



FOLSOM
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Utility Commission Regular Meeting

Approved Minutes

Large Public Works Conference Room, City Hall | 50 Natoma Street,
Folsom CA 95630

May 20, 2025

6:30 PM

To accommodate a room reservation conflict, the Utility Commission meeting was moved to the Large Public Works Conference Room. Notices were posted at the Council Chambers to advise of this change.

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Vice Chair Silva at 6:34 p.m.

Roll Call

PRESENT:	H.Elkhatab, A.McBride, M.Menz (at 6:38pm), A.Ross, A.Silva, T.Widby
ABSENT:	L.Ladd
STAFF PRESENT:	Marcus Yasutake: Environmental & Water Resources Director
	Jennifer Thiot: Administrative Assistant, Public Works

Business from the Floor

None.

Minutes

Approval of the Minutes of the April 15, 2025, Regular Meeting

Motion by Commissioner Ross, second by Commissioner Widby to approve the Minutes of the April 15, 2025, regular meeting. Motion passed by the following roll-call vote:

AYES:	Commissioners Elkhatab, McBride, Ross, Silva, Widby
ABSENT:	Commissioners Ladd, Menz

Directors' Report

Director Yasutake reported on behalf of Public Works and EWR:

- PW Director Rackovan is retiring, effective the end of the month. The Public Works Director vacancy has been posted and is due to close on June 22. Director Yasutake has been appointed as the interim Public Works Director until the new Director is appointed.
- City Works Day, on May 21, from 9:30 am-12 noon.
- Director Yasutake asked the Commission if they would like to switch from an August recess to a July recess to match City Council's recent change. Commissioner Silva asked if there was an agenda reason for not changing. Based on the response it was suggested that the Utility Commission recess be changed to correspond with City Council, which was agreed upon by other commissioners. Director Yasutake confirmed that the Commission will therefore recess in July and reconvene in August.
- Commissioner McBride asked when the Water Vision draft report will be available. Director Yasutake reported that most of the report has already been reviewed; the goal is to have the draft available for public by the end of June.
- EWR Utility Manager Todd Eising is retiring on May 30. EWR has already hired his replacement, Frederick Mayo. His start date of May 2nd has allowed some overlap.
- Commissioner Silva asked about traffic impacts due to the project on Oak Avenue. Director Yasutake confirmed that traffic on Oak Avenue will be impacted by the water construction project for possibly another month. Work will then move to E. Bidwell Street, alongside the train tracks between Oak Avenue and Iron Point Road. He added that work is also ongoing in the Oak Trail corridor and that it will continue into June.

New Business

• **Environmental and Water Resources Department FY 2025-2026 Preliminary Capital Improvement Plan Budget:**

Director Yasutake provided a presentation of the proposed fiscal year 2025-2026 Capital Improvement Plan Budget for Water and Wastewater Operations and responded to questions from the Commission.

Re Willow Hill Reservoir Valve project: Commissioner Elkhatib asked how often valves in dams would generally need to be replaced. Director Yasutake responded that valves that are submerged, like in this project, would usually have a life cycle of no longer than 35 or 40 years.

Re Tower Tank Project: In response to Commissioner Silva's question about contingency funds, Director Yasutake explained that per Folsom Municipal Code, each Public Works project that goes out to bid is allowed a 10% contingency. This allows the City Manager to approve costs up to 10% above the original contract amount for possible changes that occur during construction, without having to go to council. Commissioner Widby asked whether most projects were completed within the 10% contingency. Director Yasutake confirmed that is the case, adding that the construction side of recent EWR projects have required less than 5%, with some coming in under budget.

In response to a question from Commissioner Menz, Director Yasutake said Folsom's largest tank holds about 4 million gallons.

Commissioner Widby asked about staffing levels considering the volume of proposed work. Director Yasutake reported that EWR has requested another engineering position in the new budget, required partly due to the increase in regulatory requirements. For one project, the department is using an engineering consulting firm to provide full delivery of the project, to see if that is a viable method to use in the future. Based on this, EWR does expect to be able to deliver all projects, but if there are any issues, some projects may be delayed based on priorities. Director Yasutake also confirmed that the department has an on-call list for both construction management inspection and engineering consulting firms. These firms are thus pre-qualified, negating the need to go through the full process of requests for proposals for work.

Commissioner Ross asked if staff anticipated any issues with having the projects approved, based on the budget. Director Yasutake responded that the funding is available, so no issues are anticipated in this regard.

Other Business

Commissioner Menz shared that the State of California might be extending the requirement for electric vehicles or eliminating it completely. Director Yasutake said that he had heard more from the State group of a possible extension as opposed to complete elimination. He added that staff will continue to operate based on ACF regulations unless City Council directs otherwise.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 7:16 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:



Jennifer Thiot: Administrative Assistant, Public Works

Approved:



Aaron Silva, Utility Commission Vice Chair