

UTICA WATER AND POWER AUTHORITY

UWPA Office Building

1168 Booster Way

Angels Camp, CA 95222

(209)736-9419

Minutes of the

April 28th, 2020

Regular Board Meeting

The Board of Directors of the Utica Water & Power Authority met in Regular Session via remote access in Angels Camp California.

Directors present:

Amanda Folendorf, COA	Chairman
Greg Rasmussen, UPUD	Vice Chairman
Ralph Chick, UPUD	Secretary
Joe Oliveira, COA	Director
Scott Behiel, Community	Director

Also present:

Lori Karnes	Administrative Manager
Dave Andres	Interim General Manager
Frank Fields	O & M Superintendent
Kyle Rasmussen	Water Conveyance Supervisor
Larry Thompson	UWPA Community Alternate
Public At Large	

Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance

(Res. 20-02)

The meeting was called to order at 5:36 pm by Chairman Folendorf

Item 1: Roll Call

Director Folendorf, Director Rasmussen, Director Chick, Director Oliveira, and Director Behiel.

5-0 none absent all present said Aye.

Board of Directors

Amanda Folendorf, City of Angels ~ Chairman **Greg Rasmussen**, U.P.U.D. ~ Vice-Chairman
Ralph Chick, U.P.U.D. ~ Secretary **Scott Behiel**, At-Large Member
Joe Oliveira, Director ~ City of Angels

Item 2: Approval of Agenda

Director Behiel moved to approve the agenda; seconded by Director Oliveira and adopted 5-0. Ayes: Oliveira, Rasmussen, Chick, Behiel, Folendorf; Noes: none; Absent: none.

Item 3: Opportunity for Public Comments:

Limited to 5 minutes per person. Members of the public may address the board on items not agendized. The public is encouraged to work through staff members to put items on the agenda to be considered by the Board. No action will be taken unless an item is agendized.

- No Public Comment

Item 4: Consent Calendar and Staff Reports - Approval of all items

A. Minutes of the Regular Regular Meeting dated 3/24/20

B. Financials 3/1/20 - 3/31/20 - L. Karnes

Item B was pulled for further discussion. Director Behiel addressed his concern regarding the percentages from the budget report listed on page ten of the agenda. The staff will provide a more detailed description of the itemized list from the budget report to clarify some of the questions asked about the expenses.

Director Behiel motioned to approve item B; seconded by Director Rasmussen and adopted 5-0. Ayes: Oliveira, Rasmussen, Chick, Behiel, Folendorf; Noes: none; Absent: none.

C. General Manager's report-D. Andres

D. Administrative Report – L. Karnes

E. Generation and O&M Report for March – F. Fields - No report

F. Water Conveyance – K. Rasmussen

G. Report from Closed Session Meeting dated March 24, 2020 -

**CLOSED SESSION PURSUANT GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 54957:
PUBLIC EMPLOYEE**

Title: General Manager Recruitment

No reportable action

H. Report from Closed Session Meeting dated April 24, 2020 -

**CLOSED SESSION PURSUANT GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 54957:
PUBLIC EMPLOYEE**

Title: General Manager Recruitment

No reportable action from the closed session

Director Chick made a motion to approve the Consent Calendar and Staff Reports items A-H amended by Dave Andres; seconded by Director Rasmussen and adopted 5-0. Ayes: Oliveira, Rasmussen, Chick, Behiel, Folendorf; Noes: none; Absent: none.

Item 5: Regular Agenda - Discussion and possible action

A. Approve and Authorize the General Manager to Enter Into Agreement and Sign Such Other Documents as are Necessary with the California Special District Association (CSDA) Special District Risk Management Authority (SDRMA) Employee Health Insurance Program For Silver PPO Plan Effective July 1, 2020 and Approve a Modification to the Employee Personnel Handbook to Add a Provision for Medical Insurance Cost Sharing Program - D. Andres

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D Andres suggested that UWPA adopt a new health insurance plan to help with future medical expenses as a better benefit for the employees. This new health insurance agreement would drop the cost of doctor visits from \$55 to \$30 and only have 20% co-pay instead of 35%. This will save UWPA's employees more money than if UWPA renews the current insurance policy which is increasing in cost as well. D. Andres recommended that UWPA adopt the Silver PPO that would take effect July 1st, 2020. The net impact would cost less than \$2300 per year.

Director Behiel asked if we could reduce the contribution with Health Reimbursement Account (HRA) if UWPA adopts this new health plan. Director Behiel recalled a decision made from a previous meeting that they selected a benefit with a hire deductible to reduce the premiums, and making it up to the employees by the HRA contribution. Frank clarified that the HRA has specific restrictions and doesn't cover all out of pocket costs.

Andres said that it is possible to change, but it is not recommended that UWPA do that at this time. The concern with this new plan would be the increase in cost, but with this HRA they will give back any money that was not spent within the year. In the event that one employee participates in the voluntary Medical Insurance Cost Sharing Program, UWPA would save at least \$3700 annually. All employees at UWPA are aware of this new health benefit plan, and have agreed that this would be the better alternative for them and their family's future.

Director Oliveira motioned to approve the plan as recommend; seconded by Director Behiel and adopted 5-0. Ayes: Oliveira, Rasmussen, Chick, Behiel, Folendorf; Noes: none; Absent: 0.

B. Vote for Calaveras Public Power Agency At Large Board of Director Position - D.Andres

Director Rasmussen motioned to elect Bret Harte Union High School District (Michael Chimente) for Calaveras Public Power Agency At Large Board of Director Position; seconded by Director Oliveira and adopted 5-0. Ayes: Oliveira, Rasmussen, Chick, Behiel, Folendorf; Noes: none; Absent: none.

C. Approve Resolution No. 20-01 for the Designation of Applicant's Agent For Non-State Agencies - D. Andres and L. Karnes

The resolution is required in order for the JPA to apply and receive reimbursement for costs associated with the current disaster designation for the COVID-19 pandemic. The resolution designated three staff positions eligible to apply and sign documents associated with FEMA programs. This resolution is effective for a three-year period so that additional resolutions will not be required for a subsequent disaster designation occurring between now and April 2023. The other condition of funding is a requirement for a Hazard Mitigation Plan (HMP). The JPA has submitted a grant request to the California Office of Emergency Services (CalOES) to have a consultant prepare an HMP. This request is currently awaiting state and federal approval.

Director Behiel motioned to approve the resolution No. 20-01 for the Designation of Applicant's Agent For Non-State Agencies; seconded by Director Rasmussen and adopted 5-0. Ayes: Oliveira, Rasmussen, Chick, Behiel, Folendorf; Noes: none; Absent: 0.

D. Approve Resolution No. 20-02 for Water Service Regulations and a Change in Water Rates for Agricultural Customers - D. Andres

Andres suggests that UWPA adopt resolution 20-02 approving a 5% rate increase in the Water Use Fee for agricultural customers. Currently agriculture customers pay a combination of Flat Annual Fees and a variable Water Use Fee. The flat fees include an Administrative Fee, Meter Replacement/ Repair Fee, and a Operation & Maintenance Flat Fee. The Water Use Fee is a variable fee based on the number of acre feet used annually, with some provisions for minimum quantity. Andres recommended that only the Water Use Fee be increased by 5%. This is based on the fact that JPA is woefully short in funding its overall operations. All other charges are proposed to remain the same as last year. Based on an estimated annual usage of 832 ac-ft, revenue would increase by less than \$1100 per year. One of the concerns about this 5% increase is if there could be a leak or broken irrigation line that the customer would have to pay for that water waste. The second concern is that it could take up to a month to collect the meter data to see that consumption has increased before the problem would be discovered. It was

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suggested a work plan for the new general manager would be drafted to address irrigation concerns and establish standards.

Director Chick motioned to Approve Resolution No. 20-02 for Water Service Regulations and a Change in Water Rates for Agricultural Customers; seconded by Director Oliveira and adopted 4-0. Ayes: Oliveira, Chick, Behiel, Folendorf; Noes: none; Abstention: 1 - Rasmussen

Item 6: Staff/Directors' Reports, Comments and Future Agenda Items (if any)

-R Nash the Administrative Assistant 1 has given her two weeks' notice at UWPA.

-F Fields asked if everyone got the link to the presentation to show that UWPA is still working hard and diligently during COVID-19.

-J. Oliveira mentioned the county has lifted some outdoor activities based off the Covid-19 restrictions.

-F Fields reported that there was not enough moisture in March from the generation report, and that this will affect the budget. Other reports might show the underperformance in the months to come due to this.

Item 7: Calendar -L. Kames

DSOD inspections April 29th and 30th

May 26 at 5:30 pm UWPA's Regular Board meeting

Still need to schedule Budget Committee Meeting

Still need to schedule ad hoc General Manager Committee Meeting- GM Recruitment

Adjourn to Closed Session - Discussion and possible action

Regular UWPA board meeting was closed at 6:45pm for closed session.

**Item 8: A. CLOSED SESSION PURSUANT GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 54957:
PUBLIC EMPLOYEE
Title: General Manager Recruitment**

Reconvene from Closed Session: *Report of any reportable action*

Reportable action to be determined.

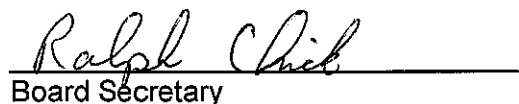
Adjourn: 7:30pm

Director Behiel motioned to adjourn UWPA's Regular Board Meeting at 7:30pm; seconded by Director Oliveira and adopted 5-0. Ayes: Oliveira, Rasmussen, Chick, Behiel, Folendorf; Noes: none; Absent: none

Next Regular Meeting: Tuesday, May 26, 2020 at 5:30 pm

Approved at the Regular Board Meeting May 26th, 2020


Board Chair


Board Secretary

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