

PORA Water Committees January 7, 2014 @ 9:30 a.m. Minutes

Attendees: Merlyn Carlson/Chairman, Shawn Bradford/EPCOR, David Hunter/Briarwood Golf Course, Howard Johnson, James West, J.B. Wyckott, Duane Robinson and Nik Brown.

1. Introduction/ Welcome
2. Minutes of **November 21, 2013**, were approved

3. Current Updates:

Shawn Bradford EPCOR:

- We will be starting up the 2014 AMR automatic meter replacement program; the goal is to replace 7% each year.
- We clean 20% of the waste water collection system each year.
- 20% of the Sun City West fire extinguishers are exercised and maintained every year. We repair and replace extinguishers as needed.
- We continue replacing the butterfly valves that Del Webb originally put in with the better gate valves.

Q: Merlyn Carlson: Is there a rate change coming?

A: Shawn Bradford EPCOR: We are in the process of filing a rate application to ACC for multiple districts; at this point I don't know if Sun City West district will be included. The first call I make after finding out will be to you at PORA. If we are filing for an increase in the SCW district the first thing we will do is to request a meeting with the public to answer any questions they have. We will be proactive in giving out information.

Q: Merlyn Carlson: The HOAs are planning their yearly budgets. Can we get that soon?

A: Shawn Bradford EPCOR: If SCW is on the rate application at the end of this month or Feb. the schedule would be:

1. The schedule will take most of 2014.
2. Reach a settlement with the ACC or get the increase adjudicated, approved or denied.
3. The rate increase would typically come into effect a few months after that.

If the increase is approved it would take effect at the earliest by October, November or December 2014.

I have made a commitment to keep PORA informed. As soon as I find out I will call Merlyn, and Bill Hansen.

Q: Merlyn Carlson: How are we doing on conservation?

A: Shawn Bradford EPCOR: We have seen a decline of water usage in all districts.

Q: Merlyn Carlson: How is our water usage in Sun City West?

A: Shawn Bradford EPCOR: I will bring the Sun City West numbers to our next meeting. We have seen the water usage per capita go down in all water districts. People are conserving water inside. However the outside landscape watering is approximately 70% of your water bill. We are always happy to speak to any group regarding water conservation. Tomorrow we will be speaking to an HOA in Sun City West on water conservation.

The problem that both EPCOR and APS have as public utilities, we have to be on line to meet the peak demand at any time during the day. The summer is the largest demand for water 2 to 1.

David Hunter Briarwood Golf course:

- 2013 was good. We managed to finish the year 14 acre feet under our allotment. The rain we got, along with the upgrades to irrigation systems, all helped to keep it low.
- We are still waiting to hear from Arizona Department of Water Resources on our future water allotment. We are hoping it will not change.
- We have had a number of frost delays on the golf course.

Q: Merlyn Carlson: Does EPCOR have AMA/Arizona Department of Water Resources regulations?

A: Shawn Bradford EPCOR: Yes, we have both AMA/ ground water rights, with 10 wells in Sun City West, along with CAP/ Central Arizona Project water allotments. Of all the seven CAP states Arizona is the most proactive; we take our full allotment and bank what we don't use for future use.

Q: Nik Brown: Would like a meeting in February so the HOAs can find out if Sun City will be included in the ACC rate.

A: Merlyn Carlson: We could give you an email message as soon as we hear back from Shawn.

A: Shawn Bradford EPCOR: When I know, I will let Merlyn know.

4. Adjournment 10:30 A.M.

Next Meeting: **March 4th at 9:30 A.M.**

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