



**OAK LODGE WATER SERVICES  
BUDGET COMMITTEE  
MEETING MINUTES  
APRIL 25, 2023**

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Budget Committee

Susan Keil	Director
Kevin Williams	Director
Paul Gornick	Director
Ginny Van Loo	Director
Heidi Bullock	Director
Robert Weber	Citizen Representative
Mark Elliott	Citizen Representative
Ron Weigel	Citizen Representative
Lewis Wardrip	Citizen Representative
Ron Nichelini	Citizen Representative

Oak Lodge Water Services Staff

Sarah Jo Chaplen	General Manager
Brad Albert	Public Works Director/District Engineer (PWD)
Aleah Binkowski-Burk	Human Resources/Payroll Manager
Gail Stevens	Finance Director
David Hawkins	Plant Superintendent
Chad Martinez	Collection Operations Supervisor
Antonio Canisales	Senior Accountant
Laural Casey	District Recorder
Alexa Morris	Outreach and Communications Specialist

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**1. Call to Order & Hybrid Meeting Facilitation Protocols**

Chair Weber called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

General Manager Chaplen overviewed the general protocols of a hybrid meeting.

**2. Presentation of Proposed Budget**

General Manager Chaplen provided opening comments.

PWD Albert presented funding scenarios for fiscal year 2023-2024, highlighting the capital improvement projects completed with each scenario.

*Ron Weigel joined the meeting at 5:34 p.m.*

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*Paul Gornick left the meeting at 5:46 p.m.*

*Ginny Van Loo left the meeting at 6:28 p.m.*

The Budget Committee asked questions regarding:

- How emergency expenditures are funded,
- Project logistics when spanning projects across multiple fiscal years,
- The use and accrual of Contingency and Reserve funds,
- Measuring capital project success,
- Water Master Plan funding,
- Use of the Seattle Construction Index,
- Future rate increases based on the funding scenarios presented,
- Federal and State funding available to OLWS, and
- Revenue bond eligibility.

The Budget Committee asked if additional modeling could be provided at the next meeting. Finance Director Stevens asked for final questions to be received by noon on Wednesday.

### **3. Call for Public Comment**

Sherrie Austin read a letter co-written with her husband, Wade Hathhorn, in support of the Proposed Budget. The letter, which urged immediate action from the Budget Committee, was entered into the record.

*Heidi Bullock and Susan Keil left the meeting at 6:41 p.m.*

### **4. Adjourn Meeting**

There was discussion on the decision before the Budget Committee at the next meeting, including how the Proposed Budget affects the rates.

Chair Weber adjourned the meeting at 6:53 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

*Robert Weber*

Robert Weber  
Chair, Budget Committee

Date: 4/4/2024

*Ron Weigel*

Ron Weigel  
Vice Chair, Budget Committee

Date: 4/4/2024