

## **PORA Water Committees March 4, 2014 @ 9:30 a.m. Minutes**

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

1. Introduction/ Welcome
2. Minutes of **January 7, 2014** were approved

3. Current Updates:

**Shawn Bradford EPCOR:**

- We are upgrading our customer service software.
- We will be starting up the 2014 AMR automatic meter replacement program; the goal is to replace 7% each year.
- We continue replacing the butterfly valves that Del Webb originally put in with the better gate valves.
- At this time we are getting ready for peak demand this summer.

**Q: Merlyn Carlson:** Would you share information on the rate increase.

**A: Shawn Bradford EPCOR:** Sun City West water district is not involved in the multi districts rate increases for water or waste water that EPCOR is seeking.

EPCOR is regulated by the ACC (Arizona Corporation Commission). In order to put in for a rate increase in the state of Arizona, we have to provide an historical test year. We used July 2012 – June 2013, with the cost we incurred that year. This shows increased cost in operating expenses, power, chemicals, taxes, and capital improvements. The ACC can approve, modify or deny the proposed increase.

**Q: Tom Cook:** If the 53 acres are sold to a developer at the end of Deer Valley Dr., would that affect the water pressure of the Sun City West homes around that area?

**Q: Merlyn Carlson:** Do we have enough pressure and adequate water?

**A: Shawn Bradford EPCOR:** The 53 acres in question are currently in the Agua Fria water district, and the waste water goes to the northwest plant along with Sun City West, and the communities of Corte Bella and Crossriver.

- On the waste water side, any upsizing or pumping costs will be covered by that developer for waste water.
- On the water side, whether they stay in the Agua Fria water district or are made part of the Sun City West water district, any improvements that are needed, if additional pumps for pressure and water supplies are needed, all will be covered by the developer.

At this point we have not been provided with any engineering plans. Are they building residential housing, or commercial? Whatever the demands are will all be covered by that developer. Any resource needs that they bring to the table will be their responsibility.

**Q: Nik Brown:** With the current water problems, do we in Sun City West have enough water for the future if we allow the 53 acres?

**A: Shawn Bradford EPCOR:** The state of Arizona is moving to a requirement for safe yield. Currently we have to provide 100- year assured water supply, which we have done for the Sun City West water district. There are enough resources available for minimum of 100 years. All the development in Maricopa County is required to show that. As a state we are moving to whatever amount of water we take out of the ground we need to return an equal amount back. And the state is talking about making the water recharging taking place in the same area as it was taken out.

**David Hunter Briarwood Golf course:**

- February was warm and we went 70 days without rain, which left us 5 1/2 acre feet over our water allotment. We hope the rain we just received will help with that.

4. Adjournment 10:05 A.M.

Next Meeting: **May 6, 2014 at 9:30 A.M.**