



City of Milwaukee

200 E. Wells Street
Milwaukee, Wisconsin
53202

Meeting Minutes

WATER QUALITY TASK FORCE

ALD. JAMES BOHL, JR., CHAIR,
Bevan Baker, Ben Gramling, Ald. Cavalier Johnson, Ghassan
Korban, Carrie Lewis, Dr. Patricia McManus, Ald. Jose Perez
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Friday, April 28, 2017

9:00 AM

Room 301-B, City Hall

1. Call to Order

The meeting convened at 9:10 AM

2. Roll Call

Commissioner Baker joined the meeting at 9:12 AM

Ald. Perez joined the meeting at 9:17 AM

Present 7 - Bohl, Johnson, Perez, Gramling, Baker, Korban and McManus

3. Alternative/Emerging Technologies to Lead Service Line Removal

Jennifer Gonda - Water Works

The meeting recessed at 9:46 AM

The meeting reconvened at 9:52 AM

4. Discussion & Approval of the "Report and Recommendations of the Water Quality Task Force"

President Hamilton thanked the Chair and the Task Force for their hard work in addressing the issues of lead in water and lead service line replacement.

Ms. Gonda requested to change "chloramine" to "chlorine and ammonia" on page 12 of the report. Commissioner Korban moved to amend the report, seconded by Commissioner Baker. There were no objections.

1. Provide adequate City resources, supplemented by resources from foundations and corporations, to ensure vulnerable populations have access to lead-removing water filters certified to remove lead by NSF/ANSI Standard 53. Commissioner Baker moved to amend the recommendation to add governmental and private sources, seconded by Dr. McManus. There were no objections. Dr. McManus moved to add "women of childbearing age" (including a footnote to

define as ages 15-45) in the recommendation summary, seconded by Ald. Perez. There were no objections.

Dr. McManus moved approval as amended, seconded by Commissioner Baker. There were no objections.

2. Promote and support lead-removing water filtration systems as the most thorough means of long-term lead-water safety.

Mr. Gramling moved to delete "long-term" from the recommendation, seconded by Dr. McManus. There were no objections.

Dr. McManus moved to delete "as the current most effective means of lead removal from drinking water" in the recommendation summary, seconded by Mr. Gramling. There was an objection from Ald. Bohl.

Ald. Johnson moved approval as amended, seconded by Mr. Gramling. There were no objections.

3. Educate residents regarding internal plumbing as a source of lead.

Mr. Gramling moved approval, seconded by Commissioner Baker. There were no objections.

4. Incorporate lead-in-water and lead public education materials with all City water bills.

Ald. Johnson moved approval, seconded by Mr. Gramling. There were no objections.

5. Use area universities as resources to address the lead-water issue.

Commissioner Baker moved approval, seconded by Dr. McManus. There were no objections.

6. Support State legislative action requiring testing of water in schools and daycares.

Dr. McManus moved approval, seconded by Commissioner Korban. There were no objections.

7. Mandatory City testing of water in schools and daycares.

Ald. Perez moved approval, seconded by Mr. Gramling. There were no objections.

8. Establish an annual review process before the Common Council regarding blood lead testing being conducted of children in the city and regarding the policies and actions taken by the Health Department for children found with elevated blood lead levels.

Commissioner Baker moved approval, seconded by Dr. McManus. There were no objections.

9. Explore and expand on ways in which proper nutrition may mitigate lead absorption in our City's children and residents.

Ald. Johnson moved approval, seconded by Dr. McManus. There were no objections.

10. Urge the State of Wisconsin to provide greater funding to the City to eliminate sources of lead.

Commissioner Korban moved to add "and US Federal Government" in the title and body of the recommendation, seconded by Ald. Johnson. There were no objections.

Dr. McManus moved approval as amended, seconded by Ald. Johnson. There were no objections.

11. Allow greater water-utility flexibility to pay for lead water-service line replacement.

Commissioner Korban moved to delete "State" and "efforts" and add "advocate through the legislature and the Public Service Commission" in the recommendation summary, seconded by Ald. Johnson. There were no objections.

Dr. McManus moved approval as amended, seconded by Commissioner Korban. There were no objections.

12. Explore additional financial assistance options for low-income homeowners' replacement of the privately-owned side of water-service lines, while maintaining a balanced payment program for most to ensure timely removal of service lines.

Mr. Gramling moved approval, seconded by Ald. Johnson. There were no objections.

13. Seek new partners and avenues to expand public service information/announcements on managing the potential risks relating to lead-contaminated water, with a special emphasis on vulnerable populations, and ensure the City's ongoing public information campaign presents a balanced approach

to all lead risks.

Commissioner Baker moved approval, seconded by Dr. McManus. There were no objections.

14. Provide outreach to local healthcare providers on the need for lead testing of infants and toddlers.

Dr. McManus moved to add "and obstetricians" to the recommendation summary, seconded by Commissioner Baker. There were no objections.

Dr. McManus moved approval as amended, seconded by Commissioner Baker. There were no objections.

15. Seek to balance workforce development opportunities with timeliness and cost-containment efforts on the lead service line removal program.

Commissioner Korban moved approval, seconded Ald. Johnson. There were no objections.

16. Contract for an outside review of Milwaukee Water Works' treatment additives and corrosion-control methods.

Mr. Gramling moved to amend the recommendation title to delete "treatment additives and corrosion-control methods" and add "operation in order to build community confidence in its ability to bring healthy and safe drinking water to its users", seconded by Dr. McManus. There were no objections.

Mr. Gramling moved approval as amended, seconded by Dr. McManus. There were no objections.

17. Pass City legislation to provide private-side lead service line identification, removal and special assessment cost-share criteria for homes constructed between 1952 and 1962.

Commissioner Korban moved approval, seconded by Ald. Perez. There were no objections.

18. The Common Council should pass legislation requiring semi-annual reporting to the Council by the Milwaukee Water Works and Department of Public Works to the status of service line removal or lining efforts, testing results of lead in water, emerging technologies for remediating lead in water, and ongoing plans for addressing the lead-in-water issue.

Mr. Gramling moved approval, seconded by Dr. McManus. There were no objections.

Mr. Gramling moved to add an additional recommendation "The City to do all in its authority to accelerate the rehabilitation or removal of lead services lines within its jurisdiction", seconded by Ald. Perez. There were no objections.

Commissioner Korban moved to add the additional recommendation "The Water Works and Department of Public Works should continuously evaluate lead service line lining and coating technologies or other emerging technologies that may present themselves as cost-effective and safe alternatives to lead service line removal", seconded by Mr. Gramling. There were no objections.

Public Comment:

Robert Miranda - Freshwater for Life Action Coalition stated he would like chloramine added back into the report. He added that he would like more reports from health professionals. He thanked the members for their time contributed to the issues of health in the community.

Commissioner Korban moved to amend the report to state "chlorine and ammonia" ["chloramine"], seconded by Mr. Gramling. There were no objections.

Brenda Coley - Milwaukee Water Commons stated there should be a timeline for replacing the lead laterals. She added that the flushing information is inconsistent and arbitrary. She stated this is an issue of trust and the process of how these things are changed.

Mr. Gramling moved to amend the recommendations to have #19 moved to #1, seconded by Commissioner Korban. There were no objections.

Commissioner Korban moved approval of the report and recommendations as amended, seconded by Mr. Gramling. There were no objections.

5. Adjournment

*Mr. Gramling moved to adjourn, seconded by Commissioner Korban. The meeting adjourned at 11:54 AM
Molly Kuether-Steele
Staff Assistant*

Items related to this meeting can be found in the following files:

[160676](#)

Communication related to the activities of the Water Quality Task Force.

Sponsors: THE CHAIR

[160957](#)

Communication from various agencies related to the activities of the Water Quality Task Force.

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