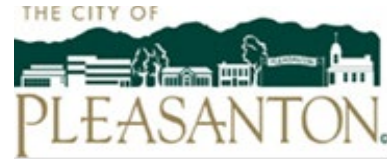




Zone 7 Representatives

Board member Sarah Palmer
Board member Angela Ramirez Holmes
Board member Kathy Narum



Pleasanton Representatives

Mayor Karla Brown
Councilmember Jeff Nibert

AGENDA

ZONE 7 WATER AGENCY / CITY OF PLEASANTON

LIAISON COMMITTEE MEETING

City of Pleasanton Public Works

Remillard Conference Room

3333 Busch Road

Pleasanton, CA 94566

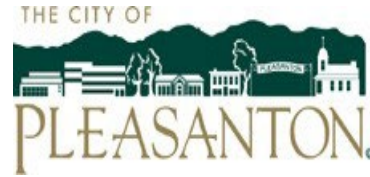
Monday, April 8, 2024

3:00 p.m.

1. Call to Order
2. Approve Minutes of August 13, 2019
3. Public Comment – *At this time, audience members are encouraged to address the Committee on any item that is within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Committee and not already included on the agenda. Comments should not exceed five minutes.*
4. Discussion Items
 - A. Discuss Regional Groundwater Wells-Staff Terms of Collaboration - Zone 7 and Pleasanton staff
 - B. Discuss Update Groundwater Modeling/PFAS – Zone 7 staff
 - C. Water Supply Agreement – Zone 7 staff
 - D. Other Zone 7 Activities – Zone 7 staff
 - E. Pleasanton Water System Activities – Pleasanton staff
 - F. Future Scheduling of Committee Meetings and Proposed Agenda Items
5. Adjournment

Accessible Public Meetings

The City of Pleasanton can provide special assistance for persons with disabilities to participate in public meetings. To make a request for a disability-related modification or accommodation (e.g., an assistive listening device), please contact the City Clerk's Office at 123 Main Street, Pleasanton, CA 94566 or (925) 931-5027 at the earliest possible time. If you need sign language assistance, please provide at least two working days' notice prior to the meeting date.



Zone 7 WATER AGENCY / CITY OF PLEASANTON LIAISON COMMITTEE MEETING

AUGUST 13, 2019

DRAFT MINUTES

Item 1 – Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 1:01 p.m. by Karla Brown, Chair of the meeting.

Item 2 – Roll Call

CITY OF PLEASANTON	ZONE 7
<i>Committee Members Present</i>	
Karla Brown, Vice Mayor	Olivia Sanwong, Vice President
Kathy Narum, Councilmember	Dennis Gambs, Director
	Angela Ramirez Holmes, Director
<i>Agency Staff Present</i>	
Nelson Fialho, City Manager	Valerie Pryor, General Manager
Kathleen Yurchak, Director of Operations and Water Utilities	Osborn Solitei, Assistant General Manager
Todd Yamello, Assistant Director of Operations Services	Jarnail Chahal, Engineering Manager
	Carol Mahoney, Integrated Water Resources Manager
	Alexandra Bradley, Communication Specialist
	Colleen Winey, Associate Geologist

Item 3 – Public Comment

None

Item 4 – Discuss Pleasanton Eastside Specific Plan

Mr. Fialho reported that the Eastside Specific Plan continues to be a priority for the City of Pleasanton and is scheduled to be underway by the end of this year and into 2020. Staff will bring forward a framework of possibilities for Council discussion and consideration. The framework will involve a lot of policy discussion on the types of housing to target, types of infrastructure, amenities desired for the community, school and city facilities, open space and collaboration with Zone 7. Mr. Fialho indicated that staff will do an early check-in with the Council regarding the objectives for the project that will influence the process along the way and then have periodic check-ins during that process with the Council and return to the Council as necessary. Mr. Fialho indicated he would reach out to Ms. Pryor on the Zone 7 components for this project. Mr. Fialho indicated that from a state perspective, the City has to have an adopted housing element which is a component of the general plan to meet state housing obligations and is anticipated in early 2022. It will have to be adopted, environmentally cleared and certified roughly January 2022 in order to get credit for all the housing and planning work as part of this project. Mr. Fialho also reported that the owners of the property are out of Texas and are in agreement and shared partnership with Ponderosa homes which will lead the planning effort and be the face of

the planning process. Ms. Narum indicated that this is ideal because they have built over half the homes in Pleasanton and are very aware of the community and City processes.

Ms. Ramirez Holmes indicated she recently shared a document with Jeff Schrader of Ponderosa Homes that shows the Chain of Lakes facilities and the areas planned to be used by Zone 7 for flood control, groundwater recharge, etc. She asked that this document be shared early on with the City Council and Planning Commission so they are aware of the limitations and opportunities for recreation that would and would not be available near the Chain of Lakes area. Ms. Narum requested a copy of the document. It was noted that the Board is typically open to having recreational opportunities via license agreements/partnerships however, safety and access will need be looked at to determine feasibility.

Ms. Sanwong said that Sean from East Bay Regional Parks District was interested in connecting the Iron Horse Trail. She also indicated that the public should be directed towards the East Bay Regional Parks which offers lots of existing recreational opportunities (i.e. paddle boards, kayaking, etc.)

The committee discussed a variety of partnerships and agreements with Zone 7 allowing for recreational opportunities, however, it was noted that the following factors should be considered when planning for the area: funding mechanisms, maximizing access for both Zone 7 and the public. Ms. Pryor indicated that if recreational opportunities are allowed in the Chain of Lakes area it would likely be limited to trails or an interactive nature center. Ms. Ramirez Holmes indicated that there is a matrix that shows allowed uses, not allowed uses, and a possibly allowed column that Zone 7 could bring to the Zone 7 Water Resources Committee so it can be updated in the next few months for further public discussion on this project.

Ms. Brown inquired on what the position is of the Zone on having vehicles on the proposed roads near the Chain of Lakes. Zone 7 did not express concerns with regards to the vehicle exhaust as they plan to install underground pipes. It was noted that the goal of both agencies is to plan ahead and only dig once if feasible.

Item 5 – Discuss PFOS/PFAS Detected in Production Wells

Jarnail Chahal, Engineering Manager, provided a detailed presentation reviewing the following:

1) What are PFAS?

*Man-made compounds since 1940s which are used in a wide-range of products (i.e. shampoo, paints, non-stick cookware, stain resistance products, photography, firefighting foams, fast food packaging, and pesticides).

It was noted these are very stable chemicals which are not biodegradable and can cause environmental problems when found in drinking water, ground water basins, and food supply, etc.

2) Reviewed the PFAS Cycle and addressed where PFOs/PFAS are found.

Ms. Pryor indicated that these chemicals are very prevalent and could have been in the ground water for a long time. She said it is likely they won't be able to find a sole source which has caused the increase in levels over the years.

Ms. Sanwong indicated that she did some research on her own and said that if you wash a gortex jacket in the washing machine, the wastewater can get into the groundwater. In addition, with the increase in fast food consumption more containers are being dumped in our landfills as well.

3) Federal Regulatory Guidance by the United States Environmental Protection Agency

* Issued lifetime health advisories in drinking water (70 parts per trillion (ppt) for PFOA and PFOS, either singly or combined);

* Intends to establish a drinking water legal limit (i.e. maximum contaminant level (MCL) for PFOA & PFOS;

* Published multi-media, multi-program, national research and communication plan in February, 2019

Ms. Narum questioned what happens when the water is tested and is above contaminant level.

Mr. Chahal indicated there is a process in place where the water is tested a second time to confirm the levels and the water source could potentially be taken out of service as a precautionary measure.

4) Treatment Technologies;

- * Ion-exchange resin (It was noted that solids are disposed as hazardous materials in a certified hazardous waste landfill out of county;
- * Reverse Osmosis Membrane systems (takes out almost 99%)
- * Home Filtration Systems also available

Mr. Chahal said there currently are no regulations at this time on the disposals.

5) State Level – CA Healthy Guidelines

- * Issued guidance – July 2018;
- * Notification level (NL) (14 ppt for PFOA and 13 ppt for PFOS)
- * Response level (RL) (70 ppt combined for PFOA & PFOS)

6) Zone 7 Proactive PFAS monitoring

- * Monitored for 6 PFAS as representative sources in 2013 per UCMR3
 - As a wholesaler, Zone 7 was exempt from monitoring, monitored regardless.
 - Non detected – Method Reporting Limits (MRLS) were much higher than current methods
- * Monitored for 14 PFAS at all sources (Nov 2018 – Jan 2019)
 - PFOA & PFOS were detected at 8 ground water wells.
 - MRLS are much lower (2 ppt)
 - Other PFAS detected, but no regulator guidelines available

7) Zone 7 Actions and Communications

- * Immediately implemented procedures to reduce PFOS & PFOA to less than Response Level (RL) at Mocho 1 Well by utilizing Blending and Reverse Osmosis;
- * Notified Department of Drinking Water (DDW), Zone 7 Board, Retailers & direct customers (Jan – Mar, 2019);
 - * Presentation and detailed staff report to Zone 7 Board in April 2019;
 - * PFOS data included in 2018 Consumer Confidence Report, CCR added to website and sent in June eNewsletter;

Ms. Brown inquired if the general public was notified.

Ms. Pryor indicated that Zone 7 placed information on their website and also provided a detailed report during the board presentation in April, 2019, which was televised. It was noted that Zone 7 didn't want to over step their bounds and wanted to coordinate with the retailers to message the information to the general public as deemed necessary.

8) Zone 7 Further Actions

- * Initiated quarterly monitoring per State directive in April 2019;
- * Results of quarterly monitoring are immediately shared with the Board and the Retailers and are published in the next available Zone 7 Board packets;
- * Continue to monitor PFAS regulatory and research development;

9) Groundwater Basin monitoring

*In July 2019, conducted PFAS testing on 19 groundwater monitoring wells (out of Zone 7's network of over 220 monitoring wells);

* All monitoring wells show PFOS detections with higher concentration in shallow wells;

* Additional monitoring wells and re-sampling is planned to verify detections and evaluate potential contamination sources;

Mr. Chahal reported that all 19 monitoring wells have some detection and there was no one source at this time. The plan is to add additional monitoring wells. He provided clarification that there are 10 production wells and the monitoring wells are not production wells used for drinking water supply.

10) New Developments

* Per DDW information communications with staff lower NLs are anticipated in near future: PFOS = 6.5 ppt and PFOA's = 5.1 ppt;

* Per DDW revised RLs are anticipated toward end of the year.

11) New Regulations

*AB 756 – Signed into law in July 2019 which requires reporting of any PFAs detections in annual consumer confidence report and requires direct notification if the impacted source is above RL of 70 ppt unless taken out of service or treated below RL of 70 ppt;

*Even though it was not required at the time, Zone 7 has already included PFAS info in its annual CCR and provided notification to its customers earlier this year.

Ms. Ramirez Holmes indicated this is an emerging concern because there is very little guidance or rules at the moment so it's important that the agencies work together to resolve this issue by using detection systems to take systems off-line if necessary. She reported that as soon as Zone 7 was notified of the levels, the retailers were notified immediately. Although it wasn't required, as Board President, she felt it was important to agendize for discussion as a precautionary measure to inform the public of the emerging concern and not to cause unnecessary panic as the issue was being handled and the water is safe according to all regulations.

Ms. Brown referred to an EPA handout which states, "To provide Americans including the most sensitive population with a margin or protection from a lifetime of exposure. PFOA's and PFOS from drinking water EPA established a health advisory level of 70 parts per trillion." She expressed the concerns of those who are at most risk (pregnant mothers, newborn babies) as it can cause horrible diseases in the liver, kidney and cancer. She expressed the importance of addressing the risk and informing the public as deemed necessary.

Ms. Ramirez Holmes indicated that the retailers were notified of the PFAS levels, however, if the Council and staff feels it's important to take other notifying measures or create another notification policy, they could certainly do so, but at this point Zone 7 is not even close to exceeding levels from the state.

Ms. Pryor indicated this is certainly an emerging concern and there are headlines every day on this topic. There are a lot of risks and a number of statewide organizations that are trying to tackle this issue and encourage regulatory agencies to set standards based on data and science not necessarily public reactions. As long as we are taking our wells out of service or blending, and keeping the water below these levels, it will be a good idea to watch these development happen.

Mr. Fialho indicated that the City of Pleasanton doesn't have the infrastructure to blend like Zone 7 and indicated that Ms. Yurchak would be providing information about shutting the system down when thresholds are reached. He indicated that both agencies are doing everything they can to keep the drinking water safe.

Ms. Yurchak reviewed the City of Pleasanton PFOA and PFOS Sampling results. It was noted that Well 8 was placed in last priority on Busch Road as a result of high PFAS. Both agencies will continue to do sampling and testing to monitor the levels. Mr. Yamello indicated that Carollo Engineers has been contracted out to provide a

proposed scope of work to provide an assessment of possible treatment technologies. This project will occur during the next 3-4 months. Mr. Yamello indicated that the goal is to have a plan by the end of the year and in place prior to next summer as if there was an emergency it would be an issue with only two operating wells.

Ms. Brown inquired if this item will be going to the Council at the next meeting.

Mr. Fialho reported staff is making plans to put this information in the annual consumer confidence report along with Zone 7's report that goes to every resident in the community. Staff will have a better sense of what the plan is for resolution as it is just conceptual.

It was noted that both agencies will continue to do sampling and testing to monitor levels and inform the Board and Council. They both agreed this was an emerging concern with potential risk and with the information available both agencies have taken steps to mitigate, however, right now there are a lot of unknown factors to be determined. Both agencies agreed that the Tri-Valley agencies need to work together as more information/regulations becomes available to inform the public with the same messaging.

Item 6 – Discuss Zone 7 Rate Review Schedule

Ms. Pryor reported the rate review schedule will run between May, 2020 to October, 2020. The kick off will start in May, 2020 with the retailers who will start working with the consultants on the rate study, and then in August will send out postcards to all residents and businesses. Public and Board meetings will be held in August/September. The rate study 2020 will provide information on whether or not any adjustments need to be made to the rates.

Ms. Ramirez- Holmes indicated there are a lot of unknowns that may affect future water rates (i.e. State guidelines on Water Conservation is a way of life, diversification of water sources, mcl's and stricter guidelines).

Ms. Brown inquired on the status of the single tunnel. Ms. Sanwong indicated that they presented at the board meeting and the presentation is posted on their website. It was noted the group presented a proposed plan; however, they still have a long way to go. Ms. Ramirez Holmes indicated that Ms. Pryor and Ms. Palmer from the Zone 7 Board each sit on one of the committees so they can stay informed.

The committee members decided to meet twice annually and for the next meeting to be scheduled sometime in January, 2020.

Item 7 – Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 2:22 p.m.