

**SUMMARY NOTES**

**Attendees:** Water Bureau: David G. Shaff, Chris Wanner, Dave Hasson, Edward Campbell, Mike Stuhr, Kathy Koch,; Water Bureau Budget Support Staff: Jimmy Brown, Mary Leung, Jamie Seaquist, Jan Warner, Jeff Leighton, Greg Drechsler, Cecelia Huynh, Susan Bailey, Stan VandeBergh, Rich Giani, Jeff Winner, and Robin Hagedorn (recorder); Water Bureau Labor Representatives– AFSCME: Mark Gipson; COPPEA: David Argast; Budget Advisory Community (BAC) Members: Kay Durtschi, Mike Ellis, Charles McGee, II, Josiah Hill Clinic, Lise Glancy, Port of Portland; PURB: John T. Gibbon,. Others in attendance: Floy Jones, Friends of the Reservoir, Scott Fernandez, Kathryn Notson, Patti Howard, Office of Commissioner Fritz; Regna Merritt, Oregon Physicians for Social Responsibility and Bob Tomlinson, OMF.

**Agenda:**

- ◆ Welcome and Introductions
  - ◆ Follow up from December 7, 2011 BAC meeting
  - ◆ Parking Lot Item
  - ◆ OHA Hearing Questions
  - ◆ Cost of Service Base Charge
  - ◆ Questions and Answers
  - ◆ Public Comments and Questions
  - ◆ Next Meeting Agenda
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**Welcome and Introductions**David Shaff:

David welcomed the committee members and guests, followed by introductions of those present and the introduction of the new Water Quality Manager, Rich Giani.

**Follow up from December 7, 2011 BAC meeting**David Shaff:

David reviewed the letter of response from the Oregon Health Authority (OHA) on the request to indefinitely suspend the compliance schedule for the uncovered reservoirs in the city while the EPA reviews the federal LT2 rule. Based on information provided in the response letter about the EPA providing guidance on what facts may warrant compliance schedule adjustments, a new formal request will be submitted to OHA to request an extension on its reservoir replacement schedule

David reviewed the list of questions from the December 7<sup>th</sup> meeting and briefly noted the answers provided. Of particular note was the timeline for EPA lab certification if the bureau decides to adopt an in-house water testing program. David noted that the amount in the program budget for genotyping is listed as \$10,000 and mentioned that most comments on the issue were in support of the bureau doing this type of test. Scott Fernandez asked to be noted that he has made objections to the genotype testing previously and does not support this issue. David noted that Scott's comments would be included in the meeting notes.

**Parking Lot Item**

### David Shaff:

David provided information on a question from the November 16<sup>th</sup> meeting on flushing the water system. The answer of how it takes to flush the entire PWB system is with the 6 Full Time Equivalents (FTE) working, it takes about 40 years. Now that the “Big Pipe” has been completed, there should be additional opportunities for flushing pipes, weather permitting, but there is not additional staff to take advantage of this. In answer to the question on whether PWB is charged a fee for the discharge of water into the sewer system, Chris Wanner, Operations Director, noted that there is.

### **OHA Hearing Questions**

#### David Shaff:

David gave a brief overview of the OHA Public Open House scheduled the evening of December 14<sup>th</sup> on the conditional variance approval issue. David noted that he will be in attendance and anticipated other PWB staff would also attend, however PWB will not be making comments. David noted that PWB will be submitting written comments to OHA in January and expected to cover issues including:

- Use of modified sampling method previously used during the 2010 sampling period
- Genotyping
- Sampling and testing reporting when Groundwater is used instead of Bull Run supplies

David provided clarification on the presentation by Yone Akagi at the December 7<sup>th</sup> meeting and her presence by teleconferencing for an EPA workshop, both during Yone’s maternity leave. David also noted the excellent work and supervision given by Yone and the Water Quality work group during the testing period and variance request preparation.

### **Cost of Service Base Charge**

#### Dave Hasson:

Dave reviewed the current rate structure and previous models used and noted that the suggestion for changing the rate model has been asked repeatedly in past years.

The models discussed were the present method of changing rates for both the Base Charge and Volume Rate by the same percentage; Modified Cost of Service and Cost of Service. Dave provided the pros and cons of all methods.

Of note is the possible addition of monthly billing and what impact it would have on the different models. Since the issue of instituting a monthly billing program came at the direction of the City Council, the PWB budget submittal will report that there will a rate increase associated with the new program of 2%. The program will not move forward without Council approval.

### **Questions and Answers**

There were no new questions asked.

### **Public Comments and Questions**

Regna Merritt, Oregon Physicians for Social Responsibility asked the Budget Advisory Committee to recommend a reduction in the size of the Bull Run tour program (to pre-Leonard days) to reduce the risk of introducing and detecting crypto infectious to humans which could force the construction of a \$68 million treatment plant. She also asked the Portland Water Bureau request of Oregon Health Authority an extension on covering in-town reservoirs until 2034.

### **Next meeting agenda – Wednesday, December 21, 2011**

- a. BAC comments on budget direction
- b. Future agenda items?