



San Francisco
Water Power Sewer
Services of the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission

SAN FRANCISCO PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
City and County of San Francisco

London N. Breed
Mayor

MINUTES
SPECIAL MEETING OF THE
San Francisco Public Utilities Commission
Friday, June 11, 2021
2:00 P.M.
(Approved July 13, 2021)

This was held by Teleconference Pursuant to the Governor's Executive Order N- 29-20 and the Twelfth Supplement to Mayoral Proclamation Declaring the Existence of a Local Emergency Dated February 25, 2020

During the Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19) emergency, the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission's (SFPUC) regular meeting room, City Hall, Room 400, is closed. Commissioners and SFPUC staff are convening Commission meetings remotely by teleconference.

Commissioners

Sophie Maxwell, President
Anson Moran, Vice President
Tim Paulson
Ed Harrington
Newsha Ajami

Michael Carlin

Acting General Manager

Donna Hood

Secretary



For information, contact the Commission Secretary at 415-554-3165.
Minutes and other information are available at: www.sfpuc.org

1. Call to Order
President Maxwell called the Special Meeting to order at 2:03 PM.
2. Roll Call
Maxwell, Moran, Paulson, Harrington and Ajami
3. Discussion and possible action to adopt the 2020 Urban Water Management Plan (UWMP), including the 2020 Water Shortage Contingency Plan, for the City and County of San Francisco in accordance with the Urban Water Management Planning Act (Cal. Water Code Section 10610 et seq.), and direct the General Manager to submit the Plans to the California Department of Water Resources by July 1, 2021. This action constitutes the Approval Action for the project for the purposes of CEQA, pursuant to Section 31.04(h) of the San Francisco Administrative Code. [Continued by vote of the Commission from the June 8, 2021 regular meeting] ([Resolution 21-0100](#))
Commissioner Harrington thanked staff for providing the comments and responses. He noted Commissioner Ajami's comments encouraging staff to continue to look for better ways to project population water usage. Steve Ritchie, Assistant General Manager (AGM) Water, indicated that it will be addressed during the July water workshop.

AGM Ritchie stated a formal presentation on the UWMP was presented at the June 8th meeting and asked if there were further questions. Commissioner Ajami thanked everyone who provided comments and the staff for their work. She requested that a historical context for demand projections and how those projections have changed be provided at the workshop.

Public Comment

- *Francisco DaCosta asked the Commission to read the Raker Act and understand the effects of damming. He stated drinking water should not be used to flush toilets.*
- *David Pilpel expressed thanks for continuing the item and encouraged adoption. He suggested the following resolution amendments: (1) Seventh Whereas clause – remove the link to the CEQA documents, which will eventually expire, and adding the Planning Department case number; (2) Adding a Whereas clause noting documents are on file at the Planning Department; and (3) Suggested re-wording of the ninth Whereas clause.*

*On Motion to approve item 3, with the seventh Whereas clause amended to remove the link to the CEQA documents and adding the Planning Department case number:
Ayes: Maxwell, Moran, Paulson, Harrington and Ajami*

4. Public Comment on the matter to be addressed during Closed Session
 - *Bill Martin discussed the General Manager (GM) search and requested a fair and transparent process. He discussed the Metropolitan Water District's recent GM recruitment and suggested the Commission contact them to discuss their process. He stated the best candidate needs to be selected.*
 - *Ali Altaha discussed the GM recruitment process. He discussed a lawsuit and allegations against the candidate regarding sewer laterals. He asked that the Commission be independent, use their professional judgement, and that the candidate be rejected.*

- *Peter Drekmeier, Tuolumne River Trust, thanked the Commission for their efforts. He stated there is a lack of transparency with the recruitment process. He asked that the Commission do their due diligence and consider comments made by the public.*
- *Barry Nelson, Golden State Salmon Association, echoed comments made by Mr. Martin regarding the Metropolitan Water District's GM recruitment. He discussed his desired position qualifications.*
- *David Pilpel requested that a status of the recruitment process be provided and include the number of applicants, number of candidates considered, if questions have been determined, and if interviews are being conducted. He noted the need to negotiate any contract in open session.*
- *Unidentified speaker stated that the lack of transparency is concerning and stated there are scandals at the SFPUC, that the public is not comfortable with the process, and more transparency is needed.*

5. Motion on whether to conduct the item below in closed session, pursuant to San Francisco Administrative Code Section 67.10(b)

On Motion to conduct the item below in closed session pursuant to San Francisco Administrative Code Section 67.10(b):

Ayes: Maxwell, Moran, Paulson, Harrington and Ajami

The Commission entered Closed Session at 2:33 PM.

Present in Closed Session: Commissioners Maxwell, Moran, Paulson, Harrington and Ajami; Robert Coelho, Legal Counsel; Brett Byers and Christine Boulware, The Hawkins Company; Kate Howard, City and County of San Francisco Human Resources; Donna Hood, Commission Secretary; and GM Candidate.

6. Public Employee Appointment: SFPUC General Manager, pursuant to Government Code Section 54957(b) and San Francisco Administrative Code Section 67.10(b)

The Commission exited Closed Session at 2:33 PM.

7. Announcement following Closed Session

President Maxwell stated there was no reportable action taken.

8. Motion regarding whether to disclose or not disclose the discussions during Closed Session pursuant to San Francisco Administrative Code Section 67.12(a)

On Motion not to disclose:

Ayes: Maxwell, Moran, Paulson, Harrington and Ajami

Adjournment

President Maxwell adjourned the meeting at 5:52 PM.