



# Minutes City of Sacramento Utilities Rate Advisory Commission

## COMMISSION MEMBERS:

Karen McBride	Steven Archibald, Chair	Carolyn Veal-Hunter
Scott Brown	Douglas Brown, Vice Chair	Jeff Donlevy
	Kevin Schubert	

## CITY STAFF:

*Jessica Hess, Media and Communication Specialist  
Holly Charley, Senior Staff Assistant  
Joe Robinson, Senior Deputy City Attorney*

*New City Hall  
915 I Street, 1st Floor – Council Chambers*

*January 25, 2012, 5:30 p.m.*

*The Utility Rate Advisory Commission is a commission of the City Council with review and recommendation authority. Its purpose is to review utility service rate proposals, develop recommendations on relevant issues regarding the setting of rates, hold rate hearings, and act as a liaison to the community to encourage understanding and participation.*

## **NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC**

You are welcomed and encouraged to participate in this meeting. Public comment is taken (3 minutes maximum) on items listed on the agenda when they are called. Public Comment on items not listed on the agenda will be heard at the end of the meeting as noted on the agenda. Comments on controversial items may be limited and large groups are encouraged to select 3-5 speakers to represent the opinion of the group.

**Notice to Lobbyists:** When addressing the Committee you must identify yourself as a lobbyist and announce the client/business/organization you are representing (City Code 2.15.160).

**Speaker slips are located at the back of the room and should be completed and submitted to the Commission Clerk.**

Government Code 54950 (The Brown Act) requires that a brief description of each item to be transacted or discussed be posted at least 72 hours prior to a regular meeting. The City posts Agendas at City Hall as well as offsite meeting locations. The order of Agenda items are listed for reference and may be taken in any order deemed appropriate by the legislative body. The Agenda provides a general description and staff recommendations; however, the legislative body may take action other than what is recommended. Full staff reports are available for public review on the City's website and include all attachments and exhibits. Hard copies are available at the Utilities Department (10 cents per page). Live video streams and indexed archives of meetings are available via the internet. Visit [http://sacramento.granicus.com/ViewPublisher.php?view\\_id=31](http://sacramento.granicus.com/ViewPublisher.php?view_id=31).

Meeting facilities are accessible to persons with disabilities. If you require special assistance to participate in the meeting, notify the Utilities Department at (916) 808-8260 at least 48 hours prior to the meeting.

# MINUTES

**January 25, 2011**

***New City Hall  
915 I Street – First Floor, Council Chambers***

All items listed are heard and acted upon by the Utilities Rate Advisory Commission unless otherwise noted.

## **Call to Order – 5:33 p.m.**

**Roll Call Present:** Jeff Donlevy, Kevin Schubert, Douglas Brown (arrived at 5:50pm), Steven Archibald, Karen McBride, Scott Brown, Carolyn Veal-Hunter (arrived at 5:40pm, left at 7:15pm).  
**Absent:** None

## **Consent Calendar**

All items listed under the Consent Calendar are considered and acted upon by one motion. Anyone may request an item be removed for separate consideration.

### **1. Approval of Minutes for December 15, 2011.**

**Location:** (Citywide)

**Recommendation:** Approve Commission minutes for December 15, 2011.

**Contact:** Holly Charley, Senior Staff Assistant, (916) 808-7605 Department of Utilities.

**Summary:** Motion to approve by Jeff Donlevy, second by Kevin Schubert. All present in favor, none opposed.

**Action:** Minutes Approved.

## **Discussion / Action Reports**

Discussion or action reports include oral presentations including those recommending receive and file.

### **2. Title:** Review of requested report back items from December 15, 2011 meeting.

**Location:** (Citywide)

**Recommendation:** Review and File.

**Contact:** Dave Brent, Interim Director, (916) 808-1420, Department of Utilities.

**Summary:** Oral staff presentation given reporting back on items from December 15<sup>th</sup> meeting including scheduling an additional meeting to continue tonight's discussion if necessary (Scheduled for February 2<sup>nd</sup> at 5:30), information regarding residential/commercial splits in revenues, water costs comparison across property types and communities, and looking at what other communities are doing in regards to infrastructure repair and replacement.

**Action:** Received and filed.

### **3. Title:** Public Hearing: Proposed Water and Sewer Rates

**Location:** (Citywide)

**Recommendation:** Conduct a public hearing and provide a recommendation to the City Council regarding the proposed Fiscal Year 2013-2016 water and sewer rate increases.

**Contact:** Dave Brent, Interim Director, (916) 808-1420, Department of Utilities.

**Summary:** Staff presentation given overview of Capital and Regulatory Program overview, finance plan (including comments from Russ Fehr, City Treasurer), economic impacts (presented by Sanjay Varshney, CSUS Business school Dean), Community Engagement Program and next steps.

Public comments heard from Joshua Foster, Craig Powell, Julie Berrey, Martha Rinaldi, Mac Worthy, Paul Frates, Don Dunivan, Vicki Davis, Dr. Lee Turner-Muecke, Valerie Marlow-Bailey, and Alma Watson.

Motion to close public hearing by Douglas Brown, second by Karen McBride. All present in favor, none opposed. Motion passed.

Commission discussion regarding support/opposition to the staff recommended rate increases.

Motion by Scott Brown to adopt the department's proposal of Water increases of 10% for 2012, 2013, 2014, and Sewer increases of 16% for 2012, 15% for 2013 and 14% for 2014. Second by Karen McBride. Yes: Karen McBride, No: Jeff Donlevy, Kevin Schubert, Douglas Brown, Steven Archibald, and Scott Brown. Absent: Carolyn Veal-Hunter. Motion does not pass.

Commission discussion of alternate scenarios presented by commission members. Determination to continue discuss at the meeting to be held on February 2, 2012 at 5:30pm.

**Action:** Public Hearing closed. Motion to adopt the department's proposal of Water increases of 10% for 2012, 2013, 2014, and Sewer increases of 16% for 2012, 15% for 2013 and 14% for 2014 does not pass.

#### **Public Comments- Matters Not on the Agenda**

4. **Public comments heard from Mac Worthy, Paul Frates, and Alma Watson**

#### **Commission Ideas, Questions and Announcements**

5. **Commissioner Brown shared with staff idea of a deferred seniors program similar to PG&E and what that impact would be on revenue.**

#### **Adjournment: 10:01 p.m.**

This is to certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the minutes of the (Meeting Date) meeting as approved by the Utilities Rate Advisory Commission.

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Holly Charléty  
Commission Secretary