



# City of Madison

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

## Meeting Minutes - Approved COMMITTEE ON THE ENVIRONMENT

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Monday, June 17, 2019

4:30 PM

Meets the 3rd Monday of the month.  
210 Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd.  
Room 108 (City-County Building)

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**Present:** 6 - Avra Reddy; Kenneth G. Johnson; Patricia A. Lasky; Patrick E. Delmore;  
Tyler D. Leeper and Elizabeth A. Bookland

**Excused:** 1 - Dea Larsen Converse

### CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL

The meeting was called to order by Chair Bookland at 4:30 pm, following verification that a quorum was present and the meeting had been properly noticed.

**Present:** 6 - Avra Reddy; Kenneth G. Johnson; Patricia A. Lasky; Patrick E. Delmore;  
Tyler D. Leeper and Elizabeth A. Bookland

**Excused:** 1 - Dea Larsen Converse

### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Lasky, seconded by Leeper, to Approve the Minutes.  
The motion passed by voice vote/other.

### PUBLIC COMMENT

none

### DISCLOSURES AND RECUSALS

Johnson disclosed that he was involved in the original MS4 permit and therefore will be recusing himself from voting on the WPDES bi-annual report.

### NEW BUSINESS

1        [56200](#)            Approving the annual stormwater WPDES bi-annual report to the WDNR. (City Wide ADs)

**Attachments:**    [SubmittedAnnualReport.pdf](#)  
                                 [PublicHealth\\_NR\\_216\\_Related\\_Activities\\_20172018.pdf](#)  
                                 [WPDES\\_Annual\\_Report\\_Attachments\\_Combined\\_2018.pdf](#)  
                                 [MS4\\_Annual\\_Report\\_CompilationPresentation\\_2019.pdf](#)

Phil Gaebler gave a summary presentation of the efforts City Engineering has undertaken in fulfillment of their Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) Storm Water Management Program (SWMP). Measures include: public education and outreach, public involvement and participation, illicit discharge detection and elimination, construction site pollutant control, post-construction storm water management, pollution prevention, and storm sewer system mapping.

COE membered showed particular interest in aiding with public education and outreach with their networks, helping expand the storm drain mural project ( <https://ripple-effects.com/Storm-Drain-Murals> ), and increasing the number of rain gardens in the City.

A motion was made by Leeper, seconded by Lasky, to Return to Lead with the Recommendation for Approval to the BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS. The motion passed by the following vote:

**Ayes:**    5 -    Avra Reddy; Patricia A. Lasky; Patrick E. Delmore; Tyler D. Leeper and Elizabeth A. Bookland

**Recused:**    1 -    Kenneth G. Johnson

**Excused:**    1 -    Dea Larsen Converse

2        [54745](#)            Follow Up Discussion on Salt Issues

Members determined that focusing on reducing water softener usage. Discussed optimizing water softener settings, putting units on timers, replumbing so not all water needs to be softened, and rebates for upgrading to more efficient softeners. Discussed non-salt softening technologies, but those do not currently meet US requirements. Members would like to discuss with a plumber to understand standard plumbing practices with softeners in new construction. Would also like to find out what City of Madison facilities softener salt usage is and how new buildings plumbing is designed. It was also recommended that City facilities should track their softener salt usage, if they don't already.

**REPORTS**

3        [42158](#)            Report of Chair

none

- 4      [42161](#)      Report from Solid Waste Advisory Committee
- none
- 5      [42159](#)      Report from Board of Public Works
- Johnson reported on a greenway project and efforts to try and increase infiltration. Due to proximity to a landfill, a concrete cunette system was determined to be the best solution.
- 6      [42160](#)      Report from Water Utility Board
- Delmore reported on the estimated 1 billion gallons of water saved in the past 10 years in part to the toilet rebate program.  
<https://www.cityofmadison.com/water/news/water-conservation-program-hits-1-billion-gallons-saved>
- Members discussed ways to promote this water conservation program and increase participation, including putting a blurb in the Wingra Boats newsletter. Additional information regarding the program and the rebate application are available on the Water Utility website:
- <https://www.cityofmadison.com/water/sustainability/toilet-rebate>
- 7      [56353](#)      Report from Alder
- Alder Reddy reported on a meeting with Sustainable Madison Committee and drafting an ordinance for plastic straws to be available only upon request at restaurants. Looking at expanding into plastic bags as well. She met with the Madison Metropolitan School District and discussed the large amount of plastic waste in the school cafeteria and are brainstorming ideas to reduce. Having the city institute an "environmental steward award" program for restaurants/businesses that go above in terms of efforts to reduce their affect on the environment was discussed.
- 8      [42162](#)      Report from Board of Health for Madison and Dane County
- none
- 9      [42163](#)      Staff Report
- Eberhardt gaged interest in spearheading a small engine equipment rebate or swap program. Members stated they were interested in hearing more details regarding impact to emissions first. June 17th kicks off National Pollinator's Week. A press release from City Engineering regarding the topic was shared with members. 2020 meeting dates were agreed to keep as 3rd Monday of the month.

**ADJOURNMENT**