

PORA Water Committees
March 21, 2013 Minutes @ 9:30

Attendees: Merlyn Carlson Chairman, Todd Patty/Rec Center, Shawn Bradford/EPCOR, David Hunter/Briarwood Golf Course, Howard Jones, James West, Tom Cook, J.B Wyckoff, Duane Robinson.

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| 1. Introduction/ Welcome | Merlyn Carlson |
| 2. Minutes of February 21, 2013 , were approved as corrected | Merlyn Carlson |

3. Current Updates:

Shawn Bradford EPCOR: This time of year we are working on equipment maintenance along with checking fire hydrants. EPCOR also cleans 20% of the sewers each year, and inspect the systems.

Q: Merlyn Carlson: The proposed new Sun City West sign at the intersection of Bell Rd. and El Mirage Rd.(northwest corner). The sign will need water and electricity for the small amount of plants. Is it possible to get any water from Epcor?

A: Todd Patty, Rec Center: the Rec Center has irrigation system that runs close to that area. I will see if we can help out with the water to the sign.

A: Shawn Bradford, Epcor: have you considered solar for the lighting? Same as the city of Surprise has on their sign on Bell Rd.

Q: James West: does EPCOR have a low income rate program in Sun City West?

A: Shawn Bradford: I don't think Sun City West has that program at this time. If not, it will be added at the next Sun City West rate adjustment.

Todd Patty Rec Center: golf course water usage report for January and February of 2013: we have used 161.9 acre feet of water. The rainfall this year was 2.09 inches; last year at this time it was .91. Last year's total annual rain was 4.61; normal rain total is 7.75 to 8.00 inches.

We put in a new energy saving pumping station at Echo Mesa golf course 2 weeks ago. Energy conservation equipment will save on water, electricity, and we also get rebate from APS.

We also have plans to change out some irrigation heads to the new energy efficient heads to save water on golf courses. We are finishing up our well pump today with completely new assembly from head to toe at Stardust golf course. Stardust and Pebblebrook wells are about 33 years old.

David Hunter Briarwood Golf course: Thanks to the rain we have had this year we are under our water allotment. Golf course is in good shape. We had 30 frost delays in January and February. We are experiencing duck problems on the lake, and purchased a remote control boat. It does frighten the birds away for a while.

Todd Patty: For the Rec Center geese problems on the golf courses, we have trained a dog we rescued to chase the geese off the golf courses. We drive up in the golf cart with the dog and the geese take off now. This has worked better than anything we have used over the years.

Tom Cook: Are rabbits still a problem?

Todd Patty: No, I think the coyotes helped with that problem. Years ago the rabbits were a problem.

Committee:

Howard Jones: In Arizona we need to be more critical with our resources. The CAP water, from the Colorado River, could dry up if the drought upstream in the upper basin states worsens.

David Hunter: I emailed the committee a copy of the newsletter for the winter Water Resources Research Center (WRRC) at the U of A College of Agriculture and Life Sciences. It does list the southwest as one of the most “climate-challenged” regions of North America. You can go to wrrc.arizona.edu/publications website to read the report and follow up if you would like to.

J. B. Wyckoff: When Governor Fife Symington was in office, I was asked to chair the Northwest Valley Resource Advisory Committee. We advised the Governor’s office 15 years ago to stop all new building in this part of the valley due to water supply.

Tom Cook: The ground water in past years was down 4 to 5 inches now it is back up. Is recycling and recharging helping with that?

A: Yes our recharging efforts are paying off.

4. Old Business

5. New Business

6. Adjournment 10:25 AM

Next Meeting: **Thursday April 18, 2013 @ 9:30**

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