

TRADES ADVISORY COUNCIL (TAC)

MINUTES

April 18, 2007

Present were Ilke Hanloser, Gail McQuiston, Eba Hobbs, Richard Smith, Martha Segal, Mary Ellen Jackson, Marilyn Tidwell, Mike Morris, Jack Steakley, Rick Jones, Cyrus Toosi, Jim Paulus, Jim McLean, Lance Hornbuckle, Ronnie Russell, and Hal Balthrop.

Minutes of March 2007 meeting were approved after two changes were made.

Old Business

Review of Cut & Cap Policy

Hal reviewed the policy with members and will edit the policy with a clarification that was recommended. All existing services that need to be cut and capped should be on site plans when submitted. This issue will be discussed at the next internal meeting and results will be reported at next TAC meeting. If a fee is constituted, it will be for cost recovery only.

Fire Service Line Mapping

Cyrus reported that MWS will not pave over any private fire service valves. MWS will raise the valves in the pavement within the right of way.

Hydrant Flow Test Process Update

Hal reported that 2-Hydrant test is to diagnose and relate to plumbers the realistic picture of the flow. A process for this is currently being created. Plumbers are encouraged to flow test the hydrants. If there are any questions, plumbers should call MWS Engineering.

Carson Meter Box Pilot Project

Mary Ellen reported that failed inspections at the prototype locations were not due to the meter box; there were other issues involved. MWS Field Activities crew will also be doing field checks on the boxes. It was recommended to run this through the Materials Advisory Committee as our first item to consider. Gary Ragland is currently working with the manufacturer about changing the lid. Update will be given at next TAC meeting.

Safety Reminder and Pictures

Several pictures of an area where MWS crew was scheduled for a sewer tap were passed around for everyone to view. MWS will make every effort to make taps in a timely manner but our crew will not allow themselves to make taps if it is an unsafe environment. Rick suggested that MWS call TOSHA if there are unsafe issues. He said each site should have a "Competent Person" for excavations that is trained. Mary Ellen reported that MWS is currently less than one week out on tap schedules.

Service Line Policy

Hal wanted to clarify MWS' position on this policy. The service line from the main to the structure is the customer's responsibility. If the plumber addresses the blockage on a service line and then determines that MWS needs to return to the site, the customer has to put a hole in the service line. The customer has to make an effort to correct the problem and afterwards MWS will assist in the area of the right of way/easement as a service to the customer. System Services is currently working on draft letters that will be sent to customers that do not resolve their sewer blockage problems. They will be

given ample time to resolve the problem but if not resolved, they will be subject to disconnection of water services. Ronnie will provide, at the next TAC meeting, the results of 100 calls that were tracked. It was suggested to send a notice to all customers about what their responsibilities are.

New Business

May meeting – National Drinking Water Week, May 6-12

TAC meeting will take place during this week on May 10 at 11:30 a.m. at Customer Service. Members are invited to attend the luncheon after the meeting. There will be a budget presentation at this meeting also.

Summer Meeting Schedule

Everyone should think about the summer meeting schedule.

MWS Section Updates

Customer Service

- On July 19, the Mobile Dispatch Program will be implemented.
- Martha recommended that there be no meeting in July as the AWWA conference was taking place in July and also due to the Mobile Dispatch program going live.
- The draft for the Meter Exchange Program RFP has been sent to Purchasing. MWS had asked TAC members for recommendations but there have been no responses. It is not too late if anyone has comments for the RFP. They should contact Martha or Mary Ellen with their comments. The goal is to have a contract awarded by September. There are approximately 60,000 meters that need to be exchanged which will take about 3.5 years to complete. The commercial exchange program will take approximately one year.

Association Updates

Jim McLean reported that the CEO of his association was having bypass surgery this morning.

Plumbers are still having problems with ABI, the company testing backflows. Hal will schedule ABI personnel to meet with MWS and plumbers on May 10 at 10:30 pm before the regular TAC meeting. Strainers are a requirement for backflows.

The next meeting is scheduled for May 10 at 11:30 am in the Customer Service 2nd Floor Conference Room with the National Drinking Water Week luncheon being served at 1:00 pm.