

SUSTAINABLE ENVIRONMENT COMMISSION



Steve McGeehan
Commission Chair
sec@ci.moscow.id.us

Regular Meeting
~Minutes~

Kyle Steele
Staff Liaison
208-883-7133

<https://www.ci.moscow.id.us/551/Sustainable-Environment-Commission>

Tuesday
October 21, 2025

6:00 PM

Mayors Conference Room
1st Floor City Hall
206 E. 3rd St.

The meeting was called to order at 6:06 p.m.

PRESENT: Steve McGeehan, Gordon Wilson, Sam Gallagher, Victoria Seever, Sophia Gilbert, Ash Warner; Al Poplawski; Tina Hilding

Council: Bryce Blankenship

STAFF: Kyle Steele

REGULAR AGENDA

1. Approval of Sustainable Environment Commission August 19, 2025 Minutes (ACTION ITEM)

Minutes presented for approval.

PROPOSED ACTIONS: approve the minutes as presented; approve minutes with amendments; or provide staff further direction.

Victoria moved to approve the minutes as presented. Tina seconded.

Roll call vote: Ayes: Unanimous. Abstain: Motion carried.

2. Public Comment and Response to Previous Comments (limited to 10 minutes)

Members of the public may speak to the Commission regarding matters NOT on the agenda or currently pending before the Commission. Please state your name and city of residence for the record and limit your remarks to three (3) minutes.

PROPOSED ACTIONS: receive the public comment.

3. Water Quality in Moscow – part one

Kyle Steele (Moscow Environmental Services Manager) will discuss the operation of the Water Reclamation and Reuse Facility (WRRF).

PROPOSED ACTIONS: receive the report and take other action as appropriate.

Mr. Steele gave an overview of the Water Reclamation Facility's (WRF) history and major improvements to date. Steele informed the commission members that the WRF is regulated by both state and federal water quality laws and the discharge of treated effluent to Paradise Creek must comply with certain Permit parameters. Steele informed the members that

Since June of 1977, the City of Moscow has provided treated effluent for irrigation at the University of Idaho. Recycled water flows from the Water Reclamation Facility (WRF) chlorine contact chamber outlet box to the UI storage basin by gravity. The water is then stored in a 517,000-gallon concrete tank until needed. The reuse irrigation system is used to water approximately 173 acres of land owned by the University of Idaho, including the golf course, arboretum and the playfields on the northwest side of campus. On average, 85 million gallons of reclaimed water is sent to the University of Idaho annually, saving approximately 3.4 billion gallons of water from being pumped from the aquifer system. The UI operates under an Idaho Department of Environmental Quality Reuse Permit.

Steele also gave a brief history of NPDES/IPDES permitting and stated that the City would be receiving a new IPDES Permit early next year. A public comment draft of the permit is expected in early November.

REPORTS

1. City Sustainability Report- Kelli Cooper

No update

2. Moscow High School Subcommittee Report –

No update

3. Climate Action Working Group – Tina Hilding

The November newspaper column will feature information on the Cities rebate program and December will feature waste reduction ideas.

There is an Electrification Fair happening in April, with many vendors participating.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Group will wait until Spring for a tour of the Water Reclamation and Resue Facility.

UPCOMING EVENTS / MEETINGS

1. Next SEC meeting set for November 18 2025

2. **ADJOURN**

The meeting adjourned at 7 PM



Steve McGeehan, Chair *(or stamped by Deputy City Clerk)*