



Albany/Millersburg Joint Water and Wastewater Management Committee

AGENDA

Thursday, January 27, 2022

This meeting will be conducted virtually.

At 5:00 p.m., join the meeting from your computer, tablet, or smartphone by clicking the link below:

<https://council.cityofalbany.net/groups/jwp/zoom>

You can use your microphone or dial in using your phone.

Call: 1-253-215-8782

Access Code/Meeting ID: 841-8888-5236

1. Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance
2. Roll Call
3. Approval of Minutes
 - a. March 4, 2021
4. Elections of Officers
5. Project Reports
 - a. Water Reclamation Facility Solids Dewatering and Composting
 - b. AM Water Treatment Plant ARPA Projects
 - c. AM Water Treatment Plant Raw Water Pump Rebuild
6. Facility Updates
 - a. Facility Updates
 - b. WRF Permit
 - c. Litigation
7. Next Meeting Date: To be discussed.
8. Adjournment

Microphones will be muted and webcams will be turned off for presenters and members of the public unless called upon to speak.

If participant(s) disrupt the meeting, the participant(s) microphone and webcam will be turned off.

If disruption continues, the participant(s) will be removed from the meeting.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Joint Water and Wastewater Management Committee will meet virtually. This meeting is accessible to the public via phone and video connection. If you have a disability that requires accommodation, please notify city staff at least 48 hours in advance of the meeting at: kindra.coggins@cityofalbany.net or 541-917-7687.



CITY OF ALBANY AND CITY OF MILLERSBURG
JOINT WATER AND WASTEWATER MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE



MINUTES

Thursday, March 4, 2021

5:00 p.m.

Virtual Meeting

333 Broadalbin Street SW

Approved: DRAFT

CALL TO ORDER

Vice Chair Scott Cowan called the meeting to order at 5:03 p.m.

ROLL CALL

5:03 p.m.

Committee Members Present: Kevin Kreitman, Scott Cowan, Jim Lepin, Ray Kopczynski, Bessie Johnson, and Dala Rouse

Committee Members Absent: Scott McFee and Alex Johnson II

Others Present: Chris Bailey (Albany Public Works Director); Kristin Preston (Albany Public Works Operations Manager); Scott LaRoque (Albany Utility Superintendent - Water); Peter Troedsson (Albany City Manager); Staci Belcastro (City Engineer); Shelley Shultz (Contracting Assistant); Craig Prosser (Albany WRF Treatment Plant Supervisor), Janelle Booth (City of Millersburg)

MINUTES

5:05 p.m.

A correction is to be made to the June 27, 2019, minutes, correcting the spelling of Rich Kellum's name. MOTION: Rouse moved to approve the June 27, 2019, minutes with one correction; Lepin seconded the motion and the motion was approved unanimously.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

5:08 p.m.

MOTION: Scott Cowan opened nominations for officers. Kopczynski moved to elect Scott Cowan as chair, Johnson seconded, passed unanimously. Johnson moved to elect Ray Kopczynski as vice chair, Lepin Seconded, passed unanimously.

STAFFING UPDATE

5:10 p.m.

Bailey gave a quick update on staff changes. Both the water superintendent (Karen Kelly) and water treatment plant supervisor left for positions with EWEB, which created a list of vacancies. Scott LaRoque was promoted to water superintendent, Chuck Leffler promoted to water treatment plant supervisor, and Craig Prosser was hired to fill the position of WRF treatment plant supervisor.

There has been some department reorganization on the public works side; the public works engineering and community development director position has been split into two separate positions. Jeff Blaine is now serving as the community development director as a stand-alone position. Staci Belcastro is acting public works director, until July 1, 2021, when Chris Bailey will assume the role. Kristin Preston has been promoted to public works operations manager, and the city is working on filling Preston's old position of wastewater superintendent.

PROJECT REPORTS

5:15 p.m.

- Water Reclamation Facility Solids Dewatering – Preston gave a brief recap and presentation on upcoming dewatering improvements; discussion followed.
- Water Reclamation Facility Composting – Belcastro gave an update on upcoming composting project. Kennedy Jenks has been awarded the consulting portion of the project. The two projects are being bid together; bids are due March 23, 2021. The estimated cost is 5.2 million for dewatering and 3.2 million for composting. The entire project is expected to be complete by March of 2022; discussion followed.
- Albany-Millersburg Water Treatment Plant Reservoir Valves / Raw Water Pump Rebuild Project – Scott LaRoque discussed recent maintenance and improvements to the AM water plant.

UPDATES

5:45 p.m.

- Facility Updates – Craig Prosser talked about incentives and energy savings the city has implemented; these cost-saving measures help limit utility rate increases. Preston and Prosser gave an update on the DEQ expired permit renewal process, which should be completed by 2023.

Joe Deardorff, natural treatment systems specialist at Talking Water Gardens, provided slides showing recent activity and improvements that Preston shared with the group. A counter has been installed at Talking Water Gardens to track visitors, registering approximately 5,000 visitors per month, and 55,000 since last April. Several trees have been lost due to the recent ice storm, but new trees had already been planted to fill in. The 10-year anniversary of the Talking Water Gardens is coming up this year; Deardorff is planning a modest celebration via social media.

LaRoque shared that the Vine Street water facility has been undergoing capital improvements, so only the AM Water Treatment Plant will be in use for a while. He also shared that the Raw Water Pump project qualified for Energy Trust incentives for up to 75 percent of the cost to upgrade. LaRoque presented information on two upcoming budget requests: replacement of the aging Variable Frequency Drives (VFD's) and replacement of the leaking seismic valve at A-M reservoir, which was discovered during the AM Reservoir Cleaning project. He hopes to have both projects completed within the next year.

- Budget Updates - Bailey pointed out some minor errors in the draft budget handouts. The final budget numbers that will go to council will be a bit different, but not in a significant amount. Prosser and LaRoque both gave explanations of their budget requests; discussion followed.
- Litigation – Bailey gave an update on the Ch2M Hill/Jacobs lawsuit; hearings are continuing, best estimate is trial could start late 2021 or early 2022.

Willamette Riverkeeper vs. City of Albany alleges violations of the Clean Water Act for both stormwater and wastewater discharges; the wastewater portion of the case is related to a small, unpermitted discharge from a line the city has believed to be abandoned. The city is working with attorneys to settle the dispute. This should not affect the City of Millersburg at all, but she wanted to make everyone aware.

NEXT MEETING DATE

6:17 p.m.

The next joint meeting is scheduled for March 3, 2022.

ADJOURNMENT

6:17 p.m.

The meeting adjourned at 6:17 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Shelley Shultz
Public Works Contracting Assistant