

City of Duarte
Public Services Commission
May 12, 2021

1. CALL TO ORDER
The meeting was called to order at 7:03 PM.
2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
Vice Chair Rodriguez led the Pledge of Allegiance
3. ROLL CALL
Present: Riley, Rodriguez, Teleke, Tovar
Absent: Dalessandro
Staff: Rocha
4. ITEMS FROM THE PUBLIC CONCERNING MATTERS ON THE AGENDA - None
5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES
Commissioner Tovar made a motion to approve the minutes. Chair Rodriguez seconded the motion, and it was approved by unanimous vote.
6. ITEMS OF BUSINESS
Brian Barreto, External Affairs for Southern California, California American Water, gave a presentation on California American Water's services and work in Duarte. Mr. Barreto thanked the Commission for allowing him to present the changes in the water industry in highlight of the pandemic. He gave the report explaining that California American Water was the 4th largest regulated water utility in California serving approximately 690,000 people throughout northern, southern, and central parts of the state through a total of 190,000 service connections. They are regulated by the CPUC (California Public Utilities Commission. He elaborated on their Covid-19 Safety Protocols, instituting suspension of billing-related service shutoffs, suspension of late fees, and implementation of social distancing. They conducted multi-media customer outreach for assistance and financial aid programs. He then defined the specifics of the Duarte Water System and differentiated among residential, commercial, municipal areas & schools, and industry water usage, all being managed by a minimal number of Staff. They have several community outreach and partnerships. He reviewed the 2021-2023 GRC (General Rate Case) application process and plans to consolidate services to improve services. He reviewed investments in completed infrastructure improvements and developer partnerships along with plans for future upgrades and aging well replacements. He offered information their conservation and customer education programs that included free water saving devices as well as water efficient landscape and education webinars and implementation of their Inclusion and Diversity program.

He answered questions from the Commission regarding grey water webinars, materials, rebates, and assistance. He also reviewed the drought impact, water reserves and remedies, and their local inground sources of water, and there being very little treatment needed. They had noticed that water conversation had increased by the public being proactive and instituting water saving measures.

7. ITEMS FROM THE COMMISSION MEMBERS

Staff member Rocha replied to Commissioner Riley's question regarding a power outage and fire, stating she would research further and respond back to the Commission.

Staff member Rocha responded to Vice Chair Rodriguez' inquiry regarding public water conservation education and past efforts focusing on the youth, and that it could be provided in the future.

8. ADJOURNMENT

Vice Chair Rodriguez adjourned the meeting at 8:10 PM.