



CITY OF PRESCOTT COUNCIL SUBCOMMITTEE ON WATER ISSUES MEETING

REGULAR SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 2021, 9:30 AM

201 S Cortez Street
Prescott, AZ 86303
Council Chambers

Councilman Steve Blair - Chairman

Councilman Phil Goode - Member

Councilman Steve Sischka - Member

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING OF THE PRESCOTT COUNCIL SUBCOMMITTEE ON WATER ISSUES HELD ON FEBRUARY 2, 2021, IN THE 201 S CORTEZ STREET PRESCOTT, AZ 86303 COUNCIL CHAMBERS.

The following Agenda will be considered by the Prescott Council Subcommittee on Water Issues at Regular Subcommittee Meeting pursuant to the Prescott City Charter, Article II, Section 13. Notice of the meeting is given pursuant to Arizona Revised Statutes, Section 38-431.02. One or more members of the Council may be attending the meeting through the use of a technological device.

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Blair called the meeting to order at 9:33 a.m.

2. ROLL CALL

Steve Blair	Chairman
Phil Goode	Member
Steve Sischka	Member

3. PUBLIC COMMENT

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

4. DISCUSSION & ACTION ITEMS

A. Approval of the January 12, 2021 Meeting Minutes.

MOTION BY MEMBER SISCHKA TO APPROVE ITEM 4.A.; SECONDED BY CHAIRMAN BLAIR: PASSED [2-0]. MEMBER GOODE ABSTAINED FROM VOTING ON THIS ITEM.

B. Focus Topic – Decision and Order No.86-401501.0001 Modification Presentation

Water Resources Project Manager Leslie Graser provided a presentation regarding the Decision and Order (D&O) Modification, project will be submitted by Dec. 31, 2021. Funds will be dispersed from FY21 and FY22 budget. This document is available on the state website as well as the City's website under water management. The modification is in accordance with the current document and due no later than December 31, 2019. Early in the current D&O the City entered into a monitoring and modeling contract related to the Big Chino Water Ranch supplies which is a \$5.6 million dollar project over approximately eight (8) years. The city is in the process of a groundwater flow model which will be operational near September 2021.

Member Sischka asked whether Prescott has a safe yield number.

Ms. Graser responded that because the AMA is labeled the "Prescott AMA" it is assumed the city is the only one responsible; however, there are multiple cities/towns, the Tribe and unincorporated areas of Yavapai County that are part of the AMA. Everyone has to be involved in this and Prescott does not have a specific number we have to meet.

Ms. Graser continued the presentation with an overview of the State of Arizona Assured Water Program. Staff is working with the State's Assured Water Supply Program and the AMA Program on this project. First designation was granted to the city in November 1999, first modification in 2005, second modification in 2009, and this will be the third modification so this is expected and appropriate. The city has the same consultants, Herb Dishlip, Michael Pearce and Bill Greenslade, involved as in 2009 which is very beneficial.

Modification Application Requirements:

- * Demand Estimates
- * Physical Availability of Source Water
- * Continuous and Legal Availability of Source Water
- * Consistency with Management Plans
- * Financial Capability
- * Consistency with Management Goal
- * Water Quality

Schedule:

- * Standing Monthly Meetings
- * Topic Specific Meetings

* General Timeline - project kickoff (Jan. 2021), monthly meetings (February-July), ADWR pre-application meeting (August 2021), submit application (November 2021).

Staff will provide bi-monthly updates to the Subcommittee, questions in between can be sent to staff anytime via Public Works Director Craig Dotseth.

Chairman Blair asked about the different modification levels and if the amount of water or any other significant changes are being looked at.

Ms. Graser responded that the work group is reviewing the groundwater block, surface water and effluent blocks, and there is discussion on the Big Chino (initial recommendation is that it stay as is for now).

Member Goode commented that the AMA has it's own safe yield goal, and it is his understanding that information for the groundwater flow modeling has been sent so we can understand the impact as the city is the only entity with an assured water supply. How do we then work with our partners to ensure long term strategic plan for water management after this modification is completed.

Ms. Graser responded that the focus on safe yield is tied to the AMA, acknowledging importing water supplies has been part of the state plan for quite awhile. It should be made clear that the modification will include running an updated PrAMA groundwater flow model which will have scenarios/projections runs as part of the application process. Goal is to be at safe yield by 2025, regulatory oversight comes from the Department which is why staff has been participating as much as possible in those discussions.

Member of the public Leslie Hoy addressed the Subcommittee and asked if Chino Valley will be applying to be an assured water provider and if that is the case how would that fit in with what the city of Prescott is doing. She added that if anyone notices that CWAG is saying things that are incorrect she would appreciate being contacted so they can correct what they are saying.

Ms. Graser responded that she does not have any information on that.

Member of the public Peter Kroopnick addressed the Subcommittee and commented on the value of our water and said that he doesn't believe we are getting back that value.

Recommended Action: This item was for discussion only, no formal action was taken.

- C. Approval of a Revision to Prescott City Code 3-10-8: Water Conservation Code, Incentive Program, to Add an Additional Rebate Tier for Toilets with 1.28 Gallons per Single Flush.

Water Resources Project Manager Kay Sydow provided a presentation to the Subcommittee regarding a proposal for an additional rebate tier for the toilet rebate for customers who purchased a 1.28 gallon dual flush toilet, in the amount of \$75 for city sewer customers and \$125 for septic customers. Customers experienced a lack of availability of the 1.0 gallon toilets as discussed previously with the Subcommittee. This code change also recommends a retroactive rebate for those who previously purchased the 1.28 gallon single flush toilets in the amount of \$75.

Member Sischka asked if this needs to be passed onto Council.

Staff confirmed.

Member Goode said that even the 1.28 gallon is a significant reduction in a customer's water usage, and the fact that local retailers are not carrying the 1.0 gallon justifies the reasoning for the modification to the code.

Chairman Blair asked how many applications were denied. He feels that it is good we are making the change.

Ms. Sydow responded that eighteen applications were denied.

MOTION BY MEMBER GOODE TO APPROVE PASSING ITEM 4.C. TO COUNCIL FOR APPROVAL; SECONDED BY MEMBER SISCHKA: PASSED [3-0].

5. ADJOURNMENT

Chairman Blair invited Member Goode and Member Sischka to let him know if there are items they would like to see on future agendas and he will discuss with staff.

City Attorney Jon Paladini commented that members of the Subcommittee need to send any requests to staff rather than be discussed amongst the members to avoid open meeting law and then he can discuss with staff.

There being no further business to discuss, Chairman Blair adjourned the meeting at 10:18 a.m.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Steve Blair', is written over a horizontal line.

STEVE BLAIR, Chairman

ATTEST:

Sarah M. Siep
SARAH M. SIEP, City Clerk

CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that the foregoing minutes are a true and correct copy of the minutes of the Regular Subcommittee Meeting of the Council Subcommittee on Water Issues of the City of Prescott, Arizona held on February 2, 2021. I further certify the meeting was duly called and held and that a quorum was present.

Dated this 6th day of April, 2021.

AFFIX



Sarah M. Siep
Sarah M. Siep, City Clerk