



UTICA WATER AND POWER AUTHORITY

UWPA Office Building
1168 Booster Way
Angels Camp, CA 95222
(209) 736-9419

Minutes of the April 27, 2021 Regular Board Meeting

The Board of Directors of the Utica Water and Power Authority met in regular session via remote phone and video at the Utica Headquarters in Angels Camp, California.

Directors present:

- Rocky Chick (UPUD), Chair
- Alvin Broglio (COA), Vice Chair
- Jennifer Davis-Herndon (COA), Secretary
- Scott Behiel (Community), Director
- Greg Rasmussen (UPUD), Director

Also present:

- Joel Metzger, General Manager
- Lori Karnes, Administrative Manager
- Frank Fields, O & M Superintendent
- Kyle Rasmussen, Water Conveyance Supervisor
- Cory Miyamoto, GEI Consultants
- Ginger Gillin, GEI Consultants
- Roger Masuda, General Counsel
- Public at large

The meeting was called to order at 5:00 p.m. by Director Chick.

Item 1: Roll Call

- Director Chick, Director Broglio, Director Davis-Herndon, Director Behiel, Director Rasmussen. 5-0. All present said aye; Absent: None

Item 2: Approval of Agenda

- Metzger requested the Board approve Item 5 Consent Calendar before moving to Item 4. The Board approved the request. Director Rasmussen was absent at the March meeting and said he would abstain from voting on the minutes.

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 item on the agenda to be considered by the Board. No action will be taken unless an item is agendized.

- There was no public comment.

Item 5: Consent Calendar and Staff Reports– Approval of all items

- A. Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting dated 3/23/21
- B. General Manager's Report (Metzger)
- C. Financial Report 3/1/21 - 3/31/21 (Karnes)
- D. Generation Report for 3/1/21 - 3/31/21 (Karnes) (Fields)
- E. Operations report (Fields)
- F. Water Conveyance Report (Rasmussen)
- G. Precipitation report and B120

Motion to pull Item 5A and approve items 5B – 5F.

- **Motion:** Director Broglio
- **Second:** Director Rasmussen
- **Board Discussion:** None
- **Public Comment:** None
- **Vote:** 5-0; Ayes: Chick, Broglio, Davis-Herndon, Rasmussen; Noes: none

Motion to approve Item 5A Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting dated 3/23/21

- **Motion:** Director Behiel
- **Second:** Director Broglio
- **Board Discussion:** None
- **Public Comment:** None

- **Vote:** 4-0-1; Ayes: Chick, Broglio, Rasmussen, Davis-Herndon; Noes: None; Abstain: Rasmussen

Item 4: ADJOURN TO CLOSED SESSION

The Board adjourned to closed session at 5:35 p.m.

- A. Public Employee Performance Evaluation Pursuant to Government Code Section 4957(b)(1) Title: General Manager

Report out of Closed Session at 7:08 p.m.

- No action was taken.

Item 6: Regular Agenda – Discussion and possible action

Metzger requested the Board Chair move Item 6A Manager’s Report to the end and move 6B and 6C up. The Chair agreed to make the change.

B. Resource Management Committee Recommendations (Metzger)

Metzger provided an overview of the Utica Resources Management Committee discussion and recommendations from committee meeting on April 7, 2021 for Board approval. The Committee gave the following recommendations:

- Incremental increases to irrigation contractor fees to equal the potential loss off ReMAT revenue. Above Murphys Powerhouse there could be a potential increase of 14.5% increase over time from \$60.28 to \$69.04/AF if ReMAT contract price is secured at \$73.50/MW hr and no increase if price is \$57.56/MW hr
- Irrigation fees for customers below Murphys Powerhouse should increase by 5% and 6.8% from \$25.32 to \$26.58 and \$27.04/AF to equal lost potential ReMAT revenue. Currently the ReMAT contract for Angels Powerhouse is \$89.23/MW hr.
- Incorporating into the contract stronger language prioritizing Union Public Utilities District (UPUD) and the City of Angels (COA) water deliveries in drought years.
- Consider wait list customers becoming Utica irrigation customers
- Continue discussions with Calaveras County Water District (CCWD) regarding a water supply agreement.
- Discuss the establishment of new connection fees and discuss infrastructure costs.

After detailed discussion and consideration of all items the Board agreed to approve tying Utica’s Operations and Maintenance conveyance fee to the UWPA

fee UPUD charges its customers. Additionally, the Board agreed to increase the fees Utica charges water contractors per acre foot water by 5% for customers above and below Murphys Powerhouse. UPUD's charge for Utica's water conveyance fee is currently \$18 per month. In the future, if UPUD increases its UWPA fee, Utica's water contractors Operations and Maintenance fee will increase accordingly.

- **Motion:** Director Behiel
- **Seconded:** Director Rasmussen
- **Board Discussion:** Broglio suggested Utica should not raise the Operations and Maintenance fee and he said Utica should study the system costs more closely next year before deciding to increase the fee. He did support increasing the per acre foot water charge by 5%. Director Davis-Herndon agreed with the 5% increase and said she did not support the conveyance fee increase.
- **Public:** No comment
- **Vote:** 3-2-0; Ayes: Chick, Behiel, Rasmussen; Noes: Davis-Herndon, Broglio

Water contract language review:

Another recommendation from the Resource Management Committee discussion was to add stronger language to protect the rights of the JPA members to prioritize their water contracts over water contractors.

After discussion, the Board decided not to add additional language to the water contractors' agreements, concluding the existing language was very clear. The Board did support including additional information regarding the JPA to water contractors as a "handout" with annual billing statements to remind the water contractors that UPUD and COA have priority over water contractors.

- **Motion:** Director Behiel
- **Second:** Director Broglio
- **Board discussion:** None
- **Public comment:** No comment
- **Vote:** 5-0; Ayes: Chick, Behiel, Rasmussen, Davis-Herndon, Broglio; Noes: None

Adding new Utica irrigation customers:

Both Director Broglio and Director Davis-Herndon voiced support for adding new irrigation customers, but they would like more time to discuss potential long-term implications of this with City staff. They are currently in discussions and should have an answer at the next board meeting. The Board decided to table this until the next meeting.

Connection fee:

The Board discussed initiating a new meter hook up fee. It was suggested a deposit be initiated and the customer only be charged for time and materials and balance refunded if not used. UPUD has a one time, non-refundable \$5,000 ag connection fee.

Metzger provided information about the difference between UPUD's permanent irrigation customers who purchase capacity and are guaranteed water, vs. Utica's water contractors that are not guaranteed water and can be cut off at any time. The Board directed staff to continue researching this issue.

Water supply agreement:

Metzger informed the Board that there is an opportunity for Utica and Calaveras County Water District to reach a water supply agreement could provide needed water to the Utica system during times of drought to ensure Utica's partners and customers have adequate water supplies.

C. Water Contractor(s) request for irrigation allocation increase (Metzger)

Metzger reviewed the history of water years in consideration of Musachia requesting an increase of 150 to 215 ac ft for 1 year.

- **Motion:** Director Broglio
- **Second:** Director Davis-Herndon
- **Board discussion:** It was suggested that if Utica increases allocation to any current water contractors Utica should consider making water available to people on the water contractor wait list as well.
- **Public comment:** No comment
- **Vote:** 4-0-1; Ayes: Chick, Broglio, Rasmussen, Davis-Herndon; Noes: None; Abstained: Behiel

A. General Manager's Report (Metzger)

- Metzger informed the Board Utica staff had successfully balanced the draft FY 2021-'22 budget. Once Utica has a finalized draft, it will be distributed to the Board for review prior to the next meeting. It won't need final approval until June 2021.
- The Wooden Flume Grant is under review at Cal OES. Local matching funds have been set aside in Utica's draft budget.
- PG&E has continued making information requests regarding Utica's ReMAT application at Murphys Powerhouse. Utica is still pushing for the \$73.50/MW/hr

contract (baseload). If that effort is not successful, there is a high likelihood that a contract can be secured at \$57.40 (as available, non-peaking). Metzger said it is worth the effort and delay to continue to try to secure the \$73.50 contract.

- The Utica team is making good progress on purchasing and installing generators and LOS equipment that is funded by the \$290,000 Cal OES Community Power Resiliency Grant. The City of Angels also received a grant that is funding backup generators for the building that houses Sierra Hope and Utica's headquarters. UPUD and Utica applied jointly for this grant and between both entities we are able to purchase six generators.

Item 7: Staff/Director Reports, Comments, and Future Agenda Items

- Director Chick: None
- Director Rasmussen: None
- Director Broglio: None
- Director Behiel: None
- Director Davis-Herndon: None
- Metzger: None
- Karnes: None
- Fields: None
- K. Rasmussen: None

Adjournment

- **Motion to adjourn:** Director Behiel
- **Second:** Director Chick
- **Board discussion:** None
- **Public comment:** None
- **Vote:** 5-0; Ayes: Chick, Rasmussen, Behiel, Davis-Herndon, Broglio; Noes: none; Absent: none.

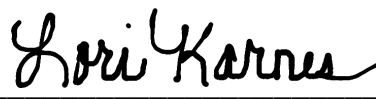
Meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

NEXT REGULAR MEETING: 5:30 p.m. Tuesday, May 25, 2021.

Approved at the May 17, 2021 meeting:



Chair



Clerk of the Board

Signature Certificate

Document Ref.: QWHKJ-MFOYY-5RCHP-ZV8EN

Document signed by:

	Lori Karnes Verified E-mail: admin@uticapower.net	
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	Rocky Chick Verified E-mail: rockyc@uticawater.com	
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Document completed by all parties on:

01 Jun 2021 20:11:32 UTC

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