



DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA WATER AND SEWER AUTHORITY

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Retail Rates Committee

April 22, 2004

*Immediately following the Finance and Budget
Committee meeting*

MEETING MINUTES

BOARD MEMBERS

Glenn S. Gerstell
Lucy Murray
Alexander McPhail (via telephone)
Michael Hodge
Alexis Roberson

WASA STAFF

Jerry Johnson, General Manager
Paul Bender, Chief Financial Officer
Mike Marcotte, Chief Engineer
Wendy Hartmann Moore, Interim General Counsel
Linda Manley, Secretary to the Board

Mr. Gerstell called the meeting to order at 11:20 a.m.

Expansion of Customer Assistance Program to Include Tenants

Paul Bender, Chief Financial Officer, summarized the activities to date leading to the expansion of WASA's Customer Assistance Program. The expanded program would include income-eligible tenants, in addition to homeowners. The Retail Rates Committee recommended the action at its December 17, 2003 meeting, and the full Board of Directors approved a ratemaking process in January 2004. The proposed program expansion was published in the District of Columbia Municipal Register for 30 days, beginning on February 6. A public hearing was held on April 1 at the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments. Two speakers were in favor of the program expansion.

Michael Hodge expressed his approval of forwarding to the full Board of Directors for final action, and the Committee concurred. Mr. Bender noted that Board approval in May would allow a June 1 implementation date for the expanded program.

Alternatives for Replacing and Financing the Customer Portion of Lead Services

Glenn Gerstell summarized the alternative being considered for assisting homeowners with financing their portion of lead service line replacements. These included low interest loans offered by area banking institutions and setting a standard fee for replacement of the lines. These alternatives had been discussed in depth at the Finance and Budget Committee meeting, immediately preceding the Retail Rates Committee meeting, and the Committee felt that additional discussion was not needed.

Alexis Roberson emphasized her position that she wanted to pursue alternatives that included funding by the District, not just a loan program. She voiced her concern that liens could be placed on properties whose owners could potentially default on loans.

The Committee unanimously recommended forwarding the standard fee proposal to the full Board of Directors for consideration.

Mr. Gerstell adjourned the meeting at 11:30 a.m.