



**Clackamas County
Water Environment Services Governing Board**

Elected Officials Forum Meeting Summary

Date: Wednesday, October 18, 2017
Time: 6:00 – 8:00 p.m.
Location: Tri-City Water Resource Recovery Facility, Oregon City

Attendees: Shane Abma, Russ Axelrod, Lisa Batey, Jim Bernard, Lance Calvert, Lori DeRemer, Markley Drake, Mark Gamba, Greg Geist, Lauren Haney, Ken Humberston, Don Krupp, Anh Le, Kay Mordock, Shelly Parini, Brenda Perry, Chris Randall, Richard Sakelik, Paul Savas, Martha Schrader, Chris Storey

AGENDA

Time	Topic
6:00 pm	Check in and Welcome <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Greg Geist
6:15 pm	Tri City Plant Tour <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Greg Eyerly
7:00 pm	Dinner <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All guests were invited to enjoy dinner
7:10 pm	Elected Officials Conversation <p>Chair Jim Bernard opened the meeting by thanking the City Elected Officials for their willingness to meet and discuss matters of relevance relating to wastewater management and governance.</p> <p>Mr. Don Krupp noted the meeting would be the start for an opportunity for continued discussions. He spoke to all of the engagement efforts WES is in the process of implementing: WES Advisory Committee (WESAC), Tri-City Good Neighbors Committee, the Technical Advisory Committee, and of course, the Elected Officials Forum. Mr. Krupp stated the goals of the evening included: listening, obtaining clear understanding of issues and concerns relating to wastewater management and governance, soliciting ideas for overcoming obstacles to a successful partnership and gathering ideas and input for future Elected Officials Forums.</p>

It was noted, the Elected Officials Forum was created in response to the cities collective request to have direct conversations with the WES Governing Board, which is comprised of all five Board of County Commissioners.

He then opened the floor for discussion.

Many attendees stated the governance topic had not yet been resolved and hoped that this forum would provide an opportunity to discuss matters relevant to the cities as it relates to policy, rates, growth and decision-making. Attendees expressed frustration at not feeling informed or engaged enough since the creation of the 190 partnership and the disassembly of the previous WES advisory bodies.

While WES has been busy engaging with the community and working on new platforms for involvement – it was not clear to the cities where they fit in. This was a key take away and a topic that needs to be addressed in more detail at the next Elected Officials Forum.

Mr. Krupp continued to solicit input.

Mr. Markley Drake responded that there was a lack of understanding and a need for education on how growth pays for growth. Mr. Drake specifically asked for a presentation and handout at the next forum that would help city officials address that question.

Several attendees had questions and concerns regarding the formation, structure and function of the WES Advisory committee and the role the Elected Officials would have.

Ms. Shelly Parini reported the following in response:

WESAC Purpose: provide input and make recommendations on surface water and wastewater issues affecting the WES service area. WES serves the cities of Gladstone, Happy Valley, Johnson City, Milwaukie, Oregon City, West Linn, plus the communities of unincorporated Clackamas County. Membership: WESAC shall be comprised of 16 voting members and two non-voting members.

Membership to include:

- 6 ratepayers from cities within service area
- 2 ratepayers from the unincorporated portion of Clackamas County who reside within the service area
- 2 elected officials
- 2 environmental representatives
- 2 members of the development community
- 2 business owners or managers from service area

Each voting member of WESAC shall be entitled to one vote on all issues presented at regular and special meetings. Non-voting members include: one member from WES management and one member from the Board of County Commissioners.

It was important to members in attendance that there be continuity between the new WES advisory committee and the developing Elected Officials Forum. Ms. Parini reported that three elected officials from cities served by WES had applied. Ms. Parini further reported that all three of the applicants were in attendance.

There was some confusion and concerns about the purpose of the Elected Officials Forum. There was also concern about the fact that representatives from the City of Gladstone and Oregon City were not in attendance. All agreed that no decisions should be made without them present.

Mr. Krupp acknowledged the groups concerns and noted that the purpose of this first meeting was to solicit input and ideas for future conversation. No decisions would be made that evening. He reinforced that ultimately, these conversations will help all parties understand how to best approach the future conversation of governance.

Commissioner Paul Savas reinforced the importance of having the group list their issues and concerns so that a more defined agenda can be developed in the future, and reinforced his desire to listen and understand.

All of the Commissioners in attendance reinforced the importance of having a platform for direct dialogue with the cities served by WES.

It was apparent from the questions that were being asked that more work needed to be conducted on the 190 partnership as it relates to process, timeline, and agreements. This is another topic area that was identified for the next Elected Officials Forum agenda.

There was also a request to understand where WES is as it relates to addressing the moratorium issues discussed in the fall of 2016. What has been done? How will it impact growth and rates?

A number of other key issues arose from Commissioners and Elected representatives in attendance. Mr. Krupp summarized the top issues for follow up:

Financial Issues:

Rate parity

Growth and how to pay for it

System Development Charges

	<p><u>Growth & Aging Infrastructure Issues:</u> Annexation Capacity Moratoriums Inflow and Infiltration</p> <p><u>Governance Issues:</u> Having a voice at the table Ability to communicate directly with BCC Understanding roles & responsibilities</p> <p>There was consensus to bring back the items called out for discussion and resolution at future Elected Official Forum meetings and it was requested that a next meeting be scheduled soon.</p> <p>Creating a shared sense of understanding for the above topics and developing talking points to help address these issues and/or concerns with local community members ranked as a top priority.</p>
8:00 pm	Adjourn Mr. Krupp closed the meeting by thanking everyone for their participation.