

Energy, Environment and Natural Resources Commission

May 25, 2016

6:00 p.m.

**Sonoran Conference Room, Avondale City Hall
11465 W Civic Center Dr.**

MINUTES (DRAFT)

The meeting was called to order at 6:05 pm

1. Roll Call

Members Present: Frank Palacio, Russel Van Lueven, Lisa Amos, Arnaud Irakoze, Robert McElfresh, Lindsay Kothe.

Members Excused: Dan Rauscher, Troy Timmons, Curtis Nielson, Edward Striffler

2. Unscheduled Public Appearances.

There were no unscheduled public appearances.

3. Approval of the April 27, 2016 Minutes (For Action)

4. Legislative Update (Jessica Blazina – Assistant Director Intergovernmental Affairs)

Jessica Blazina gave an update on the most recent legislative session which lasted 117 days and resulted in 388 bills. Ms. Blazina gave some background on some of the legislation that could potentially have a sustainability type bent. The first such piece of legislation was the banning of municipalities ability to ban plastic bags which was a carryover from the previous year and was kept in place this year. The second item she discussed was the bill which would have loosened restrictions on the Groundwater Management Act which she explained the Governor eventually vetoed. Ms. Blazina then explained about the bill that would require all state owned buildings to get 10% of their energy from renewable sources by 2021. Finally, Ms. Blazina gave information about the bill that was passed to protect the Salt River wild horse herd from extermination.

5. Water Resources Presentation (Lacey James – Water Resources & Regulatory Manager)

Lacey James gave an overview of the City of Avondale water resources portfolio explaining how despite drought warnings, the city of Avondale is well situated with banked ground water to weather the shortage. Ms. James explained how the water is pumped from wells which in turn is treated at the distribution sites before being delivered to resident's homes. She also explained that the reclamation facility treats waste to drinking level quality ahead of its eventual destination at the Crystal Gardens treatment cells and the recharge facility, where it percolates back down to the water table. Mrs. James concluded her presentation by handing out a sheet which listed all the city of Avondale rebates for water conservation efforts.

6. Adjournment

Member Amos made a motion to adjourn which was seconded by member Irakoze.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:13pm

Respectfully submitted,

Drew Bryck
Environmental Program Manager



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