

Philadelphia Water, Sewer, and Storm Water Rate Board  
Meeting Notes  
1/21/16

Present:

Bernard Brunwasser, Chair  
Nancy Winkler  
Sonny Popowsky  
Lee Huang  
Michael Chapman  
Frances Beckley, Esquire  
Ed Markus  
Nancy Brockway

Also Attending:

Andre Dasent  
Susan Crosby  
Marie McNeill  
Frank Paiva  
Rob Ballenger  
Thu Tran  
Gregory Duffy

The minutes from the December 3 meeting were approved.

Hearing Officer Nancy Brockway suggested that the Board take responsibility for public notice of rate hearings. Model notices will be drafted by Ms. Brockway and Frances Beckley.

Ms. Beckley reported that the matter of posting transcripts from public hearings is not fully resolved but still being discussed.

On Monday, February 22 Philadelphia Water will present their case for a rate increase. The Board can ask questions. There will be no cross examination. At the February 18 Board meeting, members will develop questions and review testimony provided by Water Department staff in preparation for the upcoming presentation.

Ed Markus, the Technical Expert, will speak at the February 18 meeting to explain how rates are structured and costs are allocated. Mr. Markus will address cost of service translated to rates, and provide an overview of the rate processes used in New York and DC Water Authorities.

Mr. Brunwasser gave background on the implementation of storm water billing. Originally, charges were based on the size of the meter at the property. As time progressed and more data became available, calculations were revised and customers are now charged more equitably.

The February 4 meeting is cancelled. The next Board meeting will be on February 18, 2016, preceded by a Hearing Officer conference at 2:00 p.m.