



# Minutes City of Sacramento Utilities Rate Advisory Commission

Utilities Rate Advisory Commission  
08/25/2010  
Item 1 - Approval of Minutes

## COMMISSION MEMBERS:

Karen McBride	Steven Archibald, Chair	Ernest Lehr
Douglas Brown	Tess Kretschmann, Vice Chair	Melvin Johnson
	*****	Carolyn Veal-Hunter

## CITY STAFF:

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

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

*May 12, 2010 – 5:00 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=21](http://sacramento.granicus.com/ViewPublisher.php?view_id=21).*

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

**May 12, 2010**

*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 – 5:03 p.m.

**Roll Call**     **Present:** Steven Archibald, Tess Kretschmann, Karen McBride, Melvin Johnson, Douglas Brown (arrived at 5:10 p.m.), Carolyn Veal-Hunter (arrived at 5:10 p.m., left at 5:50 p.m. and returned at 6:25 p.m.).  
**Absent:** Dr. Ernest Lehr.

## 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 February 3, 2009.**

**Location:** (Citywide)

**Recommendation:** Approve Commission minutes for February 3, 2009.

**Contact:** Jessica Hess, Media and Communications Specialist, (916) 808-8260  
Department of Utilities

**Summary:** Motion to approve by Melvin Johnson, seconded by Karen McBride. 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.

**(Commissioner Veal-Hunter and Brown arrived)**

### 2. **Water Conservation Workshop**

**Location:** (Citywide).

**Recommendation:** Review and file. This information is being presented to inform the Commission regarding the operations and structure of the Water Conservation section in Utilities.

**Contact:** Terrance Davis, Program Manager (916) 808-4929, Department of Utilities.

**Summary:** Water Conservation presentation including overview, Best Management Practices (BMP's), water waste calls, conservation ordinance and outreach. Water conservation consists of 7 full time employees responsible for BMP compliance, water waste complaints and ordinance enforcement, as well as customer outreach and

education. BMP's include 14 in place and can be foundational and programmatic. Peak season water waste service requests reviewed, as well as 2009 outdoor ordinance amendments. Outreach and education efforts include RWA Blue Thumb program, Spare Sac water alerts, workshops, volunteer ambassador's program and water efficient landscape garden at Glenn Ellen Facility. Next steps for the division also reviewed.

**Action:** Received and filed.

**3. Prop 218 Notification for Proposed Rate Adjustments for Loose-in-the-Street Collection of Garden Refuse**

**Location:** (Citywide)

**Recommendation:** This information is being presented to provide the Commission with the proposed rate adjustments for Loose-in-the-Street collection of garden refuse prior to sending out the Proposition 218 notification that is required for the proposed rate adjustments. The Commission will be asked to take a position on sending out a Proposition 218 notification that includes the proposed rate adjustments.

**Contact:** Jamille Moens, Business Services Manager (916) 808-5988, Department of Utilities.

**Summary:** Review of Loose in the Street rate schedule presented at the last meeting. Staff would like to get recommendation from commission for rate to include in the Prop 218 notification.

**(Commissioner Veal-Hunter left)**

Clarification that service is mandatory for 50 units or less (either loose in the street or containerized green waste), the department is looking at revising the code to allow 3+ units non-mandatory for residential service. Clarification that at this point, staff is not including the bi-weekly service cost as this has to be at the direction of council to reduce the service level.

Motion to support the recommendation by staff for the rate in the Prop 218 notification by Karen McBride, seconded by Melvin Johnson. Commissioners Archibald, Kretschmann, Brown, Johnson, and McBride in favor, none opposed. Motion Passed.

**Action:** Motion to support the recommendation by staff for the rate in the Prop 218 notification passed.

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

**4. Public Comment heard from Ellen Robinson.**

**Commission Ideas, Questions and Announcements**

- 5. Staff reminds commission of the Water Conservation workshop to be held this weekend from 10-12 at 601 Alhambra.**
- 6. Commission asks of Council's view of repealing Measure A. Staff looking at what would be needed to move forward. Will bring to council with budget in June.**

7. **Concern that only one meeting will be held before the August Rollback workshop. Attorney to look into whether the Commission can take a position on the Rollback Initiative.**  
(Commissioner Veal-Hunter returns)
8. **Motion to ask for reconsideration to include Commissioner Veal-Hunter moved by Steven Archibald, seconded by Douglas Brown. All present in favor, none opposed. Motion to reconsider passed.**

**Motion to support the recommendation by staff for the rate in the Prop 218 notification by Steven Archibald, seconded by Melvin Johnson. Commissioners Archibald, Kretschmann, Brown, Johnson, McBride, and Veal-Hunter in favor, none opposed. Motion passed.**

**Adjournment: 6:29 p.m.**

Approved:

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Steven Archibald, Commission Chair

Attest:



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Holly Lera, Commission Secretary