

# MINUTES

## ENERGY AND RESOURCE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

APRIL 18, 2007

**CALL TO ORDER:** Chairman McNelly called the meeting to order at 7:40 a.m.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Adamson, McCormack, McNelly, Mitchell, Twineham

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Avera, Mathy, Roberts

**PUBLIC PRESENT:** None

**STAFF PRESENT:** Sewer Superintendent Roseberry, Acting Senior Planner Allen, and Clerical Support Norton

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Minutes of March 21, 2007 deferred to May 16, 2007

**INTRODUCTIONS/ROLL CALL:**

**DISCUSSION ITEMS:**

**Old Business:**

- a. Compost Giveaway (April 28) and Awareness Week (May 6-12)

Chairman McNelly stated that at the recent City Council meeting Mark McGee of MG Disposal reminded members of the upcoming compost giveaway. There will be 22 tons of compost available with a limit of 60 gallons that can be given to each household. McNelly asked that staff post the announcement of the compost giveaway at the library. There is a composting workshop scheduled on June 9 if any Committee Member would like to attend.

**New Business:**

- b. Review of City Council Appointments to ERMC

Direct Appointments:

Jeff Twineham appointed by Council Member Bankhead term ending December 31, 2010

Susan Petrella appointed by Mayor Pro Tem Quirk term ending December 31, 2008

Thaddeus McCormack appointed by Council Member Keller term ending December 31, 2010

Members at Large:

Bob Adamson	term ending 12/31/10
Gus Lucero	term ending 12/31/08
John Avera	term ending 12/31/07

Now that members have been appointed by the City Council, election of Chair and Vice Chair can be placed on the agenda for the May 16, 2007 meeting.

c. Water Systems Update

Tabled until the May 16, 2007 meeting

d. State Waste Discharge Requirement Update

Chairman McNelly said that the State of California Water Board decided to go state-wide with the same kind of plan that had been implemented in Region 8. As a result, the Region 8 order was rescinded, and the new plan took effect May 2, 2006. He briefly went over the information contained in the four handouts given to each Committee Member before the meeting began.

Sewer Superintendent Roseberry said that Fullerton has a medium size collection system with 285 miles of sewer main line; that just includes the lines in the street not the sewer lateral lines. The City was in compliance with Region 8 requirements back in September 2005 and are already online reporting as of January 2, 2007 in compliance with the new program. By the end of this month all regions should be online and reporting. Chairman McNelly advised that the State Water Resources Control Board teamed up with the California Water Environment Association to provide outreach training for all agencies throughout the state. There are 300 agencies that have not been complying and will be subject to fines.

Roseberry said the whole point is to have a standardize system in place across the state so that the data will be consistent. The City must have a management plan in place by August 2, 2007 for Sanitary Sewer Systems. The plan is completed except for some of the verbiage. The sewer fee is already in place. The City is following along with what is already in the existing plan which are living documents, any changes would be incorporated. He invited Committee Members to preview the manual at any time. Staffing level currently is between 16 and 19. Orange County Sanitation District is in charge of most of the industrial waste discharge and the City the commercial depending on the types of discharge. The City will be stepping up the Fats, Oils and Greases Program and begin to regulate vehicle maintenance (oil, water separators). Our City is one of the few cities that use our own source control personnel in order better regulate our City by educating the business owners and their employees.

Under the Capital Improvement Program 13,000 feet of sewer lines have been replaced and the City will be going out to bid to replace the sewer lines along Woods -- one of the older sections of sewer. The City participates in a program called PICES through the Orange County Sanitation District and other member agencies that ranks the severity of the sewer lines.

Chairman McNelly said Fullerton has a high sewer fee and asked how Fullerton is unique in

their sewer problems compared to other cities. Superintendent Roseberry said Fullerton is a tree city with 40,000 trees; that does not include the parks and parkways. The older pipes were made with clay; when the material breaks down the tree roots find their way into the joints of the sewer line. Chair McNelly asked in respect to the sewer fee 1) how can the Committee make sure the citizens are not being overcharged, and 2) that an audit is being done to monitor the money. Maintenance is in the process of doing an audit and publishing an annual report. Committee Member McCormack said he would like the opportunity to comment on the annual report.

Committee Member Twineham asked how much the City has brought in to date from the sewer fee. Roseberry said about 8 million a year. The money is strictly for sewers. Committee Member McCormack asked if the City is limited as to how big the reserve can get in proportion to the operating budget. Roseberry stated a half a million would be left in the reserve in case of a catastrophic failure. Some of the money goes to pay Engineering salaries for design. Our budget last year was 1.88 million, this year 2.0 million, next year 2.2 million it is going up slightly due to salary increase.

Chairman McNelly asked if the sanitation fund money (\$400,000) is still available and money is not being used from that fund for sewers. Roseberry said the City paid some of the money back. McNelly said the \$400,000 used to go to pay for sewers but has been absorbed into other programs how well was this publicized. Roseberry said the money is basically going back to the programs that it was designed for. Committee Member McCormack asked about the replacement plan and if it is plugged into street resurfacing. Roseberry said he tries to replace at the same time if possible. All lines are not TV'd yet. The City is about 70% done. Committee Member Twineham asked if any of this information is on the web. He suggested a regular update. Roseberry said earlier flyers were mailed out and photos were shown at Council but Maintenance does not have updated photos. Mail is not an effective tool; Chairman McNelly advised that this Committee should be an integral part of the requirement of the WDR to provide input to the public. Roseberry stated that once the sewer information is converted to GIS it will be put on the web and will be able to keep it updated.

How is the City doing to enforce violators of the sanitary sewer system? Roseberry said the best way to enforce the ordinance for residential is by educating business owners and their employees with handouts. For commercial it all depends on what is causing the spill as to which department has jurisdiction Fire, Engineering or Maintenance. There have been no major overflows in 2006. Maintenance is putting a program together so that the people know the proper department to call for help. Chairman McNelly asked if there have been any stoppages causing backups and low flow. Roseberry said there is not a problem with stoppage. Backflows are important for some areas such as slopes, but most areas do not need them.

Roseberry said the department is receiving a State award for the collection system of the year April 20, 2007.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

None

**ACTION ITEMS:**

None

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

None

**COMMITTEE/STAFF COMMENTS:**

Chairman McNelly said the Committee would like to be on the distribution list for any material that is published.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

With no further business the meeting was ADJOURNED AT: 8:40 a.m.

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Beverly Norton, Clerical Support