

City of Philadelphia, Water, Sewer and Storm Water Rate Board
May Monthly Meeting Notes
5/8/2019, 1515 Arch Street, 18th Floor, Rooms 18-025 (Mayor’s Media Room)

Board Members Present

Irwin “Sonny” Popowsky, Chair
Tony Ewing, Vice Chair
Rasheia Johnson

Absent: Folasade Olanepikun-Lewis,
Abby Pozefsky

Also Present

Daniel W. Cantú-Hertzler
David Jagt
Susan Crosby
Ed Markus
Joline Price
Ji Jun
M Melissa LaBuda
Scott Schwarz
Steven Liang

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Mr. Popowsky called the meeting to order at 3:08 p.m. Mr. Ewing moved to accept the minutes from the February 13, 2019 and April 15, 2019 monthly meetings. Mr. Popowsky seconded the motion. The February 13 meeting minutes were approved unanimously, with no abstentions. The April 15 meeting minutes were approved with two “ayes” from Mr. Popowsky and Mr. Ewing; Ms. Johnson, not having been present at that meeting, abstained.

Mr. Schwarz then presented an update on the TAP Rider Reconciliation Proceeding. On Monday, May 6, 2019 the Law Department filed formal notice with the Department of Records and circulated the notice to the participants in the TAP proceeding as well as the participants in the prior general rate proceeding. The notice was also published in the Philadelphia Inquirer, the Legal Intelligencer, the Daily News, and the Philadelphia Tribune. The Water Department informed the Board that it had responded to, or was in the process of responding to, the discovery requests made by the Public Advocate and by Ed Markus, the Board’s technical consultant.

Mr. Popowsky spoke briefly about the procedural Scheduling Conference call scheduled for May 15, 2019, confirming its date and time. He then proceeded to discuss some of the remaining items on the preliminary schedule, including: the confirmation of the May 24 deadline for filing of initial comments, the cancellation of the June 12 Monthly Board meeting, the official date of the combined public hearing and technical conference, and the public meeting during the Week of June 24 to vote on the results of the proceeding.

Mr. Popowsky asked Mr. Markus to discuss the work he had been doing with the Department and the Public Advocate in creating a rate model for the next General Rate Proceeding, scheduled to commence in February 2020. Mr. Markus stated that he and his subcontractor were progressing nicely in creation of the model. The goal of the model is to create a tool that would

allow members of the Board and participants in the proceeding to see in real time the impact of proposed changes in the Water Department's revenue requirements.

Next, Mr. Popowsky asked Ms. LaBuda about the issues raised in the prior meeting regarding the alternative rate design. Ms. LaBuda had no updates, instead saying that the Water Department would be able to begin inquiries into the matter starting in June. She made clear that any major proposed changes would be incremental and part of a multiyear process to ease transition.

No one having any further questions or issues, the Board voted to adjourn.

Meeting adjourned at 3:47.