

**CITY OF BELLEVUE
ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES**

Thursday
May 1, 2025

City Hall & Remote
6:30 p.m.

1. CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order by Chair Knezevic at 6:30 p.m.

ROLL CALL

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: Vanja Knezevic, Andy Dupertuis (remote)¹, Ann Hajnosz, Gabby Lacson, Kurt Lutterman, Michael Margolis

COUNCIL LIAISON: None

COMMISSIONERS ABSENT: Ken Wan (Vice Chair) (excused)

OTHERS PRESENT:

Lucy Liu, Director; Linda De Boldt, Utility Engineering Assistant Director; Joe Harbour, Deputy Director, Lorissa Warren, Senior Administrative Assistant; Laurie Hugdahl, Minutes Taker

2. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Motion made by Commissioner Lutterman, seconded by Commissioner Hajnosz, to approve the agenda. The agenda was approved unanimously (5-0).

3. ORAL AND WRITTEN COMMUNICATION

Alex Tsimerman, 14150 NE 20th Street, Bellevue, WA, expressed concern about the water quality.

Commissioner Dupertuis joined the meeting around this point.

4. COMMUNICATION FROM CITY COUNCIL, COMMUNITY COUNCIL, BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

¹ Commissioner Dupertuis joined at 6:36 p.m.

None.

5. STAFF REPORTS

Director Liu recognized Chair Knezevic as her term on the ESC comes to a close at the end of this month. Chair Knezevic stated it has been an honor to serve over the past eight years.

6. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A) MARCH 6, 2025 MINUTES

Motion made by Commissioner Lutterman, seconded by Commissioner Lacson, to approve the 3/6/2025 minutes as presented. Upon a voice vote, the motion passed unanimously (6-0)

B) APRIL 3, 2025 MINUTES

Motion made by Commissioner Lutterman, seconded by Commissioner Hajnosz, to approve the 4/3/2025 minutes as presented. Upon a voice vote, the motion passed unanimously (6-0)

7. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None

8. NEW BUSINESS

a) Water System Plan Update

Utilities Planning Manager Eric LaFrance and Utilities Planning Senior Engineer Jim Gruber

Mr. Gruber facilitated an informational briefing and discussion of the Water System Plan Update. He gave an overview of the Water System Plan process and described the water system noting how the Water Service Area has changed over time. He discussed how anticipated population growth along with changes in water use patterns will impact water service demand. The update will include evaluation of population growth, water use, and system capacity for a 20-year period. He explained that over 50 infrastructure projects have been completed since the 2016 Water System Plan update and that completed studies are guiding project development leading to improve infrastructure and build resiliency. Some more significant studies included Seismic Resiliency, the Emergency Water Supply Master Plan, Initial Well Sighting Studies, Asset Condition Assessments,

and the Asset Management Program. These studies will need continued refinement.

Water system policies were introduced. These align with the City's Comprehensive Plan and guide system management. They are grouped into technical, managerial, and financial categories. Policies will be reviewed as part of the water system analysis.

Long-range financial planning will be considered to ensure stable funds for capital development and renewal and replacement (R & R) of infrastructure. This includes an evaluation of Comprehensive Financial Policies, a 20 year Look Ahead for CIP, a 75 year Look Ahead for R&R; informs future budget cycles, and coordinates with asset management.

He reviewed the expected timeline for the update and stressed that coordination with the community and leadership throughout the process is essential. This fall staff will come back to ESC to discuss policy recommendations, system analysis findings, and project recommendations. Coordination will also occur with other local and regional agencies. Bellevue City Council, King County Council, and Washington Department of Health will all need to approve the final Plan.

Commissioner Hajnosz referred to recent fires and asked if there is a move to change any fire storage standards. Mr. LaFrance agreed that this is a topic of concern. He noted that it will be reviewed in this process, and they will be happy to talk about that in the fall.

Commissioner Margolis asked if the water usage of certain types of businesses can impact the type of businesses they encourage or don't encourage to come to the city. Are there policies around this? Mr. Gruber noted that how much water used is tracked. It goes through a development review and is something that is accounted for in the system analysis to evaluate future needs. If another high-usage company like Coca-Cola comes in, there would have to be special considerations.

Commissioner Hajnosz asked about fluoride. Mr. Harbour noted that it is in Bellevue's water. It is added by Seattle Public Utilities and has been since 1970 after a referendum vote in 1968 directed Seattle to fluoridate the drinking water.

The Commission thanked staff for the presentation.

9. REVIEW OF COMMISSION AND COUNCIL CALENDARS

Deputy Director Harbour reviewed the calendars.

10. ADJOURNMENT

Motion made by Commissioner Hajnosz, seconded by Commissioner Lutterman, to adjourn the meeting. Upon a voice vote, the motion passed unanimously (6-0).

The meeting was adjourned at 7:14 p.m.

DRAFT