I. Call to Order

PRESENT: Crowley, Quick, Reading, Hilton (4:00 PM - 5:30 PM)
ABSENT: Thorne, Nink, Robbins, Gravatt

II. Minutes Approval

1. Public Works Commission Minutes - Regular Meeting - Feb 6, 2019 4:00 PM

RESULT: ACCEPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER: Renee Quick, Commissioner
SECONDER: Julia Hilton, Commissioner
AYES: Crowley, Quick, Reading, Hilton
ABSENT: Thorne, Nink, Robbins, Gravatt

III. Agenda Items

1. 2019 Minimum Commodities Price List

Ben Nydegger, Biosolids Program Manager, briefed the Commission on the request for a recommendation to City Council for approval of the 2019 Minimum Commodities Price List.

- Commissioner Quick asked what the difference is between dairy and feeder quality hay. Mr. Nydegger explained dairy quality is premium or supreme, and feeder quality hay is fair to good and utility quality.
- Commissioner Crowley asked what determines the difference between supreme quality and feeder quality. Mr. Nydegger answered the lab determines the relative feed value based on a mathematical formula and the quality rating is determined from the relative feed value.
- Commissioner Reading asked if triticale benefits the soil. Mr. Nydegger explained triticale takes potassium from the soil and because the nature of our biosolids is deficient in potassium, we never have a great triticale crop. We use triticale in the same way we use winter wheat in terms of its ability to utilize the nutrients in the soil.
• Commissioner Crowley asked how the minimum prices for prior years compares to the actual prices we received for those years and the prices we’re asking this year. Mr. Nydegger answered that this year we increased the minimum crop prices for the premium, supreme and good gradations of alfalfa and haylage. The rest of the prices are consistent with prices received in previous years.

• Commissioner Crowley asked if the decrease in demand for corn is throughout the valley and what are some reasons for the decrease. Mr. Nydegger replied low prices in the past few years have allowed consumers to purchase additional corn in anticipation of price increases which reduced the demand for corn.

• Commissioner Quick asked if tariffs have anything to do with the decrease in demand since we don't sell corn overseas. Mr. Nydegger answered tariffs don’t have any impact on the demand for corn we’ve grown. Commissioner Quick added that meat consumption is down causing a decrease in the number of cattle. Mr. Nydegger replied that fewer cattle could be a contributing factor.

• Commissioner Hilton asked if the percentage difference of minimum prices and expected prices could be represented consistently. Mr. Nydegger will show the percentage of expected value in the future.

Commissioner Quick moved the 2019 minimum commodity prices shown in Exhibit 1 be approved and recommended to City Council for adoption to allow for the sale of crops grown at Twenty Mile South Farm in 2019.

Commissioner Reading seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

RESULT: APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER: Renee Quick, Commissioner
SECONDER: Don Reading, Commissioner
AYES: Crowley, Quick, Reading, Hilton
ABSENT: Thorne, Nink, Robbins, Gravatt

2. Livability Ambassadors Update

Haley Falconer, Environmental Division Senior Manager, introduced Jami Goldman, Sustainability Coordinator for the City of Boise. Ms. Goldman briefed the Commission on the pilot year of the Livability Ambassador program and the plans for the second year.

• Commissioner Quick would like to see a version of the program in the schools. Ms. Goldman answered we are considering ideas and opportunities to include school age children in the program.

• Commissioner Crowley asked if we had information on the length of time the ambassadors had been residents of Boise. Ms. Goldman answered there was a wide range of residency. Commissioner Crowley commented that Boise
continues to be recognized as one of the most livable cities in the country and that’s due in part to the work that is done in Public Works. Steve Burgos, Public Works Director, added one of the questions on our yearly citizen survey asks participants how long they have lived in Boise. The surveys show that newer residents have a more positive view than people who have lived here for longer periods of time and are frustrated with growth issues.

- Commissioner Quick added planning for growth needs to account for needs and concerns of long time residents and not just attracting new residents.

RESULT: DISCUSSED

3. Water Renewal Utility Plan Update Investment Options 1-4
Ms. Falconer explained Water investment options 1-4 that will be presented to the Water Renewal Utility Plan (WRUP) Advisory Group in March.

- Commissioner Reading asked if Suez has been involved in discussions about water. Ms. Falconer answered we are in a planning mode now and in the future there will be more stakeholder engagement. Regulatory issues and other challenges will be addressed further in the process. Mr. Burgos added we need to change our perspective in regards to water to maximize the resource in the future.
- Commissioner Crowley explained the Idaho Department of Water Resources (IDWR) maintains a water bank to ensure water rights are being used and aren’t lost. He asked if we had considered including IDWR in our decision process. Mr. Burgos added that John Roldan our Strategic Water Resources Manager, has contacted the IDWR to start the conversation around water resources.

RESULT: DISCUSSED

4. FY 2020 O&M Budget

- Commissioner Reading asked if the figures shown for the requested FTEs are for salary only or include benefits. Ms. Buchanan answered the figures are the fully loaded costs for the positions.
- Commissioner Crowley asked if the expenditures in the Water Renewal Fund include depreciation. Ms. Buchanan answered depreciation is included. Commissioner Crowley asked if the contract we have with Republic Services is a fixed rate contract. Ms. Buchanan explained a formula is built into the franchise agreement with set targets for the year. At the end of each fiscal year we evaluate if they’re meeting the percentage target for their operations and if they’ve had a return on their capital investment. Mr. Burgos added that we are two years into a ten year contract. Ms. Buchanan added
that Abigail Germaine, Public Works Counsel, verified the franchise agreement with Republic Services will expire on December 31, 2028.

RESULT: DISCUSSED

IV. Adjournment

1. Director’s Announcements
   - Mr. Burgos informed the Commission we’ve received good feedback from our stakeholder groups for our Renewable Energy Strategy.
   - The Water Renewal Advisory Group process is proceeding well. We have a group of 24 citizens and they have provided interesting observations to date.
   - There are water quality issues on the Bench and we have met with Suez. We are verifying the information we’ve received from them and we appreciate that they are keeping us informed.

2. Motion to adjourn the Public Works Commission meeting

   Commissioner Reading moved to adjourn the meeting and Commissioner Quick seconded and the motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 5:56 p.m.

RESULT: APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]

MOVER: Don Reading, Commissioner
SECONDER: Renee Quick, Commissioner
AYES: Crowley, Quick, Reading, Hilton
ABSENT: Thorne, Nink, Robbins, Gravatt