



AUSTIN WATER OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

August 23, 2023

Committee Members Present:

1. **Leslie Pool, Chair**
2. **Ryan Alter, Vice Chair**
3. **Alison Alter**
4. **Jose Velasquez**

Committee Members Absent:

1. **None**

Call to Order

Chair Leslie Pool called the committee meeting to order at 1:02 p.m.

Public Communication: General

There were no speakers.

Approval of Minutes

1. **Approve the minutes of the May 24, 2023, regular meeting of the Austin Water Oversight Committee**

The minutes of the May 24, 2023, Austin Water Oversight Committee meeting were approved on Council Member Alison Alter's motion and Council Member Jose Velasquez's second, on a 3-0 vote with Vice Chair Ryan Alter off the dais.

Discussion and Possible Action

2. **Discussion and possible action regarding remaining Austin Water Oversight Committee meeting dates for 2023**

The proposed meeting date change from Wednesday, October 25, 2023 to Thursday, October 26, 2023 at 1:00 p.m. was approved on Council Member Jose Velasquez's motion and Vice Chair Ryan Alter's second, on a 4-0 vote.

Briefings

3. **Director's Report on innovations, events and awards, and upcoming recommendations for Council action**

The Committee received an update from Austin Water Director Shay Roalson on Austin Water's efforts in response to the city's disaster declaration regarding wildfires, plans for managing algae at water treatment plants, drought restrictions and enhanced responses to repair water leaks and reduce water loss. Upcoming recommendations for council action include contract awards for a major expansion of the Walnut Creek Wastewater Treatment Plant and power resiliency for the Wild Horse Wastewater Plant. Director Roalson also provided an update on the department's continued efforts on employee retention and recruitment and highlighted a model wastewater management conference that Austin Water has hosted annually for 20 years.

4. Austin Water External Review: Third Quarter Update on Implementation of Recommendations

The Committee received a briefing from Austin Water Director Shay Roalson on Austin Water's progress in implementing recommendations from the External Review. The Director answered questions from Committee members.

5. Updates on water supply and drought response

The Committee received a briefing from Austin Water Division Manager for Systems Planning, Teresa Lutes and Austin Water Division Manager for Water Conservation, Kevin Kluge on water supply and drought response with introductions from Austin Water Assistant Director of Environmental, Planning and Development Services, Kevin Critendon. They answered questions from Committee members.

6. Reclaimed Water System Long Range Infrastructure Plan

The Committee received a briefing from Austin Water Assistant Director of Environmental, Planning and Development Services, Kevin Critendon as well as Austin Water Division Manager for Systems Planning Teresa Lutes and Austin Water Division Manager of Utility Development Services, Shwetha Pandurangi. Director Roalson and the presenters answered questions from Committee members.

Future Items

7. Identify items to discuss at future meetings

- Council Member Velasquez requested a staff briefing on District 3 water outages in the area of Catalina and Metcalf Drive

Chair Leslie Pool adjourned the meeting at 2:10 p.m. without objection.

The minutes were approved on this the 28th day of November 2023 on Council Member Jose Velasquez's motion and Council Member Alison Alter's second, on a 3-0 vote with Vice Chair Ryan Alter off the dais.