



City of Madison

Meeting Minutes - Final

BOARD OF WATER COMMISSIONERS

City of Madison
Madison, WI 53703
www.cityofmadison.com

Tuesday, December 19, 2006

4:35 PM

119 E. Olin Avenue

CALL TO ORDER

ROLL CALL

Larry Studesville does not want to be reappointed to the board and has resigned. All other Board members were present. Staff present: Dave Denig-Chakroff, Al Larson, Joe Grande, Ken Key, Robin Piper, Gail Glasser, Dan Rodefled and Wendy Fitch.

Present: Lauren Cnare, Priscilla B. Mather, Jonathan H. Standridge, Gregory W. Harrington and Thomas Schlenker

Excused: Larry L. Studesville

PUBLIC COMMENT

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. Approval of minutes of November 21 meeting.

Approved the minutes of the meeting of November 21 with two minor corrections: Addition of the word "be" as the second word of the first sentence of page 5, and the addition "and hospitals" to line 8 on page 2, after the words at the schools.

INFORMATIONAL REPORTS

2. November Water Quality Report.
 - A. Monthly monitoring report.
 - B. Test results for Alachor ESA.

Joe Grande reported 400 customers were surveyed by phone and the results were encouraging. There was a confidence level of 95% for the survey. 90% of our customers use tap water. Two of the most important items identified were quality /purity (49%) or safety in general (43%). Six percent were concerned with contamination of groundwater. The survey showed that 2/3rds of the customers remembered receiving the water quality report, and 86% of those said they read all or parts of the report.

Regarding outreach activities, Joe said he has contacted the heads of 45 of the city neighborhood associations to develop relationships with them. He encouraged them to subscribe to the water quality list serve and encourage their members to do so. Joe said he thinks the list serve has been an underutilized resource. We only have 30 to 35 people on the list and have just added a few more. Joe said he will be contacting all neighborhood associations by email or phone.

Joe is submitting an article to the Eastside News talking about water quality issues specific to that area. He had a meeting with Lilly Irwin-Vitela and her

organization, the East Isthmus Neighborhood Planning Council, to discuss water quality issues and communication. Joe joined the drinking water work group that formed in response to the public meeting in late November. He spoke with Tom Stunkard of the DNR updating him on results of pesticide testing. He said Tom is very happy with the communication that has occurred in the last few months.

Joe said they tested for pesticides at seven wells and none had detectable levels of any pesticides, and 6 of the 7 pesticides tested are on the synthetic compound-testing schedule of every three to five years. Joe said Well 13 on the north side was sampled, 15 on E. Washington and 25 just north of Cottage Grove Road. Also tested was Well 30 on the south side, Well 20 and southwest side Well 26 off of High Point Road, and Well 28 just west of the Beltline on Old Sauk Road. There were no measurable levels for any of the pesticides and that is consistent with previous testing. Joe said Alachlor ESA did show up in three wells with the levels being .2 to .36 ppb. There are no regulatory standards for any of the pesticide breakdown products, but Wisconsin does have a health advisory level of 20 ppb for Alachlor ESA. It is detectable and the three wells where it showed up were Well 13, 15 and 26. We will test the remaining wells in 2007. Joe distributed a handout that contained information regarding the testing.

Alachlor is an herbicide used on corn, Joe said. Before the corn comes up, this herbicide is used to kill grass. He said like all other pesticides in its class, it has a relatively short half-life in the soil but when it breaks down, it leads to these compounds that have higher solubility so they have great potential for leaching into the groundwater. Once they get into the groundwater, they are pretty persistent and don't break down. There has been extensive monitoring of wells and private drinking water wells throughout the state. Concentration and frequency of occurrence tend to be higher for private wells. Alachlor has been used since the late 60s and its use is dropping in Wisconsin.

Road Salt Report: Joe said Jon asked him to report on road salt. He said the Commission on the Environment met yesterday and this issue was discussed. He said there are no regulatory standards for sodium. EPA has a drinking water equivalent level that is 20 ppm/20 mg/liter. That is for health reasons, people who are on low salt diets. Joe said if it exceeds 20 ppm, the Utility is required to send letters to the local health authority. For chloride, the standard is 250 mg/liter and none of our wells exceed that level. The highest we see right now is 80 or 82 mg/l. Over the last 20 years, the trends have shown a fairly steady increase in sodium and chloride, Joe said. A lot of people are pointing to road salt use. Jon said the people who worked on the report are all road people such as the winter maintenance guy from the State of Wisconsin, an expert from the DNR and a toxicologist from the Hygiene Lab. He said the City Streets Department has been vigorous in saying we've got a problem and need to take care of it. The Commission on the Environment voted unanimously to adopt the report and vigorously pursue resolutions or ordinances that will significantly reduce road salt in Madison. Jon said Dave came and listened to the whole thing last night and clearly stated his support for anything that will help reduce the salt that is getting in the aquifer. Even if they stop all salt use, levels will still go up for a few years. Dave said another point that was brought up at that meeting is that this is much bigger than just the City of Madison's problem. They had the amount of salt that is put on the city streets, and also an equal amount of salt that is put on private parking lots in Madison. Plus you have all of the surrounding communities that are also salting their streets and many of those are salting even the minor streets as opposed to just the major thoroughfares. The county also salts their roads, and all of this, in terms of the aquifer and the impact on the

aquifer, and what the City of Madison is doing on their streets is significant but it's just one part of a much larger problem. He's hoping this will grow to putting pressure on other communities to do something about this. Jon said 18,000 tons per year are used between the private sector and the City of Madison, and that's probably a conservative guess. He said to multiply that times 2,000 and that's 36 million pounds a year that is dissolving and going somewhere in the environment . Percy said it also affects surface water. The State Groundwater Law establishes a standard and takes that and calls it the defensive action unit. Maybe we could create something like that for our own purpose and keep an eye on the wells. Greg asked what kind of recommendations they had for solving this, and Jon replied that there are many things that will get incremental reductions. One is a GIS unit on each truck so if it goes below a certain temperature, when salt is no longer effective, they'll turn the salters off. Better weather service devices that detect the temperature of the pavement to determine the most effective dose are needed. Pre-wetting so that when the salt hits the ground it doesn't bounce off the road, and liquid salt before the storm that makes the plows more effective and would give a 20% reduction. All of these things are expensive, Jon said.

3. December Staffing Report.

Gail Glasser reported the Field Supervisor position has been posted and interviews will be held the first week of January. She said the Admin Clerk interviews have been conducted and a decision is being made. She said one is for the current vacant position and the other who will fill the vacancy when Anita Hodas retires.

4. Operations Report.

Dan Rodefeld said we are done with hot patching for the year, main leaks are increasing and we continue to work on lead service replacements

5. Engineering Report.

Al said pumpage is 5.7% below last years, which equates to about 660 million less gallons pumped than the previous year. He said the Felland Road Reservoir, a 6 million gallon concrete structure, is essentially complete but still needs some cosmetic work. The contractor has shut down for the winter and will remobilize again around the first of April. The next step is to connect the reservoir to the system so we're in the process of bidding a project that will be close to \$1 million worth of pipeline. It should start in March.

Al said the last day of flushing was November 30. The mapping section and leader Doug DeMaster did a great job leading and coordinating the unidirectional flushing in 2006, and the field personnel did a great job also. Total completed for 2006 was 422.6 miles or 50.3% of the system. We expect to start again in March with five crews. The Board said to send them their thanks.

We had a kickoff meeting yesterday for the Montgomery Well Water Quality Study. Al provided them with data for Well 29. They are hoping to start sampling the week of January 8. Al said we hired Earth Tech out of Stevens Point to do our iron and manganese filter pilot study, and the kickoff meeting with them is scheduled for Wednesday of this week. We are hoping to have the pilot up and running the week of January 15.

Earth Tech is under contract to prepare wellhead protection plans for Wells 6, 12, 18 and 24. We continue to look for property to build a new reservoir on Raymond Road.

Dr. Schlenker asked if we've learned anything from the unidirectional flushing

as to how often that procedure will need to be done, or where you might concentrate. Al said the second year it's going to be more telling when we find out how dirty these areas are after the initial flushing. If they aren't dirty at the same level, we'll know they need to be flushed more often. We know it's effective but we just don't know how long it lasts.

In discussions on water conservation, Dave said they are involved with some conservation groups. He noted that we want to promote water conservation, but the more we conserve, the higher our rates will go. Ken Key said if everyone reduced their basic usage by five gallons, it would mean a loss of one-half million dollars. We are way below the national average for water usage. As Al pointed out, Seattle uses 60 gallons per capita per day and that's the best in the nation. Lauren Cnare said we should discuss goal setting for 2007, and she thinks we need to look at that as a goal. Percy agreed. Dave said it's also very germane because of what's happening at the state level with the groundwater initiative and groundwater law that was passed a couple of years ago. The groundwater advisory council for legislature is supposed to make recommendations to legislators by the end of this year on ways the state, and particularly the high capacity well users in the state, can better manage the use of their wells to eventually conserve water. Dave said he knows they will be coming up with some recommendations like promoting conservation and conservation rate structure that the PSC has never really promoted in the past but is looking at now.

6. Customer Service Report.
 - A. Monthly report.
 - B. Customer Survey results.

Ken Key reported our November billing was the highest we sent out this year--15,500. Ken distributed handouts of telephone survey results, with 400 customers giving us a confidence level of 95% and an error rate of plus or minus 4%. Ken said he's going to follow this up with a mail survey where some of the same questions will be asked as well as new questions. Ken said 90% of respondents are using tap water and 10% bottled water. That compares to a national average of 20% of people using bottled water and in Canada about 17.5%. The highest use of bottled water by age group was 29% in the 25-34-age bracket, and the lowest use is 5% in the age 65 and over. In the highest use of tap water of 90%, 21% were in the 45-54 and 20% in the 35-40. The lowest use of tap water is 9% in the 18-24 age group, so that corresponds with who is using bottled water. When you compare owners to renters, 83% are owners and 12% are renters, so again the younger age group is using bottled water.

In information needed to pay the bill, 93% rated us good to excellent, and on cost of water 73%, and easy to understand charges at 84%. Ken said he compared it to a survey that was done 10 years ago and back then it was 87%. He said we plan to make some improvements in that area with a new bill format, hopefully in the February billing.

Lauren asked Ken if the bill will be printed in another language too, and Ken said it's not something they've been thinking about. Jon asked about having the bill in gallons rather than cubic feet. Ken said he thinks several years ago, the conversion factor was on the back of the bill, but we can't print on the back now because we do laser printing. We could put somewhere on the bill what the equivalent measure is, to show that 100 cubic feet is 748 gallons. Ken said our meters are in cubic feet. Percy asked if there is room for a comment line. Ken said we could probably work something out for that.

Regarding the question of how frequently customers would like to be billed, 45% said semiannually, 31% said quarterly, 17% monthly and 7% annually. Ken said

there is still a fairly big division there between those who would prefer to be billed semiannually vs. quarterly. If we stay at the same or less frequently, that's 52% compared to 48% that would prefer quarterly or monthly. This is a fairly big change from 10 years ago when bills were less and we didn't bill storm water, and we just started billing landfill. At that time, 79% of the people wanted to stay with what we have. Things are moving toward a more frequent billing, but the majority would like to stay with the semiannual or less frequent bill. Ken said there are a lot of ramifications to changing to more frequent billing.

Ken said, regarding the following questions, the majority agreed on, or strongly agreed on: easy to start or stop service, customer service oriented, can answer questions about water quality, will do all it can to ensure quality water, and provides info about steps to ensure safe water.

Ken said he'd like to do a mail survey within the next couple of months, that we will start doing surveys more regularly. Jon said he got a mailing from AWWA about a conference in March in Austin, Texas about customer service and communication and water quality communication. Jon asked if anyone is going to it. Ken said they haven't discussed it yet but either he or Joe will probably go. Jon said it looked like a great opportunity.

FINANCIAL REPORTS

7. Fund Balance Report.

Robin Piper pointed out the second column on the report should have read November 30 rather than October 31. He said we are still having a little cash flow problem. Jon asked what we want the PILOT Fund to be. Robin said at the end of the year, he would like it to be at around \$2.7 million, but we're not going to quite be there.

8. Capital Project Report.

Robin said we spent approximately \$800,000 in October, and fair amount of that was the Felland Road Reservoir--\$365,000 and \$376,000 was for water main replacement. In October we spent almost \$40,000 on unidirectional flushing, which brings us to \$397,100 for the year. We spent \$8,000 on the manganese investigation and \$196,000 throughout the year.

9. Update on Rate Case.

Robin said they are getting close to having the rate case ready to go, but we're not quite satisfied with the numbers we have at the present time, so we're working with Springsted, our financial advisor, and the PSC. We hope to file it within the next month. Robin said it takes into account the increased spending on the Capital Budget as well as increases operationally for the unidirectional flushing program.

The board accepted all of the informational reports.

10. Approval for temporary advance from the City.

Robin said he spoke with Dean Brassler, City Comptroller, and discussed that we're a little short of cash for the PILOT payment at the end of the year. Due to the new GASB requirements, in the past we did our transfers in April when we would exchange a check with the City. They would give us the money they collected for the past due water bills that were placed on the tax roll, and we'd do

our PILOT payment at that time. With the new GASB rules, it requires the City to do the transfers at the end of the year they are actually for. Robin said we need to take an advance from the City-our options are to get an advance from the City and show that advance in our books, or we would show a payable to the City on our books. It's easier when they audit us to show an advance from the City. We are looking to get an advance from the City of around \$1 million to make our PILOT payment. When we get payments in April from the water portion collected on the tax roll, that money will then be paid back to the City. Robin said he's expecting over \$600,000, and we will just work on the rest of it. Robin said in the spring we will plan to do a formal reimbursement resolution for borrowing an advance from the City in anticipation of going out for a revenue bond in the summer, so we can reimburse the City for money spent on capital projects that we're borrowing next spring. We'll be able to incorporate the advance, at the point, into that resolution. Dean thought that would be the best way to handle it. Robin said he's looking for approval from the Board to accept an advance from the City so we can make our PILOT payment. Jon asked if our revenues are a little short of our expenditures. Robin said yes, this is one place it shows up. Jon said with our previous rate increase, is the problem that the hole isn't getting deeper but that we're climbing out of the hole a little bit or staying even. Robin said that would be right, it's not getting deeper. Part of the problem with the rate increase is that it takes so long to get it fully implemented, six months to a year, so the rate increase we got a year ago and was finalized in December, went into effect in January and didn't show up until the March bills. Then it took us until September to really see the full effects of the rate. When we do our rate case with the PSC, they look at how much water we pumped and sold at the full rates for the past year, yet we didn't get those revenues for the full year. We're not going to see that until the September 2006 period, so it will take awhile to catch up.

Jon Standridge made a motion to approve the request for a temporary advance from the City of \$1 million. Lauren Cnare seconded; unanimously passed. Percy said we could adjust that in January if we need to. Lauren asked what our bill will be for the PILOT payment and Robin said \$2.7 million.

ADMINISTRATION

11. Update on Mayor's 10-point Water Quality Initiative and Water Quality Standards.

Dave Denig-Chakroff said one of the highlights is the work Joe Grande has been doing with communication with neighborhood associations, and promoting the list serve and getting more information out that way. The Master Plan, on the agenda, will be adopted tonight. The EMA Strategic Planning Initiative is progressing. We had additional meetings this month with EMA and they are on track to get things wrapped up by the end of January. Jon said originally they agreed to the end of 2006 and asked if they applied for an extension. Dave said he'll have to look at the contract, but it wasn't really EMA's fault as there were problems getting everyone scheduled for meetings. Jon said he went to the Communications Subcommittee meeting so he is all pumped up to see what they've come up with, and is now disappointed that it isn't complete. Dave said we don't want them to rush it either.

Dave said he was going to mention that communication subcommittee as he thinks it's a great thing.

Lauren suggested having Channel 12 televise the Board meetings so if someone can't get to a meeting, they could at least see what's going on. Dave said it wouldn't be broadcast live as that is the night for Council meeting too, but it

would be shown on another day.

NEW BUSINESS

Resolution No. 05056

12. [05056](#) Authorizing the execution of a Second Amendment to License pertaining to a license with Sprint Spectrum L.P. at the Lakeview Water Tower, located at 1202 Northport Drive. 18th Ald. Dist.
- A motion was made by Cnare, seconded by Harrington, to Return to Lead with the Recommendation for Approval to the BOARD OF ESTIMATES AI Larson said this is a routine resolution. Jon asked if there was any downside to this and AI said no.
- The money is split 50/50 with the county as they own the land. He noted that this tower is scheduled for demolition in 2012.
- Lauren Cnare made a motion to approve the resolution; Greg Harrington seconded; unanimously passed.
- The motion passed by acclamation.

13. Adoption of Water Utility Master Plan.
- AI said he would like this approved for the next five years and it would be updated every five years. Jon asked about seeing the plans, and AI said there are two large binders available at this time. Jon asked if AI thinks we got our money's worth out of it, and AI replied that we got more than our money's worth out of it. AI said we can update these plans at any time if new information becomes available, such as info from the Montgomery study. Dave said the Montgomery study will give us more information on the test well, etc., and the Master Plan doesn't cover the siting of a well. Dave said the Montgomery study will give us a different way to look at test wells and what to look at. The Master Plan doesn't provide specific sites and just says we need a well in this area for instance. Lauren Cnare made a motion to adopt this resolution. Greg Harrington seconded; unanimously passed.

OLD BUSINESS

14. Election of Officers.
- Lauren Cnare asked if Larry Studesville has officially resigned from the Board and Dave said yes, he just heard this morning. Jon Standridge said he thinks we have two issues, one is our community communication stuff and having someone who would represent that position might be critical. On the other hand, we lost in Larry, someone who actually had a job similar to Dave's, who really had the best financial skills and expertise in looking at budgets and understanding the stuff that Mr. Piper gives us. He said the financial issues are complex and he thinks maybe we need a key financial officer from someplace big, like American Family, Wisconsin Power & Light, or MG&E, or somebody who is out there really looking at big budgets and real money and understands this stuff. We have a citizen-based board and those are the two issues. Perhaps someone who has CFO status in a big company might also have the perspective of the rest of the community, being a businessman. In other utilities that is fairly common. In Green Bay the board members at the water utility are the people who run

industries in many instances.

Greg Harrington said he'd be in support of a financial person on the board also. I'm not sure we'd get a CFO type to come to every meeting and I'd be a little concerned about that. Jon said he'd think you guys (George Twigg of the Mayor's Office was present) would have the open doors and telephone numbers to some of those folks. George said sure, we'll make a more formal inquiry to see if someone is interested.

Jon made a motion that the three positions be separate elections. He stated he wanted to run against Priscilla for president. He said we can talk more in detail about why he wants to do that, but he thinks we need a second to separate them out. Lauren seconded.

Jon said he would like to talk for a few minutes as to why he thinks we need some changes. Jon said we've been sort of a maintenance and support role, not only under Percy's leadership, but other presidents through the last five years. That is certainly a role I saw myself in as I did that. I've been really giving it some hard thought about what needs to change and some of the suggestions have come up tonight already. We really need to get out of this reactive mode and get into a proactive mode, and he had some ideas of how we can do that. Jon said we really need to assume this oversight, take what our statute requirements are a little more seriously. Jon said there are things he would change, or that the group needs to change, and if he were leading he'd change them. Part of it is our meeting content and the agendas need some attention. We need to be more communication and less statements/minutes information. Jon would like to focus less on the routine things that a lot of time is spent on now, and look at more specific issues. In order to get that agenda ready each month, he would want to have a face to face meeting with Dave, maybe two weeks before, the middle of the month, and any other staff, the rank and file, the union pro, anybody -just talk to everybody at the Utility to find out about what they think is important. He said he would also be checking in with the citizen groups-we already have one established and the people identified, and the Mayor's Office and the Alders, and other City departments-just checking in with them periodically and to see what their issues are relating to the Water Utility and bring those forth at our monthly meeting.

Jon said at our meetings, we need to work a little more on our meeting process . One way to do this is a check out at the end of the meeting so everyone could kind of weigh in about not what we did, but how we did it and suggest improvements of how we can change our agendas to be more effective. He has experience running meetings like this, saying he runs a fast paced meeting that respects the time of the individuals, and he said he would continue to do that. Jon said to Lauren that he thinks she is the real leader, but she can't be president as an Alder. He said this business Lauren was talking about, the mission and vision, need to be set as a clear mission. We need to spend time-what the vision and mission of the Utility is. As a board, we need to figure out what our mission is and then work with management of the Utility. He said we all need to clearly know where we're going and how we get there.

The third thing is this concept of working in subcommittees, Jon said. He said the Commission on the Environment is very effective with subcommittees and it makes for shorter monthly meetings. The subcommittees picked are people who are really interested, plus you're dealing with other citizens. A great example is our communication subcommittee. Jon said he'd like to encourage more of that kind of activity for getting our work done. He said you mentioned setting measurable goals for the Utility. They are very important and keeping track of goals doing this planned ... you can decide what you're going to do and how

you're going to do it, and then you check and see how effective you were. If you weren't effective, you fix it and then you're around the circle again-you keep doing that. Working on goals and our issues discussed at the meeting would be an example of how I'd want to move things forward. That would be a focus. Just examples of issues might be Lauren's conservation issues talked about tonight. Jon said we'd work on setting goals and work on getting them done. Jon cited our relationships with regulators, our interaction with Council and the Mayor's Office, external and internal communication which you've already got going, or maybe management style or management style and philosophy, or it could be this well thing that we're going to put in the isthmus, and of course, water quality and media relations-just some things we could really work on. Jon said focusing the meetings more on issue related things rather than the routine informational stuff. He said he knows he's really putting them on the spot, that he'd have loved to have called them individually and talked about this, but we can't. He said he didn't want Percy to take this as an attack as we've been equally involved in how we've been moving forward. He said this is just his view of how things need to change, and what he really wants to ask is give him a chance to do this for a year, and he fully expects that when we get to the end of the year, we're going to have a Utility where people are delighted to come to work and the community is 100% behind us and they know what we're doing, why we're doing it and that we're moving in the right direction. We'd then get the respect that we deserve and need . So, Jon said, that's why he wants to be president.

Percy said she thinks the Board is not so much a hierarchy as a consensus group, so the door is always open for suggestions from the members. The role of the president is not that much different than, well, it's to conduct the meeting and to allow others to bring up points. Historically, that is the way the president has operated, to conduct the meeting. She said she doesn't disagree with all the arguments that Jon listed that are of interest, but where they differ is primarily the level of involvement by the Board. Percy said that is why it would be helpful to the Board to sit down and talk about exactly how involved we need or should be. We do talk sometimes about the 30,000-foot view and other times we seem to want to dive into the details. Percy said she doesn't think we can do both in an hour and a half meeting. She said she does not view her position on the Board as equivalent to the Water Utility employee. They do the work and we set policies. If there needs to be additional skills, or they need to add staff, we should be their championing cause. I think we oversee but she thinks the details need to be done by the staff. We accept those reports, talk about them, and make decisions about major issues. In terms of the format, Percy said it's true; we have tried to change the agenda. There are a lot of routine things that we need to track and questions come up about them. She thinks that we have looked at a number of the issues.

Percy said it's a question of how much the Board should get involved with their daily activities.

Jon said he doesn't think it's that much more time unless someone wants to do something in a subcommittee format, like he and Lauren are doing, and it would be a choice at that point. Jon said what he is suggesting is not longer meetings but different meetings. Maybe our information reports could be quarterly or semi-annually, and would be one meeting. At the other meetings we'd deal with specific issues, and he said he sees no reason to have a meeting run over two hours. That would be his goal.

Discussion was held on the voting, etc.

Greg said he wanted to say a few things from his perspective. He said it's his

view that what we do here is something ... the Statutory authority that we're given ... My personal perspective is that. as the Water Board, we've got a management team that we hired, and we have to empower him/them to do these things as Percy talked about earlier. We have to place trust in him to make those things happen. I haven't lost my faith in Dave. Of course there are some issues that have come up in the last year that certainly raises questions, but he said he still thinks Dave can take us in the right direction. And he thinks each one of the members of the Water Utility staff can also help us make those decisions, so he from his perspective, he'd like to see us put our trust in that organization for another year and see what happens, and that's where he stands. Jon said he's not sure exactly how to read that but he's been on record in a number of cases saying he truly believes David will be successful in this position, and he said what he is suggesting is a way for the four of us to work with Dave to make that happen. Greg said his opinion is that the Board can do that under its current configuration, and he thinks we need to try that. Greg said his personal perspective is that we should try that and if that doesn't work, then we could consider alternatives.

Lauren told Jon she admires his ability to be the gadfly on our board. She thinks that is really important that he has the heart and the courage to stand up and say "wait a minute" we haven't asked the right questions, because you three have an excellent scientific background and sometimes she thinks you're asking the questions for the benefit of me and the audience because we don't have that expertise, and Lauren said she appreciates that. Lauren said Priscilla is the right person at the helm who keeps us going in the right direction. Jon tells us there is a storm coming, and she said she thinks Jon is more valuable to all of us here not being the president. Even though she thinks Jon could do it and in personality and style, she said, you and I are a lot alike and that's why she's kind of engaged by the things Jon says and the things Jon does. One of the things that has helped me stick with this and... we're going to get through it. We're going to figure out the right things to do for our citizens without making a lot of changes on the deck of the ship right now, Lauren said. She said she doesn't want to change Priscilla's leadership right now because she thinks we are going to be moving so many other things that she should stay in the position right now. Lauren said but she also thinks right now that almost all of the things that Jon said need to be implemented. She said we have city staff that will take Boards on a retreat, whether it's two hours here or six hours, and she thinks we need to be reinvigorated by that. Having a new person in Dr. Schlenker, we need to start to work together with the Utility staff folks that kind of bond and work with a group. Lauren said we need to do that too because it's been very hard on everybody, personally and professionally It's been a very difficult year or two, and she said she thinks changing the president sends a different message to everyone and she doesn't want to right now.

Jon said he fully expected that it would probably go this way from previous conversations, but he thought it was really important that he get these issues out here. Jon said he doesn't like the role that he feels forced to assume-he doesn't like doing that and would like a real leadership role, not an embattled role of challenging things. Jon said that's not something he's going to do any more, and this empowers him to get out of that. It's not a pleasant role to be in, gadfly as Lauren said. Lauren said it's a necessary tool of every organization. Jon said he's not willing to do that head-butting thing any more, that it doesn't feel good to anybody and he had hoped that..he said he's thinking that the Board heard what he said and that Dave heard what he said, and maybe we can get in a position where we can all assume the leadership we need to step forward. Lauren said as

Priscilla alluded to, we really are more of a board of equals than anything else, and that she can probably be the best valuable person on communications. Lauren said she would be no good on the technical task force, but she thinks that the idea of the subcommittees, or at least board members taking kind of an ownership of a particular area, would be good. Lauren said if we do some goal setting as a group, it does tell us that the Utility needs to deal with its goals. Then there were be a chance for all of us to be leaders. She said she thinks every single onof us would come to something that says this is the one goal I'm going to hold and cherish and make sure you're satisfied by the end of the year. She asked if that helped Jon. Jon said the president really holds control of the agenda and things have been stated many times and nothing happened, such as less routine reporting and more issue based reporting. He said he'd hoped to make those things happen and maybe they will anyhow. He said he's been worried about that. Greg said to Jon, I don't know if it helps but from my perspective, you were just as valuable to this board before the head-butting role was assumed. If you get off that role, president or not, he thinks Jon will still add very high value to the board. He said if that helps any, from his perspective, he doesn't think Jon has to maintain that role if he's not in the presidency, and in a board position.

Jon said the head butting, bringing up the difficult issues, weren't difficult issues before, and then there was a period where we were ignoring them. No one else was bringing up the unpleasantness. He thinks it had to be done. Greg said he's not saying it didn't have to be done, but it sounds like you're (Jon) saying you'd like to get out of that role, and he doesn't see any decline in value if he does that. Jon said if we could have a way the rest of the board could influence the agenda, we could put something in the agenda as to what we want future agendas to look like. Percy said yes, and what things we want them to drop. One of the reasons for the reporting is that each member of the management team is important, and maybe we can make them into quarterly reports. She said AI brings things every month, so we need to look at what could be condensed. Lauren asked if we could use kind of a consensus if none of us have any questions.. so unless someone wants to ask questions..we read these things over the weekend and if anyone has any questions, then it becomes a part of a consensus. Greg said like the department chair he has right now, he does information reporting and there are zero minutes on the agenda for that, so basically its there for your information. Read it before you go to the meeting and if someone wants to raise questions on the information reports, they can. Percy said we could do that. She said she thinkit's important that we demonstrate to the public that we are looking at the informational reports. Jon said, so maybe you've exercised some leadership already, you're discussing one of my points, and it sounds like we might ?...and how we can get these things started. Jon said if he's not voted for, he can get over it real quick.

Greg Harrington and Lauren Cnare both voted to retain Priscilla Mather as president.

15. Annual review of Operating Rules.

Percy suggested that maybe this could be done in a retreat. Lauren said one of us could make a motion to go on retreat, and we could submit to Percy ideas of what we'd like discussed at the retreat. Lauren said she'd like to set three to five goals for 2007. One item could be what is on the agenda, how do we develop the agenda, and how do we manage the meeting to last no more than two hours. She said that's important, as she has to be out of the meeting in two hours. Lauren said we could submit ideas about what that retreat should look like and work

from there. Dave asked if the board would want to wait until the new member is on board. Percy said we should move ahead with planning. Jon asked why we'd have to do a retreat and couldn't just do it as part of a meeting. Lauren said she'd be willing to do it as part of a meeting but she thinks it's important to have a facilitator work with us. Lauren said we should figure out what role we are all going to play as individuals to bring something unique to the team. When you look at what is the board supposed to do, it's really generic language, and we have an opportunity as a board to go beyond something more than the standard language. She thinks it needs to be facilitated. We can discuss subcommittees and how they are formed. Lauren said we could start at the HR Department. Dave said he could check as he knows there are other boards and commissions that have gone on retreat. He'll find out how to go about it and make sure however it is done, that everyone is comfortable with it.

CORRESPONDENCE AND SPECIAL INTEREST ITEMS

16. Report on Communications Plan Subcommittee.

Lauren said the subcommittee met last week and many people attended including three board members. Lynn Williamson and Lilly Irvin-Vitela are participating, Dan Melton and Jon Standridge had a former colleague of the State Lab of Hygiene with him who lives in the Well 29 area. She said we tried to get people who live in the area and have direct experience with some of the wells we're having issues with. Time was spent with the EMA people because part of what they're doing is also a communications plan, so we wanted to take advantage of their expertise. The ultimate goal is an external communications plan for the year 2007. We discussed what we want this group to do. We came up with things such as trust being restored in the drinking water, people knowing who they should call immediately, and have all of that documented. Our next meeting is January 3, 2007. These are public meetings so if there is anyone you think should participate, bring them to the meeting. The plan will come back to the Board for approval, and then we'll start to take action.

17. Ryan Campbell's Masters Thesis presentation.

Lauren said the subcommittee met last week and many people attended including three board members. Lynn Williamson and Lilly Irvin-Vitela are participating, Dan Melton and Jon Standridge had a former colleague of the State Lab of Hygiene with him who lives in the Well 29 area. She said we tried to get people who live in the area and have direct experience with some of the wells we're having issues with. Time was spent with the EMA people because part of what they're doing is also a communications plan, so we wanted to take advantage of their expertise. The ultimate goal is an external communications plan for the year 2007. We discussed what we want this group to do. We came up with things such as trust being restored in the drinking water, people knowing who they should call immediately, and have all of that documented. Our next meeting is January 3, 2007. These are public meetings so if there is anyone you think should participate, bring them to the meeting. The plan will come back to the Board for approval, and then we'll start to take action. percent of HPC were higher prior to flushing. Ryan said there were approximately 150 samples for each well area for each flushing period. The example he showed was for Well 10. The mean HPC was significantly higher when chlorine was allowed to drop below 0.1 mg/liter. The other study areas showed similar results. Ryan recommends continuing unidirectional flushing.

Ryan thanked Greg Harrington, his advisor, and Al Larson of the Utility for his assistance. Jon Standridge said it was a nice piece of work and very clear.

APPROVAL OF NEXT MEETING DATE

18. Approval of next meeting date of January 16, 2007.

Greg Harrington noted that he would be unable to attend the January meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

Jon Standridge made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Greg Harrington seconded; unanimously passed. Meeting adjourned at 7:02 p.m.