



**CITY OF SANTA BARBARA
WATER COMMISSION
MINUTES
SPECIAL MEETING**

**Thursday, March 28, 2019
9:00 a.m.**

**David Gebhard Public Meeting Room, 630 Garden Street
SantaBarbaraCA.gov/WC**

- COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:** Mike Jordan, Megan Birney (until 11:30 a.m.), Mike Kielborn
- COMMISSIONERS ABSENT:** Dave Davis, Arturo Keller
- COUNCIL LIAISON PRESENT:** None
- STAFF PRESENT:** Joshua Haggmark, Water Resources Manager; Kelley Dyer, Water Supply Manager; Gaylen Fair, Acting Wastewater System Manager; Carson Wollert, Supervising Engineer; Dakota Corey, Administrative Analyst; Malcolm Hamilton, Administrative Analyst; Madeline Wood, Water Conservation Supervisor; Jennifer Sanchez, Commission Secretary
- PUBLIC:** Derek Carlson, Marborg Industries; Hillary Hauser, Heal the Ocean; Mark Sheridan; Charles Hamilton
- 1. CALL TO ORDER:** Chair Jordan called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.
 - 2. ROLL CALL:** All Commissioners present except Davis and Keller.
 - 3. CHANGES TO AGENDA:** Mr. Haggmark noted that Item 5b was approved at City Council on March 26.
 - 4. PUBLIC COMMENT:** None.
 - 5. CONSENT ITEMS:**
 - a. Meeting Minutes:** Approval of Minutes - February 21, 2019

Motion to approve meeting minutes as presented.
Approved (Birney/Kielborn, 2:0:1. Kielborn abstained.)
 - b. Increase in Design Extra Services for Braemar Lift Station Rehabilitation Project**

Public comment:
Hillary Hauser
 - c. Approval of Funding for Pre-Qualified Professional Engineering Firms to Support Water Capital Program**
 - d. Approval of Task Order Consultant Services Contract for Water Conservation Program**

Motion for recommendation of Items 5b-5d.
Approved (Birney/Kielborn, 3:0:0)
 - 6. ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS:**
 - a. Proposed Fiscal Years 2020-2022 Wastewater Rates**
Mr. Hamilton gave an overview of the proposed changes to wastewater rates. Staff recommended that the Commission forward the proposal to the Finance Committee.

Public comment:

Derek Carlson
Hillary Hauser

Motion to recommend that Finance Committee recommend that staff proceed with noticing for a Public Hearing; the Commission requested further discussion in May regarding the costs of treatment for high strength wastewater, with the consultant's report available and staff to provide more details on how the proposed rates will affect high strength customers.

Approved (Jordan/Birney, 3:0:0)

b. Sewer Lateral Inspection Program Update

Ms. Fair provided an update on the Sewer Lateral Inspection Program (SLIP). Staff requested Commission input on refining the program.

Public comment:

Hillary Hauser
Mark Sheridan

Commission comments:

Commissioner Kielborn

- Ownership and maintenance of the sewer lateral can be difficult to understand as a property owner, and the cost of major repairs can be an unexpected and significant financial burden.
- A set price for this work would be great, but every situation is unique.
- Supports sewer lateral inspection at the time of the sale of the property.
- Suggested looking at an option that would allow property owners to roll their lateral work into City projects to take advantage of economies of scale.

Commissioner Birney

- Supports sewer lateral inspection at the time of sale of the property.

Chair Jordan

- Supports sewer lateral inspection at the time of sale of the property.
- Improve communication, especially the notification letter to property owners.
- Establish and communicate to property owners the best practices for repair, replacement, and maintenance.
- Emphasized importance of financial relief. Initial focus should apply predominantly to low-income property owners and high-exposure locations.
- Start to narrow down financing options.

c. Public Hearing: Renaming of El Estero

Motion to waive staff report.

Approved (Birney/Kielborn, 3:0:0)

Motion to recommend that Council adopt a resolution to change the name of the El Estero Wastewater Treatment Plant to El Estero Water Resource Center.

Approved (Birney/Kielborn, 3:0:0)

d. Declaration of Stage One Water Supply Condition

Ms. Dyer presented an update on the City's water supply and described a proposed change in the declared water supply condition. Staff recommended that the Commission recommend that Council rescind the Stage Three Drought declaration and declare a Stage One Water Supply Condition.

Motion to recommend that Council rescind the Stage Three Drought declaration and declare a Stage One Water Supply Condition.

Approved (Kielborn/Birney, 3:0:0)

7. SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

No subcommittee reports.

8. WATER RESOURCES MANAGER'S REPORT

Mr. Haggmark presented the Manager's Report.

Meeting adjourned at 11:31 a.m.

DATE OF NEXT REGULAR MEETING:

Thursday, May 16, 2019, 9:00 a.m., David Gebhard Public Meeting Room, 630 Garden Street