

## Final Meeting Minutes

January 17, 2018  
The Unified Community Advisory Board  
Meeting 5:45 – 8:00 p.m.

The following list of attendees is annotated, where possible, to indicate any affiliations.

Yolanda Herrera, UCAB Community Co-Chair	Mike Gromseth, Matrix
Mary Aycock, U.S. EPA Region 9, Co- Chair	Joanne Scheib
Margie Mortimer, UCAB	Stephanie McCary, USAF
Marti Lindsey, UCAB	Jeff McCann, USAF
Bill Jeffers, UCAB	Roberto Jaramillo, Community
Donald Matthieu, UCAB	Chad Coker, Matrix/ADEQ
Mary Frances Bruckmeier, UCAB	Daniel Sullivan, U of A
Christine Krikliwy, UCAB	Elgin Avila, U of A
Gerald Korte- <b>Excused Absence</b>	Stephanie Kukulich, U of A
Henry Vega, UCAB	Neha Gupta, U of A
Carole Maluf- <b>Excused Absence</b>	Angel Brisano, U of A
Jenn Williams, AECOM	Alma Anides Morales, U of A
Sarah Cafasso, U.S. EPA	Kim Tham, Pima County Health Department/UA
Jeff Biggs, Tucson Water	Theresa A. Throssell, Community
Chad Lapora, Tucson Water	Fernando Molina, Tucson Water
Marie Light, PDEQ	Lupita Robles, Ward 5
Fred Tillman, USGS	Leilani Clark, Community
George Warner, USAF AFCEC	Sunaura Taylor, Community
Glenn Hoeger, Carollo Engineers	Paloma Beamer, Community
Rene Hefner, EGC, Inc.	Anita Scales No Affiliation on Sign In
Don Ficklen, AFCEC	Ryan Samuels, AECOM
Eder Delgadillo, ANG	Gerald Hiatt, EPA
Thomas P. Doriski, FPM	Phil Hunter, USAF
Victor Mercado, Sunnyside USD	Sarah Van Glubt, U of A
Dave Parse, AECOM	Jana Segal, Sustainable Tucson
Chris Ortiz Y Pino, Ward 6	Dan Stormont, WM 6
David Bell, USAF	Basil Alshebal, U of A
William Ellett, ADEQ	Brian Wong, CWAC
Mark Gardiner, APTIM	Jeannie Wood, BKWFarms
Eric Roudebush, TAA	Angelo Lavo, Community
	Matt Bigler, U of A

### WELCOME/INTRODUCTIONS/GROUND RULES/HOUSEKEEPING

Community co-chair Yolanda Herrera opened the meeting by first wishing everyone a Happy New Year and requesting cell phones be turned off or put on vibrate; it was also requested that attendees not use their cell phones to record the meeting or take photographs of the volunteer Unified Community Advisory Board members, everything that occurs in the meeting is

transcribed verbatim, which everyone who requested will receive a copy of. It is very important to please remember to sign in and provide all pertinent information if you would like to receive the Unified Community Advisory Board mailer. If you have a question for one of the presenters, please remember to state your name and affiliation so that you can be identified in the minutes. Please keep your questions to a minimum and only as they pertain to that presentation; please remember to be respectful and do not use foul language. For anyone wishing to make a statement, please wait until the end of the meeting during the Call to Audience. Attendee introductions were made.

**Rene Hefner:** If you have a question or comment, please state your first and last name for the record; this is very important for the meeting minutes.

**Mary Aycock:** There was a request to videotape the meeting tonight, but the individual that was going to record is not in attendance. There are special permissions that need to be obtained before video recording can be done.

**Yolanda Herrera:** It is with a heavy heart that I announce the passing of Mr. Joe Urrutia who passed away in November. Mr. Urrutia was one of the Air Force personnel and he was a very generous individual, with a big heart. He donated to the Unified Community Advisory Board when funding for food went away and he also donated the funds for the Unified Community Advisory Board sign. I have a card for the Unified Community Advisory Board members to sign; the government agencies are welcome to sign as well. I would now like to ask everyone to give a moment of silence in honor of Mr. Urrutia.

### **MOMENT OF SILENCE in HONOR of JOE URRUTIA**

*(Moment of Silence in honor of Mr. Urrutia.)*

**Yolanda Herrera:** We have two excused absences today, Carole Maluf and Gerald Korte called in that neither one would be in attendance tonight.

I would also like to take a moment to thank Tucson Water for the food and drinks they provided for tonight's meeting. Thank you very much, it is appreciated.

### **MINUTES FROM October 2017 MEETINGS**

**Yolanda Herrera:** In regard to the minutes, I have just a few corrections, most of them are spelling related; Ms. Krikliwy should be delineated as a Unified Community Advisory Board member on the sign in sheet and it's not 'Vincent Merlado' it's Victor Mercado with the Sunnyside Unified School District. I believe Mark Gardiner's last name is spelled incorrectly along with Cecilia Vindiola, who asked a few questions, it's 'Vin', not 'Ven'. Under potential new members, it's Sunnyside 'Unified' School District, not 'Independent', and the Nation Tohono O'Odham, the spelling is incorrect. One of the references to me is stated as Mr. Herrera, that obviously should be Ms.

A motion was made by Bill Jeffers and seconded by Margie Mortimer to approve the minutes with above mentioned corrections made.

## **EPA Update by Mary Aycock and Sarah Cafasso**

### **Technical Assistance for Communities Resources**

**Sarah Cafasso:** Ms. Cafasso gave an update on discussions from the October Unified Community Advisory Board regarding the potential availability of a program that the Environmental Protection Agency has for technical assistance, called the Technical Assistance Services for Communities Program; the acronym for the program is TASC. We're looking to bring the program here to the Tucson Airport Site; the first thing that the program looks into is what the needs of the community are and then gives that assistance. The assistance varies anywhere from fact sheets, outreach, written materials, and review of technical documents, etc. We've begun the process of talking to community members and we've been doing a technical needs assessment, which involves having conversations with community members and stakeholder groups to determine what the community needs and what the community is looking for regarding technical assistance, as well as where the Environmental Protection Agency might be able to provide some support. The company *Skeo Solutions*, who is in charge of this program is drafting a technical assistance needs assessment, also called a TANA and I expect them to be sharing that document with all the participants that were interviewed back in October. We then expect to have a meeting about the Technical Assistance Services for Communities program itself and what the options are for how we could best use the program here in Tucson.

### **Air Force Plant 44 Performance Based Contract Update by Jenn Williams**

### **Groundwater Treatment Plant Update by Jenn Williams**

**Jenn Williams:** Ms. Williams, gave an update on behalf of Mr. John Kim about the oxygen generator; the generator is set to be delivered at the end of next week and will be installed as quickly as possible. Mr. Kim will be back for the April Unified Community Advisory Board meeting and he'll have a further update on the status of the generator at that time.

### **Tucson Water Update, by Chad Lapora**

Mr. Lapora who is the Tucson Airport Remediation plant project coordinator gave an update on the quarterly report for The Tucson Airport Remediation plant, which is the area north of Los Reales Road. The air stripping towers at the Tucson Airport Remediation Plant and the Advanced Oxidation Plant are at Irvington and I-19 and the plume is about four miles long one mile wide. In reference to a presentation slide, it shows the Tucson Airport Remediation Plant service area, it shows after the water is treated at the Tucson Airport Remediation Plant where it is distributed in our network. The next slide refers to where the Tucson Airport Remediation Plant water is delivered, it also shows the plume and several sampling points that Tucson Water samples for both 1,4-Dioxane and Trichloroethylene in our distribution system. All three of those points, which surround the plume, are all non-detect for both of those analytes. The next slide diagrams the Tucson Airport Remediation Plant treatment process; we have a total of nine remediation wells that feed the plant, which come from the south well fields and the north well fields; the north well field exists to contain the plume and prevent it from moving any farther north. The four larger wells in the north are R-006, R-007, R-008, R-009, they range from about 1,000 to 1300 gallons per minute. We have five smaller wells in the south that were designed to

clean up the hottest part of the plume; they range from about 50 to 350 gallons per minute. The water from each one of those nine wells is directly piped to the treatment plant it doesn't go anywhere else. The original air stripping towers were in place when the plant was built in 1994 and is still in place, but that technology was used to treat Trichloroethylene; it volatilized and stripped the Trichloroethylene from the water. It was very effective at treating Trichloroethylene; however, it was not very effective at treating 1,4-Dioxane. In 2014, Tucson Water moved forward and constructed the Advanced Oxidation Process facility. Those two plants as of today work in conjunction with each other. The Advanced Oxidation Plant does all the heavy lifting as it treats for both Trichloroethylene and 1,4-Dioxane; after that treatment occurs the water still flows over to the air stripping towers, but the treatment has already occurred.

The water comes out of the Tucson Airport Remediation Plant and goes to the Santa Cruz lane reservoir then it's distributed north. The water first goes through the Advanced Oxidation Plant, it goes through the feed pumps, which either pull or push the water through the plant; the pre-filters are currently not in service. Hydrogen Peroxide is then added to the water stream and it goes through three ultra-violet reactors, this is where the Trichloroethylene and 1,4-Dioxane are removed from the water. The water then flows into the Granular Activated Carbon contactors, which are present to remove any residual Hydrogen Peroxide. After this process in which the Trichloroethylene and 1,4-Dioxane have been removed, the water flows over to the original air stripping towers as per the Record of Decision and the Consent Decree. It trickles down the towers where air stream blows up and that process strips any volatiles, but again, as mentioned before, this process is only good for removing Trichloroethylene it does not remove 1,4-Dioxane; this is why the Advanced Oxidation Plant was constructed. Once the Trichloroethylene has been removed, Sodium Hypochlorite is added for disinfection and the water goes into the distribution system. There are also vapor-phase Granular Activated Carbon contactors, there are blowers and heaters that warm dry the air stream and then there's Carbon to treat the air stream.

The drinking water maximum contaminant level for trichloroethylene is five parts per billion; the Consent Decree requires that we treat Trichloroethylene to 1.5 parts per billion. 1,4-Dioxane has a health advisory that is 0.35 parts per billion. Every quarter sampling is done on three wells SP-860, SP-974 and SP-930 for both Trichloroethylene and 1,4-Dioxane of which all contaminants were at non-detect, which is expected because there's no water being delivered there that would be contaminated. During the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter of 2017, at the Advanced Oxidation Plant, the average combine flow of the north and south well fields for trichloroethylene concentration coming into the plant was 11 parts per billion. The average 1,4-Dioxane concentration was 1.31 parts per billion. We also measure both chemicals as they leave the Advanced Oxidation Plant and Trichloroethylene was at Non-detect while 1,4-Dioxane was detected at 0.10 parts per billion. It was later back to Non-detect when sampled later in the day; what you see leaving Advanced Oxidation Plant is what you're going to see coming into the Tucson Airport Remediation Plant and you'll see that those numbers will be identical. For the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter of 2017, the sampling points were non-detect for Trichloroethylene, there was a detect of 1,4-Dioxane at 0.12 parts per billion at TP-021 on December 7, 2017; we evaluated our treatment process as this point and it did not occur again. Both Trichloroethylene and 1,4-Dioxane was Non-detect at Sampling point 830, which is north of the Santa Cruz Lane Reservoir.

During the fourth quarter, the volume of water treated was 151.228 million gallons for October, 176.436 million gallons for November and 139.208 million gallons for December; the pounds of

Trichloroethylene removed were 14 pounds for October, 16 pounds for November and 11 pounds for December. In regard to meter readings, what comes out of the wells directly mirrors what is coming out of the plant.

Tucson Water is in the process of re-drilling a new R-008 well, at Missouri and 13<sup>th</sup> Street, which will be renamed R-008B once it goes into commission; we're in the process of getting quotes from drillers. This site is within a neighborhood and once we have a re-drilling date, we will notify the neighborhood before drilling begins.

There was concerns at the last Unified Community Advisory Board meeting regarding soil cutting or the soil that's removed and contaminated water, so I've included another slide addressing this issue. Soil cuttings will be stored in roll-off bins and tested prior to disposal. Samples will be documented on a chain-of-custody and contaminated water will be treated on site with the portable air-stripper.

Regarding the Water Pipe sampling and analysis that was discussed last quarter, the Draft of Plan was completed December 2017. Currently, the plan is being reviewed and completion of the draft is expected at the end of January 2018. At the same time, we are seeking collaboration with the National Science Foundation (West Center) to create an Advisory Panel of Subject Matter Experts from the University of Arizona. This is an extensive process to be sure that everyone reviewing the process determines that it is good to move forward. The University of Arizona Advisory Panel will review and provide input to the plan and should be completed by the end of March 2018 with finalization of the Plan by the end of March and implementation of the Plan beginning in April 2018.

***Question from Martie Lindsey: Where is the Water Pipe sampling being done?***

**Chad Lapora:** We have solicited volunteers that were previously affected by the water in the 1990's and prior to the clean-up process.

***Question from Martie Lindsey: So, is this being done in homes?***

**Chad Lapora:** If we're doing it in homes, it's coming from volunteers, we also have other facilities that we're looking at addressing as well.

***Question from Margie Mortimer: Did I hear correctly that you're still looking for volunteers and for how long?***

**Chad Lapora:** As far as I know, yes, we are still looking for volunteers and we will likely continue looking for the next couple of months, probably until March.

***Question from Martie Lindsey: And you want them to be from areas where they were previously affected?***

**Chad Lapora:** Yes, that's correct.

***Question from Henry Vega: Where are you going to be disposing of the earth that's coming out as you're drilling? Are you disposing of non-detect soil by the landfill?***

**Chad Lapora:** Yes, we will dispose of it at Los Reales, which is where the landfill is. The soil that's pulled out of the ground will be tested and if it's Non-detect for Trichloroethylene it can be disposed of at Los Reales. Where R-008 is located, the soil is not contaminated there, but obviously the water is so we're still by law required to test the soil.

**Question from Robert Jaramillo:** *How deep will the drilling be?*

**Chad Lapora:** The drilling will go about 400 feet.

**Question from Yolanda Herrera:** *Mr. Biggs is this what we were talking about, Site 2?*

**Jeff Biggs:** No, it's not.

### **Enhancing the cleanup of Trichloroethylene and 1,4-Dioxane by Jeff Biggs**

**Jeff Biggs:** Mr. Biggs of Tucson Water gave a brief discussion on a plan that the City of Tucson and Tucson Water have created with the help of their consultants Corollo Engineers; the plan was created in response to discussions that occurred during past Unified Community Advisory Board meetings. In July, the City of Tucson sponsored a meeting to talk about Trichloroethylene and 1,4-Dioxane contamination in the clean-up and in August the University of Arizona and the Pima County Health Department had a Teach-In discussing how the contamination clean-up may be accelerated. Some of the community members (Wards 1 and 5) have reached out to governing bodies expressing their concerns about speeding up the clean-up process; Tucson Water met with those expressing concerns and, along with Corollo Engineers, developed a new clean-up plan that will accelerate the clean-up process as well as give some redundancy to the existing nine remediation wells that have been there for 20 years; this plan will give us a 10<sup>th</sup> remediation well. According to the map handed out to the audience, Los Reales road is the dividing line for Plume A, which is the area Tucson Water and the City of Tucson are responsible for and where we've been cleaning up the contaminated ground water since 1994; the existing nine remediation wells have been running through the Tucson Airport Remediation Plant since then. As you are aware, 1,4-Dioxane was discovered and we began immediately blending the water coming out of Tucson Airport Remediation Plant to reduce the levels of 1,4-Dioxane to below the health advisory, we placed in service the Advanced Oxidation Plant, which has now been in operation for four years. The next two slides in the presentation represent the plume, the first specifically shows the levels of Trichloroethylene in Plume A in 1987; those levels ranged anywhere from 300 parts per billion down to 25 parts per billion towards the north end of the plume. The second slide is a representation of Trichloroethylene in Plume A 30 years later. The pump and treat system at the Tucson Airport Remediation Plant has worked very well over the last 30 years to reduce contamination since 1994, the Trichloroethylene levels have dropped dramatically, in the southern end of the plume the contamination has almost vanished and has even been pulled in towards the south well fields. The contaminated target spot is up near Irvington and 12<sup>th</sup>, along the four north well fields; this is the area we need to target to accelerate the clean-up. The next slide is zoomed into the target area, the green shaded area represents levels of Trichloroethylene between 50-100 parts per billion and the light blue is 25-50 parts per billion. We also looked into whether there was any property that we could acquire within the target zone that we could drill the 10<sup>th</sup> remediation well and we found three lots but two different locations; location 1 are two lots next to each other around 15<sup>th</sup> Avenue on the north side of Irvington, location 2 is around 13<sup>th</sup> and Utah. The options for these locations or potential well sites is to place a well on location 1, which would be a 600 gallon per minute well,

another option would be to put a 1300 gallon per minute well on the same location; we could also do the same thing at location 2. We did some modeling and came up with a conclusion and recommendation to have a 1300 gallon per minute well drilled on the site of location 2, with designed and laid down distribution lines from that well that connect with the existing pipeline to the four-existing north well field wells. Looking at the design and construction of that pipeline, the design and construction of a well and equipping the well, acquisition of the property and if there's any need for upgrades or improvements at the existing Advanced Oxidation Plant, the cost of all of this would be about \$3.5 million.

***Question from Henry Vega: What is this location you're referring to?***

**Jeff Biggs:** This is location 2, which is north of Irvington and 15<sup>th</sup> Avenue.

***Question from Henry Vega: There's no monitoring wells around that area at all?***

**Jeff Biggs:** That's a good question, the reason we selected this site is because it's right in the middle of the target area. There is a piece of Tucson Water property which is right on the boundary of 50-100 parts per billion and the 25-50 parts per billion and there are a couple of monitoring wells on that property. That is why we think that this location 2 property will work the best because it's right in the middle of the target area.

**Yolanda Herrera:** The location is about half a block just south of Nevada. I would also like to say that this location is better, I stand corrected. Thinking of the \$3.5 million that you're already looking at, when you crossover 12<sup>th</sup> and Irvington twice, then 12<sup>th</sup> again, it didn't make any sense, so I stand corrected.

**Jeff Biggs:** Thank you, Ms. Herrera. One drawback to this property, is that the pipeline is going to have to go under Irvington road, which will mean some interruption of traffic, business and homes. We will have an outreach effort to the people that live in this community to ensure that they are aware of what's going on; this needs to be done for the greater good of the community. It will be a big outreach effort, but we've done this before. Mr. Molina is very experienced in this area as well.

**Statement from Mary Aycock:** I will note to the public that the Environmental Protection Agency and Arizona Department of Environmental Quality have not reviewed the construction plans for this, so part of what we will be doing is entering into the process to review the modeling and construction plans, in addition to going to Arizona Department of Water Resources to ensure that any location that is selected by the City of Tucson can be approved by all of the agencies involved; this process has not been started yet.

**Jeff Biggs:** Yes, that's correct, this is just a preliminary design; we have a lot of work to do ahead of us and a lot of outreach also even just for this piece of property.

The last slide really brings all this information together; the vertical axis is Trichloroethylene removed (pounds per year) starting in 1995 (moving along the horizontal axis) to the end of 2017. The bar graph shows the gold or yellow is the amount of Trichloroethylene removed every year from the south well field, the blue is the amount of Trichloroethylene removed from the north well field; those two combined is the top of those graphs. When this 10<sup>th</sup> well is drilled and the pipelines are completed, and we start that well at 1300 gallons per minute, our estimate is

immediately we would start seeing the removal of Trichloroethylene increase by 120-200%. As you can tell from the graph it drops drastically every year that well runs, until you get down to about 25 years out and then it starts to flatten out. We haven't gotten out any further than that, but you can see all the colors, which means the Trichloroethylene contamination gets shorter because less pounds are being removed as the mass is getting smaller every year. Eventually it will get to the point that it will be a very small amount of Trichloroethylene and that will take a long time to remove Trichloroethylene and 1,4-Dioxane. But you can tell that adding that one well in that location how much contamination we can remove in another 25 years. That's why we think that for \$3.5 million this is a good thing for the community.

***Question from Donald Matthieu: The last bit of Trichloroethylene that has to be removed, it's the most difficult part to remove; can you use something like In Situ chemical oxidation to speed this up faster than 25 years in addition to the well that you're installing?***

**Jeff Biggs:** The reason that we selected that well site and that size of well is so that we could pump all that Trichloroethylene out in those 20-25 years. It's our concern and our thought as a drinking water utility, you don't want to put anything else in to the plume because it becomes drinking water for the community. What we've been doing for 20 plus years has been working. When we had the Advanced Oxidation Plant come in place, we've been removing the 1,4-Dioxane and it's working, it's cleaning up the plume; it's slow but it's working, so we don't want to put in any other potential contaminant or anything else into that groundwater that we're trying to clean up because you don't know where it's going to go for sure once you put it into the plume.

***Statement from Donald Matthieu: Permanganate is another pollutant.***

**Jeff Biggs:** It's a possibility and as a drinking water utility, our number one concern is delivering safe drinking water.

***Question from Henry Vega: Can you give us an update of 23 years ago, what were the sources of cleaning the Trichloroethylene? In 1987, the private company Westcap started on their own helping us to clean the Trichloroethylene off East Valencia, who was cleaning it then?***

**Jeff Biggs:** That I can not answer, all I can tell you is what the city started doing in 1994.

***Question from Henry Vega: But you did mention before that 23 years ago when the cleaning was started, do you know anything about Hughes and Westcap?***

**Jeff Biggs:** No, I do not personally.

***Statement from Henry Vega: The one's that were cleaning back then was Hughes and there were four big silos and in 1987 Westcap volunteered to do their own cleaning and years later as the reading started getting lower, they started getting contaminants from Westcap, which was south of them and they volunteer to also work on that for us.***

**Yolanda Herrera:** Mr. Vega the questions you're asking are more for Air Force Plant 44 and those that were involved in the Westcap clean-up, not Tucson Water.

**Jeff Biggs:** Our clean-up responsibility starts at Los Reales road to the north.

**Statement from Henry Vega:** *In the course of me going through that history, I believe we've had three water directors that we've lost already; the first one was Mr. Tubbs. On these locations that you talking about what will be the distance and diameter of the pipes that you're going to be using to drill the new well?*

**Jeff Biggs:** The existing pipeline starts at a 16-inch diameter then as the other two wells are added to it, it expands to a 24 inch as more flow is added. That 24-inch line runs underneath I19 and goes into the Tucson Airport Remediation Plant area.

**Mary Aycock:** It's actually "Figure 6" in your handout, so it should say on there what the measurements are. Maybe, Mr. Matthieu, you could show him which graph it is.

**Question from Henry Vega:** *But what is the distance to the new pipe?*

**Jeff Biggs:** Maybe a mile.

**Question from Donald Matthieu:** *At this point in the year 2043, is that the point where you think this low concentration will start?*

**Jeff Biggs:** It's just an estimation right now, just from the 1300 gallons per minute and what we have seen from clean-up over the last 20 years. But we do believe it will get to the point of very low concentration. That concentration will most likely still be above the current consent decree level that has to be cleaned up. We don't know what's going to happen in 25 years and I don't know what the Environmental Protection Agency might do as far as drinking water levels. They might do a Trichloroethylene maximum contaminant level and if that happens, this clean-up could take even longer because you've got to pull out the water at a lower concentration of Trichloroethylene. This information is all based on past history and what we assume is going to happen in the future during current conditions.

**Question from Donald Matthieu:** *My question is how long will that low concentration tailing go on?*

**Jeff Biggs:** You know at this point, I really can't tell how long that might take.

**Mary Aycock:** Back to Mr. Vega's question, I'm wondering if the group would have any interest in hearing about Western capacitor Area B, because there's actually four responsible parties on the east side of the plume and you mentioned Western Capacitor. Would the Unified Community Advisory Board be interested in hearing a presentation on West Plume B and Westcap and the Air National Guard as far as the history of what went on there and where we are with that? I think that might answer some of Mr. Vega's questions. Ok we may try to put that together and have it on the agenda for next time if everyone's in agreement. Mr. Biggs can you give us the length of the process of time that this is going to take, hearing this for the first time tonight as most of the members have, can you project in months, years how long you think it will take before it's measuring the removal actions of this new well?

**Mr. Biggs:** We're so early in this process, there's no determination for how long acquisition of the property could take. We'll start working faster now on the design of the pipeline and get an actual layout of where the pipeline is going to go, design of well; that can all happen quickly. Everything in the design process will have to be approved by Arizona Department of

Environmental Quality and the Environmental Protection Agency, then we'll have to go through the pipeline, look at where the line goes i.e. underneath streets, which streets will have to be torn up, what properties may have to be looked at; it's going to take well over a year. But we're going to work on it very quickly as far as what we can do and we're not just going in with one step at a time, we're going to branch out and attack each part of this at the same time. We've been given the green light by the city manager's office and the mayor.

**Mary Aycock:** I would just say if there's an opportunity during that process, of course Mr. Ellet and I are going to be involved, but if there's an opportunity to bring the Unified Community Advisory Board or any members of the public into that so that they can be part of maybe doing inspections in the field or escorts so that they can see how this operation takes place.

**Jeff Biggs:** Also, every Unified Community Advisory Board meeting I will certainly be giving an update.

***Question from Kristine Krikliwy: You said that the Environmental Protection Agency may eventually lower the maximum contaminant level?***

**Jeff Biggs:** A few years ago, Environmental Protection Agency Drinking Water was discussing lowering the volatile organic compound levels, which included Trichloroethylene to down to 1 parts per billion, it's at 5 parts per billion right now. If that would happen that would mean that the clean up would take even longer because you have to remove the Trichloroethylene from below 5 parts per billion to down to below 1 parts per billion and then you throw 1,4-Dioxane into it with a new Record of Decision and Consent Decree. Whatever comes about we're going to handle it and take care of it.

**Mary Aycock:** Fortunately for us, Tucson Water is treating to Non-detect for Trichloroethylene and 1,4-Dioxane, I want to make sure that people understand that they're not being served water with Trichloroethylene or 1,4-Dioxane in it. Tucson Water is treating is successfully to Non-detect levels.

***Question from Robert Jaramillo: How well will the Advanced Oxidation Plant handle cleaning the additional amount of water?***

**Jeff Biggs:** We designed the Advanced Oxidation Plant for a higher flow than what it's currently handling. We can adjust the amount of hydrogen peroxide that we feed, and we can turn up the UV reactors to treat a greater flow of water and a higher concentration of both Trichloroethylene and 1,4-Dioxane. If, by chance, the flow and concentration got high enough there is room within the Advanced Oxidation Plant above the UV reactors to set another reactor on top of the one that's currently there to handle this type of situation.

***Question from Angelo Lavo: Is the Air Force going to help pay for this?***

**Jeff Biggs:** I don't know the answer to that right now, our concern right now is to get the well designed, constructed and in operation. We'll worry about the cost later, we have the money in our capital improvement program, so we'll get the job done first and then we'll worry about reimbursement later, whether it's the Air Force or the new Record of Decision amendment.

***Question from Paloma Beamer: Inaudible question...***

**Jeff Biggs:** The 1,4-Dioxane at that well is below the health advisory, at the north well fields there's very little 1,4-Dioxane, I don't remember what well has a little bit of 1,4-Dioxane in it. The Trichloroethylene levels are a little bit higher there, it'll go through the air strippers before it's aloud to flow onto the ground.

**Question from Dan Stormont:** *I'm just noticing on the map of the current extent of the contamination plume that you have what seems to be a hydrologically trapped portion of the plume, do you expect that the southwell field is going to be able to pull that out or is there going to be a need to drill another well at that point?*

**Jeff Biggs:** I would hope that the south well field as we keep pumping it will help draw that in, we'll keep track of that area and if there's a need to work on that particular area we'll work with the Environmental Protection Agency and Arizona Department of Environmental Quality and if we need to put another well in, or whatever the case may be, we will do. But there's monitoring wells all around there that we can monitor both water level and water quality.

**Mary Aycock:** I do want to point out to that there are two other treatment plants operating, one at Airport Authority and another one at Air Force Plant 44, if you go up and take a look at the plume map we have many hydrologists in the room that can point out to you where the other plants are and what the goals of those remediation plants are as well.

**Jeff Biggs:** I will be around after the meeting if there are anymore questions about this plan that we have, I would be happy to hang around and answer any questions that I can.

**Question from Henry Vega:** *For a lot of the participants here tonight that don't have the handouts, is there anyway we can get those overhead slides clearer than what we have? I think most of us in the back of the room can hardly see the definitions on what we have.*

### **Community Outreach for 2018 by Fernando Molina**

**Fernando Molina:** Mr. Molina, the Public Information Officer for Tucson Water, gave an update regarding the efforts underway in the new year with outreach, specifically related to the southside contamination issues. As you heard tonight, we will begin drilling a replacement well as part of the ongoing operations; we have experience with this, there was a well that was drilled about a year or so ago. We knock on doors and send a lot of letters out, we talk to people and let them know what's going on with respect to this replacement well that will be drilled; we answer a lot of the kinds of questions that were asked here tonight. Some of the new things that we're doing is I'm working to get more information through print media; I want to be able to do this in English and in Spanish to make sure that we're capturing the part of the community that we want to make sure is aware of this. I'm working on developing some informational and educational materials through Arizona Bilingual. I'm also starting to do some radio and tv programming; on television I'm doing biweekly five-minute segments, which isn't really a lot of time and it doesn't give a lot of good solid information out in that short period of time, but I've done this before so I'm confident that I can do this. It's a Saturday morning community program that runs in Spanish, they are the only local tv program that offers this type of programming and I know it's very effective because I have people come up to me anytime I'm out in the community and they recognize me from tv. The other thing that I'm doing is monthly 30-minute radio programs,

these will be in Spanish as well and the shows will air on Sundays. My focus as I go into the media work is really water quality, groundwater contamination, how it occurred and what has happened since then in terms of the clean-up process is going on. I'm excited about this, I know that there is a lot of interest in this and I'm wanting to make sure that there's good and information out there. We also have some contractors that we work with that help us with outreach and particularly in the southside communities and the Spanish-speaking communities; we're going to be giving them some training on the general information of where your water comes from, how it gets delivered to you, how we monitor for quality and also to explain the groundwater contamination out here in the southside; how it occurred, what the process is for clean-up and the results that we've been seeing. We want to make sure that if there is any opportunity that we must present this information out in the community and to educate the community, we're taking advantage of that. Watership Management Group is one of those organizations that we're working with, the other two are Senora Environmental and Research Institute, they have health workers in the neighborhood talking to people, and we are also working with the community Foodbank with similar sorts of outreach efforts. The other thing that I've been working on now for several months, most of you know that I've been coming to these meetings for several years and I've been listening to questions, a lot of the discussion that goes on, and in the course of my job I do a lot of presentations out to the community, so I know what the questions are, particularly when I come out to this side of town. I've developed a workshop series consisting of two workshops, the first workshop talks about how we operate today, where your water comes from, how we deliver it to you, what sorts of checks we have in place to monitor for water quality, the second workshop is very detailed into the groundwater contamination in the Tucson Airport Remediation Plant plume. I've already presented this, and I've gone back and gotten feedback from the group that I presented to and it was very positive. One thing that they felt very strongly about was giving them the background information about who we are at Tucson Water, how we operate and how we monitor for water quality, it really made them understand the contamination and the clean-up process much better. I'm offering these workshops to the public, so if anyone here tonight belongs to any other group or organization get in touch with me, I'm more than happy to come and talk to them, I can give the presentation. Typically, we design presentations in English then translate them to Spanish, I did these workshops the other way around and I've been in the process of translating them to English. Part of the community workshops is promoting the tours, one of the things I would like to be able to do is as we drill this new well, we'll look into the possibility of providing tours. One of the things that I'm working out with the City's Channel 12 group is to videotape and document so that we can have this on video so that people know what the process is for drilling a well in general but in particular a well in a contamination site. We want to be able to address what happens to the drilling mud and what happens to the water and have it available for the public to review. Most of the tours that we do involve our recharge and recovery facilities, our water quality lab as well as the Advanced Oxidation Plant. I'm working hard to make an effort to reach out to the community to make sure that people can learn what is happening out there and have good information. I could come out and say, "Your water is safe to drink, trust me," but the position I'm taking is to educate and give facts to the public so that they can make that decision. It's been my experience that if you can present things in that manor, then people will come to the conclusion that yes, we are working very hard to make sure their water is safe to drink. Please let me know if you belong to any organizations or have any friends that belong to organizations that might be interested in having someone come and speak with them, I would be more than happy to get in touch with them and follow up on that.

*Question from Margie Mortimer: Do you have a brochure talking about the workshops?*

**Fernando Molina:** No, I don't have any brochures yet.

*Question from Margie Mortimer: So right now, it's a matter of contacting you?*

**Fernando Molina:** Yes, right now it's just contacting me, and I'll be promoting these workshops through the radio and tv that I'm doing as well as through the print media. I have a lot of other ways to promote this and make sure that we have broad distribution.

*Statement from Henry Vega: First of all, I would like to commend you for doing this program for the community and one plus is that you are bilingual. It's too bad that we didn't start a program like that years ago, I know you haven't been with us for that long, but I commend you for what you're doing.*

**Fernando Molina:** I've actually been doing this for about 28 years, although not all of that time has been with Unified Community Advisory Board, but I've been to two of the southside communities and talked to them about water issues.

### **TIAA Oral History Project by Yolanda Herrera**

**Yolanda Herrera:** Ms. Herrera gave an update on the Oral History Project; a repository has been established at the University of Arizona, so we have a place to store actual video, the transcriptions and all the other material. As you remember, Ms. Moreno has been coming here for well over 15 years, she started as a young University of Arizona student, so it's good to see how she's grown; she is now trying to get her Doctorate. At the table is a flyer for anyone interested in being interviewed by Ms. Moreno, she is still looking to do more interviews of people wishing to share their experiences and their history. One of the reasons we're trying to capture this is because we are aging out as a board and as a community; as I mentioned earlier, my dad's 91, my dad was pre-Unified Community Advisory Board, he began this whole research back in 1981. Unfortunately, my dad suffers from Alzheimer's, so he doesn't remember the impact and the great job that he's done for our community, so this is one of the other reasons why is so important to capture now before people pass on as we've had a couple of our members pass on already. I encourage everybody to contact Ms. Moreno if you're interested in helping her out with her oral history.

## **Community Outreach**

**Yolanda Herrera:** Before we get into the charter revisions, I'm going to go ahead and dovetail on Mr. Molina's community outreach. We're very fortunate that there are several members of our mayor and counsel who have been adding information into their newsletters about Unified Community Advisory Board and inviting people to attend the meetings; as we all know, water is not just a ward-only issue, it's a community, city, state, federal and world issue. In the last couple of weeks, we've had outreach by the Wards 1, 5 and 6; the Sunnyside Neighborhood Association with the city's cost, they send out, in our boundaries about 5800 homes, an annual newsletter and in that newsletter, we made sure to put information of the Unified Community Advisory Board meeting dates and outreach. We also are involved in United Way Days of Caring and GAIN, which stands for Getting Arizona Involved in Neighborhoods so there are many other opportunities of doing community outreach and I just want to remind people of that. Every neighborhood represented, every community member, every organization has an opportunity to do that outreach; as Unified Community Advisory Board members it benefits us when we do our own community outreach as well. We're very fortunate that one of our partners is the University of Arizona so we welcome that, and we thank you for attending.

## **Charter Revisions**

**Yolanda Herrera:** I passed out the charter again to the Unified Community Advisory Board members, I don't know if you've had an opportunity to take a look at them and see what kind of changes you might want to make. Just some fyi...in the charter it also states that we need to ask questions only as they pertain to the presentations and all other questions and comments need to be kept in reserve until call to the audience or the very end during announcements; I just wanted to reiterate that and point that out. In reviewing the charter, I did notice that we had a bit of a difference in the elections, but I think we've corrected that in the past, at one point it was May but since we don't meet in May anymore, we're supposed to do nominations the first quarter of the year, which would be January, then set up a nominating committee to have the elections in April; in the past we've had them in July because of so many glitches, so that is also in the charter. Unified Community Advisory Board members are there any other comments you want to make or any changes?

***Question from Henry Vega: Madam chair would you propose that we have the elections in April?***

**Yolanda Herrera:** It's already in the current charter to have the elections in April.

We've been putting off reviewing the charter now for probably three meetings, so I'm glad that at least we finally took a look at it; Ms. Williams thank you for providing the copies of the charter. Are there any other comments on the charter by Unified Community Advisory Board members?

***Question from Margie Mortimer: On nominating the nomination committee, if there's only one person nominated before the April elections, do we need to go through all that process?***

**Yolanda Herrera:** We haven't in the past, but per the charter, we're supposed to do a nominating committee in January and have elections in April; unless someone wants to make that change.

Some of these changes were necessary because at the very beginning we were meeting once a month and then we went to every other month and now we're doing quarterly. I know that when you're reviewing the charter itself it can be confusing because of the different changes over the course of the last 23 years. If there is nothing else on the charter, we'll go ahead and move to the nomination committee for the April elections.

### **Nomination Committee for April Elections by Yolanda Herrera**

**Yolanda Herrera:** Ms. Mortimer did you indicate that you wanted to be on that committee?

**Margie Mortimer:** Yes, I can be.

**Yolanda Herrera:** Is there anybody else that wants to be on the committee?

**Martie Lindsey:** I can work with Ms. Mortimer.

**Yolanda Herrera:** Thank you and I think Carole Maluf had also expressed some interest, so thank you for that.

### **Membership by Yolanda Herrera**

**Yolanda Herrera:** Because it was posted in different emails and different medias that we were going to be discussing membership, I received a few phone calls from a couple of Tucson Water employees and I don't know if there's ruling on that by the city attorney or by the department, but again what we're looking at it to replace Unified Community Advisory Board members with like members; if they are community people and not representing themselves as Tucson Water.

**Tim Thomure:** statement inaudible

**Yolanda Herrera:** Ok, so that portion of it will be put on hold. Per the charter we can have as many as 20 board members. Right now, due to the letter that went out on people that have not been attending, (per the charter, you can only miss two unexcused meetings in the course of a year) and we've had people that have missed for a couple of years. At the October meeting, we discussed the letter that's going out to a couple of the Unified Community Advisory Board members who are no longer going to be considered board members. At this point I believe we have probably seven openings. I know that the Sunnyside Unified School District expressed an interest to replace Mary Veres, who was a board member until she retired from the district. Are there any members of the audience who would like to consider becoming a member? The way this works is you have to be nominated by a Unified Community Advisory Board member, so if you can get a hold of one of the members so that we can make that nomination for April. What we would like to see you do is present why you want to be a Unified Community Advisory Board member and what your commitment to the board will be.

**Question from Henry Vega:** *Madam chair are you ready for this gentleman to come in?*

**Yolanda Herrera:** What we said was that we would discuss that in April once they are nominated by a Unified Community Advisory Board member once they let us know what their commitment will be.

*Question from Henry Vega: I'm asking is he really ready to join us; what's your name sir?*

*Dan Stormont*

*Statement from Henry Vega: At the time I'll be nominating him, thank you Madam chair.*

*Question from Yolanda Herrera: Sir what was your name again?*

*Dan Stormont*

**Yolanda Herrera:** Again, I would like to remind everyone they have to be like members of the ones that have either retired or passed on. We have a couple of others interested that aren't here and one that left early.

*Question form Martie Lindsey: In terms of like you mean, in terms of affiliations, ethnicity, other demographics?*

**Yolanda Herrera:** No, it's covered in the charter so if you re-read the charter, it addresses that and that should be at the very beginning. If for instance, like Alex Richards, who was a community person from the Rose neighborhood area, so something similar to that. What we had mentioned before at the October meeting was we are saturated with University of Arizona people, we have a total of six people representing the University at the table. What we'd like to see more of are community people i.e. neighborhood people.

*Question from Henry Vega: Why are we making it necessary that they should be from our community.*

**Yolanda Herrera:** For history purposes, Mr. Vega would be my opinion. You want somebody from Phoenix?

*Question from Henry Vega: Metro doesn't use water in Tucson. When I joined the Navy in 1955, Tucson was only 50,000 and now it's how many?*

**Yolanda Herrera:** Mr. Vega I would just reference the charter again to answer your question and we'll go from there.

## **CALL TO AUDIENCE**

**Margie Mortimer:** I just want to thank all the young people in the room, I appreciate you being here; you are our generation, our future so thank you for being here and please continue coming.

**Yolanda Herrera:** Another thing along the same lines, when we're looking at the maps that Tucson Water presented and you're looking at another 25 years out; to the younger generation,

you are the future Unified Community Advisory Board members in my opinion. So, thank you for being here and taking an interest and hearing what is happening with our water issues and future. I would like to thank Tucson Water for being more proactive than reactive and for trying to build the trust in the community. That is very important and that's one of the reasons the Unified Community Advisory Board was originally formed back in 1995.

## **FOLLOW-UP ACTION ITEMS**

Westcap and Plume B

## **OPEN DISCUSSION/NEXT MEETING AGENDA**

***Question from Margie Mortimer: Will Mr. Molina be back in April with an update on his outreach efforts?***

**Fernando Molina:** Yes, I will.

**Henry Vega:** First of all, I would like to thank each one of you that is here tonight: agencies, reps and community members. My six-year-old granddaughter, she knows the three elements that give us life on mother earth. She knows water, the sun and the wind and she knows that the wind also provides oxygen. What I'm trying to say is that this is one element that we need for life, which is very important. In our community we've had this bad experience for many years, I lost my sister back in 1992 and I was already involved with the community for many years after I came out of the Navy in 1959. I salute Mr. Herrera too, he's a Navy veteran also; how many military veterans are here tonight? Thank you for your service, let's thank them all for their service. Mr. Biggs and Mr. Molina thank you for your participation; I invite anyone that would like to join us, we need some more new membership. We have lost some and Ms. Herrera has been doing a pretty good job; I would like to ask each one of you to think about exercising our rights as 'we the people'. I think that if each one of us call our representatives, perhaps we suggest in the medical area they can add a new amendment for medical attention for some our senators to get some hearing aids.

## **Future Unified Community Advisory Board meetings**

18 April 2018

18 July 2018

17 October 2018

Upon motion made and seconded, the meeting was adjourned.