

Utility Advisory Committee Meeting

The Indian River County (IRC) Utility Advisory Committee (UAC) met at 2:00 p.m. on Thursday, October 2nd, 2008, in Conference Room A1-102, of the County Administration Building A, 1801 27th Street, Vero Beach, FL.

* The numbers in parenthesis correspond to the approximate location of agenda items on the audio recording of this meeting. The recording can be heard at www.ircgov.com/Boards/TDC/2008.htm.

Present were:

Chairman Andrew Allocco, District 2 Appointee
Carlton Miller, Member at Large
John Tschinkel, Member at Large
Dr. Steven Faherty, District 5 Appointee
William Johnson, District 3 Appointee

Absent were:

Mark Grossman, Appointee District 1
Robert Pickett, Appointee District 4

Also present were:

Commissioner Joseph Flescher, Non-Voting Commissioner Liaison
Erik Olson, Director, IRC Utilities Department;
Himanshu Mehta, Managing Director, Solid Waste Disposal District;
Mike Hotchkiss, Project Manager, IRC Utilities Department;
Larry Brown, IRC Utilities Department;
Sasan Rohani, Chief Planner, IRC Community Development;

Others present were:

Ed Nelson, Interested Citizen;
Debbie Perez, Waste Management;
Herb Whittall, Interested Citizen.

Call to order

Chairman Allocco called the meeting to order at 2:04 p.m.

Approval of Minutes (June 4th, 2008)

ON A MOTION BY Dr. Faherty, SECONDED BY Mr. Tschinkel, the members voted unanimously (5-0)

UAC- Approved

October 2, 2008

to approve the minutes of June 4th, 2008 as presented.

Clerk's Note: The minutes from the June 4th meeting were approved after the Utility Department update and placed here for continuity.

Review of Evaluation and Appraisal Report- Solid Waste Element

Mr. Sasan Rohani, Community Development Chief Planner, reviewed the Evaluation and Appraisal Report (EAR), Solid Waste Sub-Element, a copy of which is on file at the Commission Office. Mr. Rohani provided a brief report on the Comprehensive Plan/EAR planning process, the EAR components, and the solid waste conditions from 1995 through 2006. He encouraged the committee members to review the vast amount of data contained in the appendixes section of the plan and provide comments and suggestions as needed.

The committee members reviewed the Solid Waste Sub-Element's Objectives and Policies. Mr. Rohani explained Objectives 1 through 3 were achieved and that Objective 4 was not due until 2010. He added one of the Policy Changes was an expansion of the recycling programs including an increase in public education, an increase in the number of items that can be recycled, and a change in the collection and separation procedure.

Mr. Miller suggested creating a display to be placed at the Citizen's Convenience Center identifying the different types of plastic.

Committee members ensued on a lengthy discussion regarding the EAR Solid Waste Sub-Element and the Indian River County Recycling Program.

Update on Waste to Energy RFP

Mr. Himanshu Mehta, Solid Waste Disposal District (SWDD) Managing Director, provided a PowerPoint presentation on the Waste to Energy Project. He explained the project was published in the Press Journal and Demand Star on May 7, 2008 and they had a mandatory pre-proposal meeting on May 21, 2008. Mr. Mehta added the Request for Proposal opening date was July 16, 2008.

Mr. Mehta explained staff received *Gas to Energy Proposals* from Waste Management Renewable Energy LLC and Ameresco and a *Waste to Energy Proposal* from New Planet Energy.

UAC- Approved

October 2, 2008

Mr. Erik Olson, IRC Utilities Department Director, explained the goal of the project was to create jobs within the County and ultimately make profits; however he stated staff needed to analyze possible liabilities related to the project.

A lengthy discussion ensued regarding the Gas to Energy and Waste to Energy projects.

Tropical Storm Fay Update

Mr. Mehta provided a PowerPoint presentation on SWDD response to Tropical Storm Fay. He explained they had over 13 inches of rain at the landfill during the storm and presented various before and after of the landfill.

Discussion ensued regarding Tropical Storm Fay.

Update on Recycling and Proposed Recycling Rates

Mr. Mehta provided a brief presentation on the Expanded Curbside Recycling Program. He explained the program includes the recycling of the following:

Bin 1

- Plastics 1 through 7
- Glass (green, clear, and green)
- Aluminum cans, aluminum foil, pie plates, and trays
- Steel cans, aerosol cans
- Aseptic packaging

Bin 2

- Newspaper and inserts
- Phone books
- Envelopes/Junk Mail
- Office paper,
- Shredded paper
- Catalogs/Magazines
- Brown paper bags
- Other paper products
- Corrugated cardboard

Clerk's Note: This item was partially discussed under the Review of Solid Waste EAR item.

Update on Water and Wastewater Plants

West Regional WWTF

UAC- Approved

October 2, 2008

Mike Hotchkiss, IRC Utilities Department Capital Projects Manager, provided a PowerPoint presentation on the Water and Wastewater Plant Expansion projects, a copy of which is on file at the Commission Office. He explained the West Regional Wastewater Treatment Facility project entailed an expansion from 2.0 MGD to 6.0 MGD. Mr. Hotchkiss stated the project was approximately 60% complete and presented various pictures of the project.

Discussion ensued regarding the West Regional Wastewater Treatment Facility.

West to North Reuse Water Implementation Project *(Clerks Note- this item was discussed after the Update on Rockridge Project item and placed here for continuity.)*

Mr. Larry Brown, IRC Utilities Department, provided a PowerPoint presentation on the West to North Reuse Water Implementation Project. He explained the project was designed in three phases with the pumps at the West Regional being upgraded to provide an additional 1.7 MGD, an upgrade of the pipes along the Lat. G Canal, and the construction of a 3 million gallon storage tank at the North Regional facility. He added the project was probably going to be finalized in a year and explained that as a method for cost reduction the county was buying all the construction materials themselves.

North County RO Plant Expansion *(Clerks Note- this item was discussed after the Update on Rockridge Project item and placed here for continuity.)*

Mr. Hotchkiss explained the North County RO Plant was expanding to 10.7 MGD and noted the project was underway and approximately 85% complete. He presented pictures of the facility including the existing skids room, the control room, and membrane system. Mr. Hotchkiss continued with a brief update on the construction of the new supply wells at the North County RO Plant. He explained the construction of the first three wells was complete and that the construction of the next three wells was underway and approximately 105% complete. Mr. Hotchkiss added the design for the second phase of the project was 90% complete and presented a picture of one of the completed wells.

Rockridge

Mr. Erik Olson provided some background information on the Rockridge neighborhood and the sewage system failure and flooding during the 2004 hurricanes. Mr. Olson explained the project entailed the installation of vacuum pumps to replace the old sewage system.

A long discussion ensued regarding the different sewage system technologies.

UAC- Approved

October 2, 2008

Mr. Hotchkiss provided a brief PowerPoint presentation of the Rockridge project. He explained the project was a 100% complete and pointed out that approximately 95% of the project was funded through FEMA and Community Development Block Grants. He added the storm-water improvements were implemented through federal funding.

A lengthy discussion ensued regarding the project related cost and funding.

Groundwater Sampling Program

Mr. Olson explained the IRC Utilities Department was very proactive in terms of groundwater sampling across the County. He explained the sampling process was not limited to the minimum requirements and noted they sample water in public, private, and agricultural well to get as much information as they can.

Other Matters

Chairman Allocco suggested having the election of Chairman and Vice-Chairman for 2009. All members agreed.

ON A MOTION BY Mr. Miller, SECONDED BY Mr. Faherty, the members voted unanimously (5-0), to elect Mr. Tschinkel as Chairman of the Utility Advisory Committee for the year 2009.

ON A MOTION BY Mr. Miller, SECONDED BY Mr. Johnson, the members voted unanimously (5-0), to elect Dr. Faherty as Vice-Chairman of the Utility Advisory Committee for the year 2009.

Adjournment

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 4:09 p.m.