

Philadelphia Water, Sewer and Storm Water Rate Board
June Special Meeting Notes
6/15/2022, by Zoom (Online and Telephone) Only
Open for public participation via Zoom

Board Members Present

Irwin “Sonny” Popowsky, Chair
Tony Ewing, Vice Chair
Abby Pozefsky, Secretary
McCullough “Mac” Williams
Debra McCarty

Non-Board Members Present

Marcy Chestnut
Robert Ballenger
Andre Dasent
Megan Kester
Lance Haver
Danielle Lavery
Daniel W. Cantú-Hertzler
Brook Darlington
Carl Shultz
Tim Williams
Dan Berger
Michael Skeindelewski
Steven Liang
Unnamed via phone

Mr. Popowsky called the meeting to order at 3:03 p.m.

1. Mr. Popowsky tentatively scheduled monthly Board Meetings for July 13, 2022, and August 10, 2022, at 3:00 p.m.

2. The Board opened the meeting to public and participant comments. With respect to the Rate Determination in the Special Rate Proceeding, Mr. Ballenger stated his concern with the Water Department’s use of a confidential Rate Model provided to the Public Advocate by PWD’s subcontractor as opposed to the publicly available Simple Rate Model created by the Board’s Technical Consultant, Mr. Edward Markus. Additionally, the Department had made certain adjustments to its calculations that the Public Advocate had not yet been able to fully explore and hoped that the Department would be providing means to do so.

Mr. Dasent stated that the Department would be providing the Public Advocate with updated Rate Models in the compliance filing and that the Department had been waiting for Board approval to do so. Mr. Popowsky stated that the Department was free to supply the Public Advocate those models and did not need Board approval. Mr. Popowsky further stated that the Board expected the Department to file rates that were consistent with what it had voted to approve and that all Participants would be able to review and comment on the new rates before they were implemented. He stated that line 5 of Table C-1A in the draft Rate Determination for the Special Rate Proceeding would show the general rate increase as \$31.11 million for FY 2023, down by \$3.0 million from the \$34.11 million as approved by the Board in its 2021 General Rate

Proceeding; and that Schedules C-4 and C-5 would provide the public with specific rate changes for illustrative purposes. Mr. Ballenger found this response satisfactory.

3. Mr. Popowsky noted that Mr. Skiendzielewski had submitted a comment in writing and had requested that it be attached to the minutes as the Board had done with a prior written comment by Mr. Skiendzielewski at its monthly meeting on June 8. Mr. Popowsky moved that the comment be attached to the minutes for purposes of discussion and Mr. Williams seconded the motion. After discussion by the Board members, the Board concluded that the comments were not at all pertinent or relevant to the business of the June 15 special meeting and therefore should not be attached to the minutes of this meeting. The Motion to attach the comments to the minutes was rejected 5-0.

4. Mr. Popowsky asked Board members to consider and vote on the draft Rate Determinations for the two rate proceedings, stating that under the applicable ordinance, they would then be filed with the City's Department of Records.

The Board voted 5-0 to approve the 2022 TAP-R Rate Determination. As filed with Records, the approved version can be found [here](#). The Board then voted 5-0 to approve the Rate Determination for the 2022 Special Rate Proceeding, which as filed can be found [here](#).

Ms. McCarty commended Mr. Popowsky for well-crafted orders. Mr. Popowsky thanked Ms. Chestnut for providing excellent drafts, and also thanked her for her efforts in the proceedings.

5. Mr. Popowsky asked if there were any other business or comments to be brought before the Board. Mr. Dasent stated that the Water Department intended to file PWD rates and charges the week of June 20 and hoped that the period for comments would come to a close by the end of June so there would be abundant time to implement the new rates on September 1.

6. Mr. Ewing moved to adjourn, and Mr. Williams seconded. The motion was adopted 5-0. The meeting was adjourned at 3:28 p.m.