



## **COUNCIL SUBCOMMITTEE FOR WATER ISSUES MEETING**

### **SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES**

**TUESDAY, MARCH 3, 2020, 9:30 AM**

Council Chambers, 201 South Cortez  
Street Prescott AZ 86303  
(928) 777-1272

Steve Blair, Councilman  
Steve Sischka, Councilman                      Billie Orr, Mayor Pro Tem

---

Minutes of the Prescott **Council Subcommittee for Water Issues Meeting** held on March 3, 2020 in the Council Chambers located at 201 South Cortez Street, Prescott, Arizona.

1. Call to Order

Chairman Blair called the meeting to order at 9:32 a.m.

2. Roll Call

SUBCOMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

Chairman Steve Blair

Member Billie Orr

SUBCOMMITTEE MEMBERS EXCUSED:

Member Steve Sischka

3. Public Comment

*Public comment will be accepted following each agenda item and limited to three (3) minutes. Please complete a comment card and return it to the City staff, speakers will be called in the order received.*

4. Approval of February 4, 2020 Meeting Minutes

**MEMBER ORR MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE FEBRUARY 4, 2020 MEETING; SECONDED BY CHAIRMAN BLAIR: PASSED [2-0].**

5. Water Requests (more than 2 AF/year)

No water requests meeting this requirement were submitted during this period for review.

6. Focus Topic – City Water Conservation and Education 2020

Leslie Graser presented an overview of upcoming events that Public Works will be participating in during the coming months to promote water conservation and education. One popular event is Earth Day in which Solid Waste also participates to educate the public about recycling. New events this year may include City of Prescott Library – Story Walk

and Alta Vista Garden Club.

Chairman Blair commented that recycling is important and measures should be taken to educate what can be recycled.

Member Orr also stated the importance of recycling and knowing what can and cannot be recycled.

Leslie went on to discuss the current state of the rebate program with more than \$26,000 rebated to citizens in FY20, of which \$4,175 has been awarded this calendar year.

Additionally, Leslie reviewed the Facebook posts that have been prepared for the rest of this fiscal year, they are posted on the 13<sup>th</sup> of each month. Chairman Blair asked that the monthly post be added to the agenda to raise awareness during the monthly Subcommittee meeting.

Leslie discussed areas of the draft FY21 budget that describe water conservation and outreach which include implementation of an education outreach program. Also, the Mayor's Commission on Sewer and Water Connections will work to further recharge into the PrAMA for which a WaterSmart factsheet was developed in 2019.

Chairman Blair stated that the Sewer Commission goes hand in hand with goals of the Water Subcommittee by recharging what would normally be lost to septic systems. Is it possible to put a value on what we receive back into the system for recharge on a gallon basis?

Staff stated the first meeting of the Sewer and Water Commission will be held on Tuesday March 31 at 1:30 pm in the City Hall Basement Conference Room.

Citizen Leslie Hoy addressed the Subcommittee, with several comments. The Citizens Water Advocacy Group (CWAG) has tried to help promote water conservation and education by handing out City information at our public outreach events. CWAG members supported Drop by Drop and would like to see it return maybe at a different time of day. Ms. Hoy also posed a couple of questions to the Committee; When will the staff replacement happen? Will new handout materials be created? Can you be more specific about what misinformation the City thinks CWAG is sharing and why it is wrong so that we can come to an agreement on the information we are sharing? Additionally, Ms. Hoy stated there are a lot of unknowns with the hydrogeology of the aquifer, we need to act with caution if we are going to leave water for future residents.

Citizen Ralph Hess addressed the Committee, asking about recycling. What is the proper way to recycle shredded paper? Craig Dotseth stated recycling questions will be addressed at a future meeting.

Citizen Russ Pilcher addressed the Subcommittee, agreeing with Councilman Blair that recycling education is important to eliminate confusion of what is recyclable. Mr. Pilcher also stated he thinks Leslie Graser is a great resource and that the Drop by Drop program is missed.

## 7. Future Agenda Items

The committee had no additional future agenda items to add that have not already been discussed in this meeting.

Citizen Ralph Hess addressed the Subcommittee, stating he would like to see a call to the public agenda item on all public meetings similar to the Board of Supervisors.

8. Adjournment

There being no further business to discuss, Chairman Blair adjourned the meeting at 10:16 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted by:



Carey Oberheim, Business Manager



Councilman Steve Blair, Chairman

Date: 7/2/20