



**AUSTIN WATER OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE
MINUTES**

**REGULAR MEETING
7th of November 2019**

The Austin Water Oversight Committee met in a regular meeting on Thursday, November 7, 2019 at City Hall, Boards and Commission Room, 301 West 2nd Street in Austin, Texas.

Chair Paige Ellis called the committee meeting to order at 1:07 p.m.

Committee Members in Attendance:

Council Member Paige Ellis, Chair, Council Member Leslie Pool, Vice Chair, and Council Member Alison Alter.

Committee Members Absent:

Council Member Ann Kitchen

Staff in Attendance:

David Anders, Heather Dalrymple, Kevin Critendon, Heather Cooke, Sherri Hampton, Martin Tower, Christina Romero, Robert Rowan, Emlea Chanslor, Teresa Lutes, Mehrdad Morabbi, Randi Jenkins, Greg Meszaros, Ginny Guerrero, Daryl Slusher, Anna Bryan-Borja, Rick Coronado, Chris Stewart, Bill Stauber, Denise Avery, and Max Brenwe.

Citizen Communication: General

Bobby Levinski, Save Our Springs (SOS) Alliance, requested to preview an idea to bring in Sharlene Leurig (Texas Water Trade) and others to give a presentation on broader financial models for various communities on how source water protection can be done especially in light of Texas legislature caps on revenues. He gave the committee a report that includes a recommendation for Austin Water to buy more water quality protection land, using the Clean Water State Revolving Fund.

Approval of Minutes:

No minutes to approve.

Discussion and Possible Action:

1. Discussion and approval of the 2020 Austin Water Oversight Committee meeting schedule

Council Member Pool motioned to approve the schedule except for November 4, 2020 meeting date. She noted November 4th is typically election day and staff should consider another date. Council Member Ellis seconded the motion. The item was approved on a 3-0-0-1 vote with Council Member Kitchen absent.

Staff Briefings:

2. Director's Report

Director Greg Meszaros, Austin Water introduced Austin Water's leadership team and presented an overview of Austin Water's services and infrastructure to the committee. Report included an

overview of Austin's water supply and river rights, weather events and climate control, water management plan, conservation, Austin Water's strategic plan, innovative water strategies, and the wildlands.

Possible Action: (1) Council Committee wants access to Monthly Performance Dashboard; (2) they want staff to give a future presentation on water loss; (3) want to establish a partnership with the state to mitigate costs tied to the management and removal of zebra mussels; and (4) they want to help facilitate a meeting between Austin Water and Watershed Protection Department to help address zebra mussels at their source and not just at the pipes.

3. Briefing about Austin Water affordability metrics

David Anders, Assistant Director of Finance provided the briefing. Discussion included Austin Water's Affordability Plan.

Possible Action: Council Committee wants staff to incorporate affordability matrix as a key performance strategic indicator.

4. Update on Austin Water Treatment Plants and Water Quality Status

Rick Coronado, Assistant Director of Operations provided the briefing. Discussion included product quality and reliability on water and wastewater delivery plants.

Possible Action: (1) Council Committee wants an update on Redbud Isle; they want to voice their preference to do testing to catch things quickly and to make it on-going; and (2) a map of package plants that are in Travis County.

5. Update on Planned infrastructure Improvements

Item was postponed to next meeting (February 4, 2020) to include water leakages.

Future Items

- Planned Infrastructure Improvements – include leaks
- Discussion and approval of the 2020 Austin Water Oversight Committee meeting schedule

Adjourn

Chair Paige Ellis adjourned the meeting at 3:01 p.m. without objection.

These minutes were approved at the March 5, 2020 Austin Water Oversight Committee meeting on Council Member Alter's motion, Council Member Kitchen's second on a 4-0 vote.