



**District of Columbia
Water and Sewer Authority**

Board of Directors

Retail Services Committee

Tuesday, May 26, 2009

9:30 a.m.

MEETING MINUTES

Committee Members Present

Joseph Cotruvo, Chairman
Howard Gibbs
David J. Bardin
Brenda Richardson

WASA Staff Present

Jerry Johnson, General Manager
Leonard Benson, Acting Chief Engineer
Avis Russell, General Counsel
Linda R. Manley, Board Secretary

I. CALL TO ORDER

Dr. Cotruvo called the Retail Services Committee Meeting to order at 9:30 a.m.

II. WATER QUALITY MONITORING

1. Coliform Testing:

Mr. Charles Kiely, Assistant General Manager, reported that three (3) sites tested positive for coliform as of the end of April. Mr. Kiely indicated that the positive results were caused by problems with sample collection, and that all follow-up tests were negative. Mr. Kiely reported that proper collection techniques were reviewed with WASA staff and all equipment was disinfected. Mr. Kiely noted that there was no need to invalidate the results since overall testing indicates that the requirements of the coliform rule will be met.

2. LCR Compliance Testing:

Mr. Kiely provided an update on the status of the Lead and Copper Rule compliance testing activities. He reported the current status, which is that 94 samples have been collected and 74 samples have been analyzed - the same as last month. Two (2) samples have exceeded the EPA Action Level of 15 ppb. The 1st draw results for these samples were 24 ppb and 22 ppb, respectively. The 90th percentile for samples analyzed to date is 5.7 ppb.

The Committee discussed the timing of publication of the findings from the Pre-Stagnation Flushing Study (reported during the April 28th Committee Meeting). Dr. Cotruvo urged an early publication if possible.

Mr. Bardin asked about the status of the edits to the Pre-Stagnation Flushing presentation discussed at the last meeting. Mr. Kiely agreed to distribute the edited presentation to Board members.

III. FIRE HYDRANT PROGRAM

1. Service Status:

Mr. Kiely reported that the current “out-of-service” list for fire hydrants stands at 143. Mr. Kiely briefly discussed the current contract status and compared the current status of “out-of-service” hydrants to previous years. Mr. Johnson reported that WASA’s goal is to have only 1% (approximately 100 hydrants) “out-of-service” at any given time.

2. Program Summary:

Mr. Kiely provided the Committee with a presentation concerning the Fire Hydrant Upgrade Program. Mr. Kiely discussed the Program’s history, objectives, commitments, and initiatives. Mr. Kiely graphically reported the number of replacements completed over the past three (3) fiscal years; and he described both Fire and Emergency Medical Services (FEMS) and WASA’s roles and commitments to the program. Mr. Kiely concluded his presentation by describing the impact of the program on WASA’s overall budget and the effects on retail rates.

Dr. Cotruvo suggested that discussions be held with FEMS regarding the continued need for twice yearly inspections, since the number of out of service hydrants was relatively low and stable. Mr. Johnson stated WASA has a MOU with FEMS which designated this will be done twice a year.

IV. SUMMARY OF ISSUES FOR FUTURE WAD/WASA INTERACTION

Due to the unscheduled change in the start time of the meeting, Mr. Tom Jacobus of WAD was not in attendance. The Committee decided to move the discussion on this item to the next scheduled Retail Services Committee Meeting in June (currently scheduled for June 23, 2009).

Mr. Johnson requested more specifics on the topics the Committee would like to see addressed in this discussion. Dr. Cotruvo advised that the topics would include contractual issues (WAD’s obligations and liabilities under the current contract) and operational issues (how are decisions made, how are WASA’s interests represented, how effective is the process). Mr. Bardin added that the discussion should include WASA’s input to the development and approval of the WAD budget.

V. ACTION ITEMS – NON-JOINT USE

None

VI. EMERGING ISSUES / OTHER BUSINESS

The Committee requested for the next meeting to have a side by side comparison of rates charged by WASA, WSSC, and Fairfax County for each jurisdiction's water bill.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 10:30 a.m.

Follow Up Items

1. Provide the Committee and BOD with the edited Pre-Stagnation Flushing Presentation (edits requested during the April 28th meeting).
2. At the next meeting, provide a briefing on potential changes to the contractual and working relationship between the WASA and WAD.
3. The Committee requested for the next meeting to have a side by side comparison of rates charged by WASA, WSSC, and Fairfax County.