

**CHARLOTTE-MECKLENBURG UTILITIES**  
**ADVISORY COMMITTEE**  
**MINUTES OF MEETING**  
February 16, 2012

The Charlotte-Mecklenburg Utilities Advisory Committee met Thursday, February 16, 2012, 3:30 pm at 4222 Westmont Drive, Charlotte, North Carolina.

Members Present: George Beckwith, Jim Duke, Frank McMahan, Jim Merrifield, Ron Charbonneau

Members Absent: Marco Varela

Guests: John Rosenau

Staff Present:	Barry Gullet	Director
	Kim Eagle	Deputy Director
	Barry Shearin	Chief Engineer
	Regina Cousar	Continuous Improvement Officer
	Mickey Hicks	Business Manager
	Karen Whichard	Public Information Officer

**Safety Minute**

Driving safety was discussed.

**Minutes**

A motion was made by Frank McMahan, and seconded by Jim Duke, to approve the January 2012 minutes.

**Capacity Assurance Program**

The EPA Administrative Order issued to CMUD initiated the capacity assurance program. The program evaluates the impact of new sewer connections or increased flows on the sewer system to ensure adequate system capacity. Utilities currently has 4,000 miles of sewer pipe in which portions are modeled for the program. Prior to the establishment of the Clean Water Act of 1972, some sewer systems were designed to overflow. Capital improvements related to satisfying capacity needs were discussed.

**Budget Update**

Staff is currently working on FY13 budget. CMUD's Strategic Operating Plan was submitted to the City last week. The SOP lays out short and long term goals of the utility. The approach for FY13 and future budgets will be to tie the money to the SOP. Barry Gullet will be making a presentation to City Council on April 11<sup>th</sup> to discuss budget needs. Raftelis and Red Oak are working on separate consumption forecasts. Merrifield is hearing feedback from commercial customers regarding the large increase in their bill due to the availability fee. Customer Service is currently working with customers to right size water meters which will have an affect on their bill. To date, \$6.5 million have been collected for connection and capacity fees. The availability fee is being collected as anticipated. For FY12, CMUD is expecting savings in the personnel line item. We currently have approximately 50 vacancies that we are working to fill. One hundred six positions have been filled since July 2011. Due to the

increase in workforce, the number of leaks has decreased from 500+ this time last year to 100+ currently.

**Miscellaneous**

Consensus on a nominee to fill the small town representative may be forthcoming.

Adjourned at 4:39 pm

Karen L. Baldwin