



**District of Columbia
Water and Sewer Authority**

Board of Directors

**District of Columbia
Retail Services Committee
Thursday, October 22, 2008**

11:00 a.m.

MEETING MINUTES

Committee Members Present

Joseph Cotruvo, Chairman
Brenda Richardson
Howard Gibbs

WASA Staff Present

Jerry Johnson, General Manager
Leonard Benson, Acting Chief Engineer
Avis M. Russell, General Counsel
Linda R. Manley, Board Secretary
Charles Kiely, Assistant GM for Consumer Services

I. CALL TO ORDER

Dr. Cotruvo called the Retail Services Committee Meeting to order at 11:35 a.m.

II. WATER SYSTEM FACILITY PLAN UPDATE

Mr. David McLaughlin, Acting Director of Engineering and Technical Services, presented the Draft Water Facilities Plan Update to the Committee. Mr. McLaughlin provided an overview of the water distribution system in the District. He described the 2000 Water Facilities Plan and detailed those projects that have been implemented and those awaiting implementation. Mr. McLaughlin reported on the District's water demand (no significant increases to projected demands in the planning period) and water quality (WASA is fully compliant with water quality regulations; the main issues continue to be nitrification and tuberculation). Mr. McLaughlin detailed the recommendations provided by the consultant, including: pumping station upgrades, storage facility improvements, large diameter transmission main rehabilitation projects, and small diameter water main renewal replacement projects. His summary presented the projected costs for various system upgrades and rehabilitations developed by the consultant, and he outlined the next steps moving forward.

Mr. Johnson and Dr. Cotruvo noted that determining how to fund these projects will be a challenge.

III. WATER QUALITY MONITORING

1. Coliform Testing:

Mr. Charles Kiely, Assistant General Manager for Consumer Services, reported that in September, two sites tested positive, and one site (to this point) tested positive in October. Repeat samples at these sites were negative.

2. LCR Compliance:

Mr. Kiely provided an update on the status of the Lead and Copper Rule compliance testing activities. Mr. Kiely noted that of the forty-four sample results received and analyzed to this point, one sample (21 ppb) exceeded the EPA action level of 15 ppb..

Mr. Kiely reported that WASA was recently directed by EPA to change its Lead Copper Rule Sampling instructions by eliminating the 10 minute pre-flush before starting the stagnation period. Mr. Kiely informed the Committee that this change to sample collection procedures is not national EPA policy (i.e., there is no national standard), and to his knowledge is limited solely to the District. At the EPA workshop held in Washington, DC on October 14th -15th. Mr. Kiely proposed that the EPA establish protocols for LCR Compliance sampling that would be used by all utilities since the protocols differ by state.

IV. UPDATE ON LSR MITIGATION EXTENDED OPTIONS

Mr. McLaughlin informed the Committee that the consultant has provided WASA with draft recommendations for additional LSR mitigation techniques. These recommendations are currently undergoing internal review by WASA staff and will also be reviewed by WASA's health and risk communication advisors. An update will be provided at the next Committee meeting.

Dr. Cotruvo asked Mr. Brendan Shane from the DC Department of the Environment (DDOE) to briefly discuss the status of the Independent Water Quality Study. Mr. Shane informed the Committee that the first meeting of the water quality task force was held on September 24, 2008. There was a high turnout for the meeting, with attendees ranging from environmental advocacy groups to representatives from the District of Columbia Council. The second meeting is expected in several weeks. Dr. Cotruvo noted two key points from the meeting: (1) recognition that determination of criteria to be used in the study to define "safe" as it relates to drinking water is critical ; and (2) statement by some meeting attendees that the reason the study is necessary is that they don't trust WASA's compliance data. He also stressed the importance of moving forward expeditiously. Mr. Shane noted that there had been little progress made in selecting a consultant to perform the study. Mr. Johnson asked Mr. Shane for confirmation that DDOE still intended to have both the study plan and results peer reviewed. Mr. Shane advised that this was the case.

V. ACTION ITEM – NON-JOINT USE**1. Contract No. 080020, Anchor Construction Corp.**

The Committee agreed to recommend approval to the full Board.

VI. EMERGING ISSUES / OTHER BUSINESS

None

VII. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 12:20 p.m.