

Bryan Romero said it is based on the meter use for everyone who has a meter charge, and this is only for people who are not connected to City water.

Councilor Calvert said the caption indicates it is for people who aren't connected to the City water. He said the Council modified this for people who are on City water, but might not have usage for one or more months during the winter. He said he wants to be sure the proposed change meshes with that, so we aren't giving more to people who are not connected, than to those who are.

Mr. Romero said the Ordinance currently provides that if a person has no winter consumption, we would just read the meter in December and bill only on that reading. He said if the person wasn't there that year, they would fall back to the previous year.

Responding to Councilor Calvert, Mr. Romero said this change is only for those people without water consumption on a meter and this is based on a well.

Councilor Calvert said he understands, but he is speaking of the modification we made for people who have no usage for one or all of the months in the winter. He wants to make sure in dropping back to the previous year, it isn't for the 6,700 gallons.

Mr. Romero said the only time that might occur would be for someone who was on a well and then was connected to City water.

Councilor Calvert said we have part time residents who, for example, will have no usage for the winter months, and asked about the modification to that.

Mr. Romero said the modification provided that we go back one year if they were there, and if they weren't, then the Director would work with the person to come up with an equitable consumption.

Councilor Calvert commented that is open-ended, and asked the reason we don't use the 3,600 for those people.

Mr. Romero said the ordinance could be modified to make that provision.

Mr. Snyder said the goal was to get a realistic number which meant something, and the bottom line is that the 6,700 doesn't mean anything in today's accounting. He said they get questions all the time from customers asking for an explanation of the 6,700, and our only explanation is that it is in the ordinance. He said the bottom line is that we want some real numbers.

Councilor Calvert said he doesn't want to use the 3,600 gallons because it is inflated, said, "I think I'll just leave it alone."

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

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

15. REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF ALTERNATIVES FOR FUNDING ONGOING SANTA FE MUNICIPAL WATERSHED MANAGEMENT PROJECT WORK. (DALE LYONS) PUC – 09/07/11; PUC – 10/05/11 (CANCELED); PUC – 11/02/11; FC – 11/14/11; AND CC 11/30/11.

Dale Lyons gave a brief overview and history on this project, and the options and the pros and cons of each. He noted there were questions regarding what portion of the work is in-kind and none of the work is in-kind.

Councilor Calvert said Question #3, Paragraph 2 talks about Watershed Management at \$200,000 annually from the CIP budget, and asked if he is speaking about Water's CIP budget.

Mr. Snyder said he was speaking of the Water Division's CIP budget.

Councilor Calvert said his preference is to go with #4, which keeps the rate as advertised.

Mr. Lyons said among the 3 options, some are permanent and some are not, so if they do borrow funds from the CIP, it is not a permanent source of funding, and they would be back at some point in the future to find funding. He said funding through the rates is a recurring funding source.

Councilor Ortiz said at some point in the future, the watershed will have been treated, and thus isn't an ongoing project.

Mr. Lyons said to reduce the fire hazard and fuel loads in the watershed, we will need to re-treat areas which already have been treated.

Councilor Ortiz said the City's agreement with the Forest Service isn't permanent.

Mr. Lyons said it ends in 2014 with an option to extend.

Councilor Ortiz asked, if the contract ends, why would we take the position that this is a recurring project. Rather, take the position that this is a CIP project and fund it through the end of the contract, and a future Council can decide whether or not to continue funding.

Mr. Lyons said the fundamental principle of doing ongoing forest thinning work is to reduce fire hazard. He said if we walk away from the watershed, trees will grow back. He doesn't know how the decision was made with regard to the length of the contract, noting the Watershed Management Plan is a 20 year plan.

Councilor Ortiz said this contract is only for four years.

Mr. Lyons said the original contract, which was a 4 year contract for a thinning project, extended for 10 years.

Councilor Ortiz said he supports a funding option to fund this contract for the length of the contract and no more, otherwise, we run into potential Bateman Act issues – we are binding a future Council to a decision the future Council has the right to make. He likes the idea of funding it from the Water CIP budget.

MOTION: Councilor Ortiz moved, seconded by Councilor Bushee, to approve the recommendation from staff, with the option to look to the Water Division CIP budget to fund this program through the length of the contract which is set to expire in 2014.

DISCUSSION: Councilor Ortiz agrees with Councilor Calvert, that the easy thing to do is to keep the increase in place and then divert the income stream for this purpose which would be a recurring source of revenue through 2014. He said it is his hope that at a future point in time, a future Governing Body would look at these rates and say we've done all the uses we can and some of the rates can be reduced and returned to the public. He said by allowing this to happen, we are foreclosing that as a possibility, which he doesn't support. He said this is a Capital Improvement Plan which has a longer shelf life than the contract. He said we should hold to the terms of that project and a future Council can decide how to finance it, if it decides to extend the contract.

Mr. Snyder said he is hearing Councilor Ortiz to say, to add a CIP line item for this work in the Finance Plan through the end of the contract period which is 2014. He said the CIP project is funded through #4, which is the increase, but only through the next two year CIP cycle which lasts through 2014.

Councilor Bushee asked if Councilor Ortiz is saying to look for the money now in existing CIP Water funds.

Councilor Ortiz said yes, because presumably they need this funding in this fiscal year.

Councilor Bushee said Mr. Snyder is saying he'll work it in the rates.

Mr. Lyons said \$1.3 million was received from the Water Trust Board to fund the City's obligation for the first three years of the project which ends in May 2013.

Councilor Bushee said then we just need funding for one year.

Councilor Wurzbarger said she agrees with principle of not tying to a contract, but she is comfortable in tying with the concept that this is ongoing. She asked if we have only one extra year if we choose to go with Option #4.

Councilor Ortiz said the answer in Paragraph 2 which asks if we get some sort of credit for internal resources led him to believe we were trying to find our match, in addition to the grant we received. He thought we had a concurrent fiscal year obligation to contribute our resources toward this endeavor.

Mr. Lyons said the Water Trust Fund Grant pays for the City's obligation through Spring 2013.

Mr. Snyder said the original topic Mr. Lyons described, is that we are looking for a long term, 20 year, funding mechanism. He said Councilor Ortiz's idea is to scale back to the contract timeline, and then we would be looking at only one year, with a gap between the end of Funding by the Water Trust Board, and there would be a one year CIP project, not a 15-year ongoing maintenance project under what is proposed.

Councilor Bushee asked if there is a reallocation mechanism in the Water Division CIP, so we can cover that year, instead of obligating now, and talk about working it into the rates when we talk about the rate increase.

Mr. Snyder said there are several options covered in Items #3 and #4. He said in Item #3, we may not need the entire funding, which could be a funding source. As pertains to Item #4, when we came before this Committee a year ago, one of the questions was whether we could reduce the rates from 8.12% to something less. He said Mr. Mumm, our consultant at the time, addressed that by saying, yes, we could. Mr. Snyder said one thing to bear in mind, the new Finance Director has said the rate increase is tied to our bonds, so we really can't reduce it. He said Item #4 is getting to the fact that there is a "cushion" between what we could reduce it to based on the current CIP Plan and the 8.2%. He said either way, we can fund it through one of those two funding mechanism.

Councilor Calvert said the CIP is funded at the same rate.

Mr. Snyder said this is correct, and it is in our 10-year Finance Plan to be funded through the rates.

Councilor Calvert said then our grant runs through this budget year and the following budget year, and Mr. Lyons said this is correct.

Councilor Calvert said it doesn't entirely fund the following budget year, but it goes through the Spring 2013 period when the Forest Service would actually do the maintenance. He asked when the Forest Service Agreement terminates, and Mr. Lyons said 2014.

Responding to Councilor Calvert, Mr. Lyons said there is an option in the agreement to extend. He doesn't know what that term would be and it probably is open to negotiation.

Councilor Calvert asked if it would be extended for another 4 years, with an option to extend again after 4 years, and Mr. Lyons said he hopes so.

Mr. Lyons said to keep in mind that these are lands administered by the U.S. Service and we legally can't get in the area without the contract.

Chair Wurzbarger said this seems to be a moot point.

Councilor Ortiz said he sees no need to take any action.

Councilor Calvert said, "Just manage it."

Chair Wurzbarger asked Mr. Snyder if he is fine with that and Mr. Snyder said yes.

WITHDRAWAL OF THE MOTION: Councilor Ortiz withdrew his motion.

DIRECTION TO STAFF: Mr. Snyder said he is confused about direction to staff. Chair Wurzbarger said the direction to staff is that the Director will figure out whether it is #3 or #4, noting these are tied together, because the former is supplied by the latter.

Councilor Bushee said Mr. Snyder is authorized to take the matter up with Jason Mumm when he comes back.

Mr. Lyons said then this won't go to the Finance Committee.

Chair Wurzbarger said there is no need because he already has the money and the authority.

Mr. Lyons said then we will bring the contract back in the next fiscal year, because it expires in Spring 2013.

Councilor Ortiz said this needs to be included in planning for the next fiscal year.

16. **REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION NO. 2011- ____.** A RESOLUTION OPPOSING PNM'S RENEWABLE ENERGY PORTFOLIO PROCUREMENT PLAN FOR 2012, AS IT RELATES TO DIMINISHED RENEWABLE ENERGY CERTIFICATE INCENTIVES; AND URGING PNM TO CONSIDER MAINTAINING THE RENEWABLE ENERGY CERTIFICATE INCENTIVE FOR THE SIZE CATEGORY AT 6 CENTS PER KWH, WITH A COMMENSURATE 1 CENT PER KWH DROP IN THE RENEWABLE ENERGY CREDIT INCENTIVE WITHIN A DEFINED PERIOD OF TIME (COUNCILOR CALVERT). (NICK SCHIAVO) PUC -11/02/11; CC 11/09/11; and puc 11/02/11.

MOTION: Councilor Ortiz moved, seconded by Councilor Bushee, to approve this request.

FRIENDLY AMENDMENT: Councilor Calvert offered the following corrections:

Page 4, line 7, add "in 2002."

Page 4, line 17, "recognizes" should be "recognize."

Page 5, line 11, add "to the County." He said the County is a party to this, and it would be in cooperation with them.

THE AMENDMENT WAS FRIENDLY TO THE MAKER AND SECOND, AND THERE WERE NO OBJECTIONS BY THE OTHER COUNCILORS.

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

Chair Wurzburger, Councilor Bushee, Councilor Ortiz and Councilor Trujillo asked to be added as cosponsors. Chair Wurzburger noted that the Resolution is sponsored by the entire Public Utilities Committee.

17. REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF AMENDMENT NO. 1 TO THE PSA BETWEEN THE CITY OF SANTA FE AND SANTA FE WATERSHED ASSOCIATION FOR THE AMOUNT OF \$17,240, EXCLUSIVE OF NMGRT. (DALE LYONS)

Councilor Ortiz understands the reason for this, but it seems as if we are losing 10 classes by dumping the in-school presentations. He said under the current contract, there are 50 in-school presentations and 10 classes per year times 4 which are 90 classes which would be touched as opposed to the proposal. The proposal is to have 20 classes to go up for a visit, which would be 80 classes over the 5 years.

Mr. Lyons said for each of those 20 classes, there are 2 in-school presentations. Responding to Councilor Ortiz, Mr. Lyons said there is a follow-up class after the trip to the watershed.

Councilor Ortiz said the increase is to pay for the transportation, because the schools won't do it.

Mr. Lyons said the reason we recommend doing this is because we know the impact of the field trip on the kids is more than just in-class presentations.

Councilor Ortiz asked if the 5th grade is the best point to take the kids to the watershed.

Mr. Lyons said yes, because they're just old enough to retain the information they're getting, and they aren't to the point where they are paying attention to other things and they're not distracted. He said, in the past, they've taken 6th and 7th graders on this trip, and they're harder to manage.

Councilor Ortiz said his daughter is coming out of The Girls School in which there is a science curriculum in 6th to 8th grade, and it seems like things really stuck with her, as opposed to when she primary grades where it was just a field trip.

Mr. Lyons said the Girls School, as part of its monitoring program, actually goes into the watershed, but they are much different from public school kids in the same grade level.

Councilor Bushee said the 4th Graders attend the Water Fiesta, and they are getting away from just potable water and are looking at the watershed, and asked if they could do this at the end of the day, because all of the buses already in place.

Mr. Snyder said his concern is that it could take away from the Water Fair, and it would make it a very long day for these kids. He said it is a great learning tool for 4th graders and gives them something to look forward to in the 5th grade.

Councilor Bushee said they run out of topics to cover in the Water Fiesta, noting the things which interested the kids were the watershed and the river.

Mr. Snyder said they can look at doing something like this, but we aren't hitting every 5th grader, and hopes they can find a way to complement what is being done.

Mr. Lyons said Mr. Snyder and Mike Gonzales were very supportive, and would like to get all 5th graders to the watershed.

Councilor Calvert said perhaps the schools would be willing to match our budget.

Councilor Bushee departed the meeting.

Councilor Trujillo said his concern is that we're only hitting half of the 5th graders, and believes every 5th grade class would like to go. He said he was 37 before he went to the watershed and it was a fantastic experience, and he would like to see how to pursue getting every single 5th grader in Santa Fe to the watershed.

Mr. Lyons said one of the limitations is the narrow time window to do the field trips in Spring and Fall. He said if we were able to open it in the Summer, we would have another block of time.

Councilor Ortiz asked if we can use this as a component of our Summer recreation program.

Mr. Lyons said they submitted a funding request to the Forest Service under its Kids in the Woods program, to fund just that – get kids from the recreation program to the watershed with Forest Service funding. He said the reason that didn't happen is because they weren't awarded the funding.

Councilor Ortiz would like to amend this contract to require that.

Mr. Lyons said this would be a good way to get more kids up there.

Chair Wurzbarger said she loves the video which is excellent. However, although she loved the video, she doesn't think it is good for 5th graders. She said we need to get somebody much younger to do the information part. She said if you're going to do something for You-Tube we should get somebody really cool – younger cool.

Mr. Lyons said it isn't necessarily kids that will be watching the You-Tube version, and asked if we need a shorter version for adults.

Chair Wurzbarger said if we're going to spend resources to make the video shorter, she would rather keep the long version for adults.

Mr. Lyons said the funds are available and he will work with Joe Abeyta to make a video which is really kid-oriented.

Councilor Ortiz said one of the increases was to provide additional money to the Watershed to update their video.

Mr. Lyons said it was a \$9,000 additional fee to account for the difference in scope, and those funds already are spent. He said it doesn't cost much to whittle-down the video to make the You-Tube version, to make a kid-oriented video, commenting he will start working on that.

MOTION: Councilor Ortiz moved, seconded by Councilor Trujillo, to approve this request, with direction to staff to pursue a modification of this contract to allow for some sort of Summer youth visits to the watershed.

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 City Attorney.

ITEMS FROM STAFF

Mr. Snyder said he would like to thank Regina Wheeler for her time with the City and her shared vision for the Environmental Services Division. He said Lawrence Garcia, Project Specialist with the Environmental Services Division, will be the Acting Director. He said the position has been advertised and closes in a week or so.

MATTERS FROM THE COMMITTEE

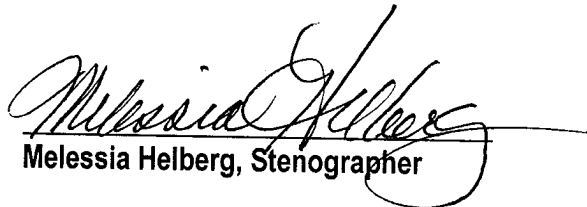
There were no matters from the Committee.

NEXT MEETING: WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 7, 2011.

ADJOURN

There was no further business to come before the Committee, and the meeting was adjourned 6:00 p.m.

Rebecca Wurzbarger, Chair



Melessia Helberg, Stenographer