



**King County
Meeting Proceedings**

1200 King County Courthouse
516 Third Avenue
Seattle, WA 98104

Regional Water Quality Committee

Councilmembers: *Larry Phillips, Chair; Reagan Dunn, Kathy Lambert*

Suburban Cities Association: *Don Davidson, Vice Chair, Bellevue; Ron Hansen, Shoreline; Bill Peloza, Auburn; Rich Zwicker, Renton*
Alternates: *Ron Harmon, Kent; Donovan Tracy, Lake Forest Park*

Sewer Districts: *Walter Canter, Bill Tracy; Alternate: Arnold Lind*

City of Seattle: *Tim Burgess, Richard Conlin; Alternate: Sally Clark*

Staff: *Beth Mountsier, Committee Coordinator (206-296-0319)*
Janice Mansfield, Committee Assistant (206-296-1683)

Room 1001

September 2, 2009

3:00 PM

1. **Call to Order**

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Chair Phillips called the meeting to order at 3:05 p.m.

2. **Roll Call**

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Present: Ms. Lambert, Mr. Conlin, Mr. Canter, Mr. B. Tracy, Mr. Davidson, Mr. Hansen, Mr. Peloza, Mr. Zwicker, Mr. Phillips and Mr. Lind

Excused: Mr. Dunn, Mr. Burgess, Mr. Harmon, Ms. Clark and Mr. D. Tracy

3. **Approval of Minutes**

The minutes of July 1, 2009 were deferred due to a correction to add Commissioner Canter's statement relating to 2009-0370.

4. Chair's Report

5. Metropolitan Water Pollution Abatement Advisory Committee (MWPAAC) Report

Scott Thomasson, President, Metropolitan Water Pollution Abatement Advisory Committee, spoke on the budget Proviso Status Report on reclaimed water, the Financial Policies Work Group and the Reclaimed Water System Planning Process.

6. Public Comment

There were no speakers. Public comment was closed.

Briefing

7. [Briefing No. 2009-B0192](#)

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Brightwater Status Report

Gunars Sreibers, Brightwater Project Manager, Wastewater Treatment Division, Department of Natural Resources and Parks, gave a powerpoint presentation.

Presented

8. [Briefing No. 2009-B0193](#)

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US EPA Audit of King County NPDES Compliance

Beth Mountsier, Council Staff, briefed the committee and answered questions of the members.

Laura Wharton, Supervisor of Planning, answered questions of the members. Betsy Cooper, Program Manager for National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES), gave a powerpoint presentation and answered questions.

Councilmember Pelozza requested additional information on Combined Sewer Overflows (CSO).

Presented

9. [Briefing No. 2009-B0194](#)

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Discussion and Action to commission the Financial Policies Work Group

Beth Mountsier, Council Staff, briefed the committee and answered questions of the members.

Councilmember Pelozza stated changes to the Charter on Page 4 of the Charter, Work Group, Section A, to correct "FWPG" to "FPWG" and on line 1 insert "staff" before 'representatives'. He announced that the Suburban Cities Association (SCA) caucus appointed Councilmember Davidson as the SCA representative to the proposed RWQC sub-committee to provide oversight of the Financial Policies Work Group (FPWG).

Councilmember Conlin made clarifying remarks concerning the financial policies and reminded members that the RWSP financial policies are not subject to be changed except by mutual agreement of the parties to the Robinswood Agreement. Mr. Conlin also stated that any fundamental revisions to the cost allocation and rate decision of Robinswood as reflected in policy 15 should be on the table and requested that the members be kept informed. He requested the working group review, refine and expand the range of financial and financial related information that is made available by the county to it's wholesale customers. Mr. Conlin expressed concern regarding judgement calls, requesting that the work group reduce and clarify judgement calls and that the work group should consider policies regarding clarification of spending parameters.

Councilmember Davidson moved adoption of the Charter for the Financial Policies Work Group. The motion PASSED.

Councilmember Hansen raised a point of order concerning whether there is a quorum for the adoption of the Charter and Financial Policy Work Group. The Chair stated that there is a quorum.

Commissioner Canter stated agreement on the comments and support for Councilmember Conlin's points.

Councilmember Davidson reported on his vision of the RWQC subcommittee that would provide oversight, and suggested that each caucus would appoint their own person. He stated that the group will be overseeing the process; attendance would not be required at all meetings; notes will be distributed to the group; no major decisions will be made by this policy group - it is a communication vehicle; there will be no authority to take action - all major decisions have to be made by the Regional Water Quality Committee for official action. The Chair, hearing no objections, affirmed the committee's direction for a sub-committee.

Beth Mountsier, Council Staff, answered questions of the members.

Commissioner Tracy asked if there are going to be changes to the completion of appointments to the work group if one already exists.

Beth Mountsier, Council Staff, stated that the following staff representatives are in the work group: Ron Speer and Ken Goodwin from Alderwood representing the Sewer District, Dave Christensen, representing the Suburban Cities, Scott Thomasson and Wes Jorgensen representing MWPAAC, Sherry Crawford representing the City of Seattle, Ann Wiegler representing the City of Bellevue, Christie True representing the King County Executive and Beth Mountsier representing the King County Council.

Commissioner Tracy moved to approve the Minutes of July 1. The Chair stated that the minutes were deferred in order to add Commissioner Canter's comments to the minutes.

Presented

Discussion and Possible Action

10. [Proposed Motion No. 2009-0370](#)

Mr. Constantine and Mr. Phillips

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A MOTION approving a report by the wastewater treatment division in the department of natural resources and parks on the status of the work program related to reclaimed water, the division's efforts to market and establish contracts for the sale of reclaimed water, and to develop preliminary rate structures and policies for the sale of reclaimed water from King County facilities, as required in the 2009 Budget Ordinance 16312, Section 105, Proviso P1.

Beth Mountsier, Council Staff, briefed the committee and answered questions.

Councilmember Davidson explained the amendments before the committee. He moved no action on 2009-0370 and 2009-0513 and proposed a meeting on October 7th. Councilmember Hansen suggested voting 2009-0370 and 2009-0513 in November or December.

Voting on meeting on October 7th PASSED.

Deferred

11. [Proposed Motion No. 2009-0513](#)

Mr. Phillips

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A MOTION approving the wastewater treatment division's planning process to determine if, how, when, where and by what funding mechanisms over the next thirty years King County's existing reclaimed water program should expand.

Beth Mountsier, Council Staff, answered questions and introduced Mark Buscher.

Mark Buscher, Wastewater Treatment Division, Department of Natural Resources and Parks, gave a powerpoint presentation.

Commissioner Canter stated he will not be voting on Proposed Motion 2009-0370 because the report is premised on the assumption that it is legal for wastewater treatment division to spend money for distribution for reclaimed water. He stated that Wastewater Treatment Division is not authorized to engage in that business because the county is not an authorized water utility. Mr. Canter requested suspending the vote until October.

Deferred

12. Other Business

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Councilmember Conlin asked staff for a review and analysis of legal policies issues relating to on site sewage treatment systems for buildings and the concept of sewage mining.

Councilmember Lambert requested information on LEED certification involved in the living systems. She commented on a new op "Don't Flush Trouble" regarding items are advertised as flushable but in actually are not or should not be put into sewer system.

13. Adjournment

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The meeting was adjourned at 5:00 p.m.

Approved this _____ day of _____.

Clerk's Signature