

Commission Members Present: Bill Szmyd, Christopher Say, Dan Herlihey (Chair), Don Cook (Vice Chair), Gary Hausman, Gene Packer, John Butler, Matt Elkins, Randy Lee Williams, Richard Bilancia

LUC Commission Members Absent: Craig Bialy

Council Liaison Present: Steve Olson

Council Liaison Absent: Andrea Samson

City Staff Members Present: Kraig Bader, Yarani Vasquez, Tim Bohling, Andy Fayram, Erica McDaniel, Jim Lees, Chad Birgenheier, Catharine Kellogg, Nathan Alburn, Tobin Roitsch, Ryan Van Pelt, Nicole Olsen, Tracey Hewson, Kevin Gertig (Director), Melanie Reeves, Noah Cecil.

Guest Attendance: Robert Carmosino, Loveland Fire Rescue Authority

CALL TO ORDER

CALL TO ORDER: Dan Herlihey called the meeting to order at **3:05 PM**.

ADOPTION OF MINUTES

Item 2.1: Adoption of Minutes – Dan Herlihey

This item requested a motion to approve the minutes of the July 17, 2024 meeting.

Recommendation: Adopt A Motion to Approve of the Loveland Utilities Commission Meeting Minutes from July 17, 2024.

Motion: Don Cook made the motion.

Second: John Butler seconded the motion. The minutes were **approved** with a **9-0 vote**.

CITIZENS REPORT

Item 3.1: Citizens Report

None.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

Item 4.1: Water Treatment Plant Daily and Monthly Flow Report – Chad Birgenheier

This item provides an update on the Loveland Water Treatment Plant daily and monthly flows for the month of July 2024.

Recommendation: Information Item Only. No Action Required.

Item 4.2: 2023 Levels of Service Update for Water and Wastewater Utilities – Michelle Erickson

This item provides a yearly update of our 2023 Levels of Service performance compared to prior years for the Water and Wastewater Utilities.

Recommendation: Information Item Only. No Action Required.

Item 4.3: Chimney Hollow Financing Update – Jim Lees

The purpose of this item is to update the Loveland Utilities Commission (LUC) on a recent development regarding Loveland's financing of their portion of the Chimney Hollow Reservoir Construction Project.

Recommendation: Information Item Only. No Action Required.

Item 4.4: Financial Report Update – Jim Lees

This item summarizes the preliminary monthly and year-to-date financials for July 2024.

Recommendation: Information Item Only. No Action Required.

Item 4.5: Financial Dashboards – Aaron Rodriguez

This agenda item shows the Utility Financial Dashboards based on July 2024 year-to-date financial and operational data.

Recommendation: Information Item Only. No Action Required.

Item 4.6: Tiered and Seasonal Water Rates Update – Jim Lees

The purpose of this item is to update the Loveland Utilities Commission (LUC) on the status of the effort to have City Council consider implementing Tiered and Seasonal Water Rates.

Recommendation: Information Item Only. No Action Required.

STAFF REPORT**Item 5.1: Alexander Mountain Fire Update – Robert Carmosino and Andy Fayram**

Emergency Manager, Robert Carmosino, and Source Water Coordinator, Dr. Andy Fayram will give an update on the Alexander Mountain Fire.

Recommendation: Staff Item Only. No Action Required.

Discussion: Multiple commissioners expressed gratitude for the thorough reports and appreciation for all the leadership, firefighters and effort put forth to protect property and contain the fire. There was also praise expressed to **Andy Fayram** for the degree of monitoring and proactive planning to minimize the impact on our source water.

Item 5.2: 2023 Water Loss Audit – Michelle Erickson

This item reviews the results of the Water Loss Audit of 2023, the progress made to improve the water tracking methods, and the actions taken or identified to better manage or reduce non-revenue water.

Recommendation: Staff Item Only. No Action Required.

Item 5.3: Lead and Copper Rule and Service Line Inventory Update – Tim Bohling

The purpose of this presentation is to update the Utilities Commission on the current status of the Water Utility's lead service line inventory and verification efforts. It will also provide background on the EPA's Lead and Copper Rule, highlighting the major changes of significance to the utility. This information is aimed to help the commission start considering future financing options for full lead service line replacements.

Recommendation: Staff Item Only. No Action Required.

COMMISSION & COUNCIL REPORTS**Item 6.1:****Commission Reports**

Dan Herlihey: Dan echoed all the other sentiments regarding the fabulous city staff!

Gene Packer: Gene appreciated the reports and presentations from the city!

Bill Szmyd: Bill appreciated the provided 2023 Drinking Water Quality Report and congratulated the team that put it together.

Don Cook: None.

Gary Hausman: Gary agreed with John and is very happy that our community is still standing after the recent fire. The Veteran's Honor Monument is moving along, and they are halfway to their funding goal!

John Butler: John congratulated Kevin and his team on the fire efforts.

Matt Elkins: None.

Randy Williams: Randy is very impressed with the volume of information that is provided to the Commission for each meeting, and he recognized the amount of staff time invested to provide the information. Randy also noted that his home was very close to the base operation on Glade Road for the fire! It was a very impressive firefighting effort!

Richard Bilancia: Richard noted that an indicator called the Sahm's Rule and another indicator that has predicted every recession the US has ever had has predicted that we are in a recession. He thinks that we will be tightening belts across the city. Rich also had **Jim Lees** pull up a slide from the [August 15th City Council Study Session](#) regarding rate increases (*please see slide 72 in Att 1 Presentation*). Jim also noted that we received a check from FEMA just this week regarding the 2013 flood.

Christopher Say: Christopher installed a smart sprinkler controller. His system is sophisticated in the sense that if a rainstorm goes through the city his system will not water. He encouraged the city to encourage citizens to utilize this type of system.

Craig Bialy: N.A.

Council Reports

Steve Olson: The council discussion is still regarding budget. Council has requested a special meeting tomorrow (August 22, 2024) at noon to address the added sales tax ballot issue. The other main discussion is regarding a location for a homeless shelter.

Andrea Samson: N.A.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Item 7.1: Director's Report – Kevin Gertig

1. On April 10, 2024, the EPA released a final ruling on PFAS in drinking water, adding it to the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA). This ruling aims to protect approximately 100 million people affected by PFAS contamination. The Water Quality Lab (WQL) has been monitoring PFAS at the Water Treatment Plant (WTP) on a quarterly basis since February 2023. Results have shown no detections of regulated PFAS and only two detections of an unregulated PFAS (PFBA) at very low concentrations. These findings have enabled the City of Loveland to participate in a class action legal settlement with 3M and DuPont, with an estimated payout of \$1.4 million expected at the end of 2024 or sometime in 2025 to be applied to PFAS related expenses.

According to EPA guidelines, Loveland is currently in compliance with the initial monitoring requirements and may qualify for reduced compliance monitoring, pending an assessment by the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE). All data collected after January 1, 2023, must be submitted to CDPHE, which will provide further guidance on compliance monitoring. Based on current PFAS test results, at this time Loveland does not need to implement additional treatment technologies. However, developing a contingency plan for potential treatment could be prudent if future compliance monitoring uncovers any regulatory concerns or detections.

2. Water Project Updates for July – see **Attachment A**.
3. AMI Deployment Project Updates for August - see **Attachment B**.
4. Electric Capital Project Updates - See **Attachment C**.
5. Water and Electric Meter Sets – See **Attachment D**.
6. Big Thompson River Source Water Quality 2023 Annual Report – See **Attachment E**.
7. Big Thompson River Watershed Source Water Quality Conditions Spring 2024 – See **Attachment F**.
8. It is time for a check-in on our Loveland Utilities 2024 Work Plan – See **Attachment G**! Melanie will schedule time with commissioners for a work plan session!
9. **Jim Lees** also announced to the commission that **Chad Birgenheier** was selected for the Water Utilities Manager position and thanked the commission for participating in the introductory presentations by the interview candidates. **Don Cook** noted that it was very stiff competition – congratulations to Chad!

ADJOURN: The meeting was adjourned at **5:58 p.m.**

Respectfully submitted,
Melanie Reeves
Recording Secretary
Loveland Utilities Commission /s/ Dan Herlihey, Chair

