



UTICA WATER AND POWER AUTHORITY

Utica Headquarters
1168 Booster Way
Angels Camp, CA 95222
(209) 736-9419

Minutes of the January 25, 2022 Regular Board Meeting

The Board of Directors of the Utica Water and Power Authority met in regular session at Utica's Headquarters in Angels Camp, California.

Directors present:

- Rocky Chick (UPUD), Chair
- Alvin Broglio (COA), Vice Chair
- Jennifer Davis-Herndon (COA), Secretary
- Greg Rasmussen (UPUD), Director Alternate
- Gary Conrado, Community At-Large Member

Directors absent: None

Also present:

- Joel Metzger, (Utica), General Manager
- Lori Karnes (Utica), Administrative Manager
- Kyle Rasmussen, (Utica), Conveyance Supervisor

Others Present:

- Public at large

Item 1: CALL TO ORDER / PLEDGE OF ALLIEGIANCE

- The meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m. by Chair Chick

Item 2: ROLL CALL

- Director Chick, Director Broglio, Director Davis-Herndon, Director Rasmussen, Director Conrado.

All present said aye.

Item 3: APPROVAL OF AGENDA

No motion was made.

Item 4: PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

Metzger introduced the newest employee to Utica Water and Power Authority, Ryan Heryford, who was hired as a Relief Hydroelectric and Conveyance Operator. He grew up in Murphys. In 2021, he graduated from Cal Poly San Luis Obispo with a degree in mechanical engineering. Heryford interned two summers with Northern California Power Agency (NCPA) and is looking forward to continuing a career in water and hydropower with Utica.

Item 5: CONSENT CALENDAR

- A. Approval of minutes of the regular meeting dated 12/14/21
- B. General Manager's report (Metzger)
- C. Financial reports 11/01/21 – 11/30/21 (Karnes)
- D. Financial reports 12/01/21 – 12/31/21 (Karnes)
- E. Generation report November '21 and December '21 (Fields/Karnes)
- F. Operations report (Fields)
- G. Conveyance report (Rasmussen)
- H. Water Supply Conditions Report (Metzger)
- I. Resolution No. 22-01, COVID-19 State of Emergency Dec. (Metzger)

Director Broglio made a motion to approve the Consent Calendar.

- **Motion to approve:** Director Broglio
- **Second:** Director Rasmussen
- **Board Discussion:** None
- **Public Comment:** None
- **Vote:** 5-0
- **Ayes:** Directors Chick, Broglio, Davis-Herndon, Rasmussen, Conrado
- **Noes:** None
- **Abstain:** None
- **Absent:** None

Item 6: REGULAR AGENDA

Discussion and possible action on all items

The Board discussed committee appointments and agreed to maintain the current officers and committee appointments for calendar year 2022.

Director Broglio made a motion to maintain current appointments for the board members as follows:

A. Election of officers (Board Chair)

1. Chair – Ralph “Rocky” Chick
2. Vice Chair – Alvin Broglio
3. Secretary – Jennifer Davis-Herndon
4. Director – Greg Rasmussen
5. Community At Large Member – Gary Conrado

- **Motion to approve:** Director Broglio
- **Second:** Director Davis-Herndon
- **Board Discussion:** None
- **Public Comment:** None
- **Vote:** 5-0
- **Ayes:** Directors Chick, Broglio, Davis-Herndon, Rasmussen, Conrado
- **Noes:** None
- **Abstain:** None
- **Absent:** None

B. Committee / Organization Appointments (Board Chair)

1. Personnel and Legal
 - Gary Conrado
 - Jennifer Davis-Herndon
 - Greg Rasmussen, Alt.

2. Resource Management
 - Ralph Chick
 - Jennifer Davis-Herndon
 - Gary Conrado, Alt.
3. Budget
 - Gary Conrado
 - Alvin Broglio
 - Jennifer Davis-Herndon, Alt
4. Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
 - Greg Rasmussen
 - Gary Conrado
 - Ralph Chick, Alt.
5. Calaveras Public Power Agency Representative
 - Alvin Broglio
 - Greg Rasmussen Alt.
6. Association of California Water Agencies and Joint Powers Insurance Authority representative
 - Alvin Broglio
 - Gary Conrado, Alt.

Director Rasmussen made a motion to keep current committee appointments for 2022.

- **Motion to approve:** Director Rasmussen
- **Second:** Director Broglio
- **Board Discussion:** None
- **Public Comment:** None
- **Vote:** 5-0
- **Ayes:** Directors Chick, Broglio, Davis-Herndon, Rasmussen, Conrado
- **Noes:** None
- **Abstain:** None
- **Absent:** None

C. Overview of the Twelfth Part 12D Independent Consultant's Safety Inspection Report Project (Metzger)

Metzger introduced Bill Rettberg from GEI, which was awarded the contract to perform the study. Rettberg is the project lead for the Twelfth Part 12D Inspection required by Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC), and he serves as the Independent Consultant (IC). Utica is required to perform a Part 12 Inspection every five years for all high-hazard dams to ensure public safety. All licensees must retain an independent consultant to review dam related documentation, inspections, studies, and potential

failure mode systems to analyze various dam failure scenarios and provide recommendations. The report is expected to take about 4 – 8 months to complete. It must be completed and submitted to FERC by fall 2022, and the project is expected to cost between \$120,000 and \$130,000.

D. Presentation from Wildfire Safety Solutions Regarding Options to Protect Wooden Flumes from Wildfire (Metzger)

Metzger introduced Lance Doyle and Paul Machi from Wildfire Safety Solutions (WSS) presented. Utica has become increasingly concerned with the threat of wildfires in the area and the potential of another wildfire damaging or destroying the water conveyance system, especially wooden flumes. Doyle gave an overview of their product Phos-Chek, a long-term, ground-applied fire retardant that could help protect critical water delivery infrastructure from wildfires.

Phos-Chek fire retardant products are designed to slow and stop the spread of fire, is environmentally friendly, USDA approved for ground application, does not need water to keep it effective, and will remain effective with up to two inches of rainfall. The product can be applied to any vegetation or infrastructure.

Metzger mentioned the potential of grant funding to cover the costs of purchasing and applying this product.

The Board gave approval to staff to continue investigating and testing this product.

E. Request to Transfer Existing Irrigation Service for Avery and Amy Apley (Metzger)

Director Broglio made a motion to transfer the existing irrigation service to the Apley's. Metzger said the Apley's would be charged for any upgrades to the water service infrastructure that Utica staff deems are necessary.

- **Motion to approve:** Director Broglio
- **Second:** Director Rasmussen
- **Board Discussion:** None
- **Public Comment:** None
- **Vote:** 5-0
- **Ayes:** Directors Chick, Broglio, Davis-Herndon, Rasmussen, Conrado
- **Noes:** None
- **Abstain:** None
- **Absent:** None

F. Consideration of adopting Resolution 22-02, authorizing Utica staff to submit a grant application to Cal Fire for the Hunters Reservoir Fuels Reduction Project (Metzger)

Metzger gave an overview of the potential project. The proposed project would clear about 220 acres around Hunter Reservoir to protect the Utica and Calaveras County Water District water storage, treatment, and distribution systems that provide domestic and fire hydrant water to around 19,000 structures on the Highway 4 Corridor at an estimated \$1.5 million cost with no local match. Additionally, this project would provide fire protection for the 200 students at Avery Middle School, and numerous private residences in the area.

On December 14, 2021, CalAm presented an overview of the Hunters Reservoir Fuels Reduction Project, and the Utica Board unanimously supported partnering with CalAm on this project. There was also discussion of Utica serving as the fiscal agent (also known as the primary applicant) for the project. Utica staff is now asking the Board to approve Resolution No. 22-02 authorizing staff to submit a grant application to CalFire to fund the project.

Director Davis-Herndon made a motion to approve Resolution No. 22-02 authorizing the Utica general manager to submit a grant application to CalFire to fund the Hunter Reservoir Fuels Reductions Project.

- **Motion to approve:** Director Davis-Herndon
- **Second:** Director Rasmussen
- **Board Discussion:** None
- **Public Comment:** None
- **Vote:** 5-0
- **Ayes:** Directors Chick, Broglio, Davis-Herndon, Rasmussen, Conrado
- **Noes:** None
- **Abstain:** None
- **Absent:** None

G. *Report on major snowstorm in late December 2021 (Metzger)

Rasmussen gave an overview of the snowstorm and highlighted some of the challenges the operators faced with debris and fallen trees from the very heavy, low elevation snowfall we had in late December. Fortunately, there was minimal damage to the canal, although many portions of the canal were partially or fully blocked. Metzger thanked Utica's staff who all worked incredibly hard, at times

throughout the night, along with Cal Fire crews to keep the canals clear and keep water flowing to the community.

H. *Discussion regarding holding a Board workshop or creating an ad-hoc committee to identify Utica's core values, review mission statement, and contribute to the Utica Employee Handbook Update Project (Metzger)

Metzger gave an overview of his objective for this workshop and/or committee that would focus on drafting a set of core values for Utica that could be referenced when making short-term and long-term decisions. These core values and mission statement would be incorporated into the employee handbook, which is currently being updated. The Board felt it was a good idea, but some of the directors lack time to work on the project. Director Thompson and Director Rasmussen both expressed an interest in participating and agreed to be part of an ad-hoc committee.

Director Broglio made a motion to nominate Director Thompson and Director Rasmussen to form an ad hoc committee to identify Utica's core values, update the mission statement, and consider strategic goals.

- **Motion to approve:** Director Broglio
- **Second:** Director Davis-Herndon
- **Board Discussion:** None
- **Public Comment:** None
- **Vote:** 5-0
- **Ayes:** Directors Chick, Broglio, Davis-Herndon, Rasmussen, Conrado
- **Noes:** None
- **Abstain:** None
- **Absent:** Director Rasmussen

Item 7: BOARD / GENERAL MANAGER REPORTS, FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Metzger mentioned Utica submitted its first invoice to PG&E for Murphys Powerhouse under the ReMAT contract. Metzger said he plans to present a mid-year budget update at the next board meeting that will have ReMAT impact projections. John Kessler, Utica's Chief Dam Safety Engineer will be joining our next board meeting to talk about dam safety.

Director Broglio thanked all the staff for their hard work during the storm.

Thompson thanked staff as well as the Vallecito crew for all their help during the December storm.

Item 8: UPCOMING BOARD MEETINGS AND CALENDAR EVENTS

- Tuesday, February 22, 2022 at 5:30 p.m. – Regular Board Meeting
- Tuesday, March 22, 2022 at 5:30 p.m. – Regular Board Meeting

Item 9: ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 6:50 p.m.

Approved at the February 22, 2022 meeting:

Ralph Chick

Chair



Attest:

Lori Karnes

Clerk to the Board

Signature Certificate

Reference number: TJS5O-Y62ZA-3MPMZ-42AU6

Signer	Timestamp	Signature
Lori Karnes Email: admin@uticapower.net Sent: 01 Mar 2022 17:51:17 UTC Signed: 01 Mar 2022 17:51:18 UTC		 IP address: 96.92.110.142 Location: Stockton, United States
Rocky Chick Email: rockyc@uticawater.com Sent: 01 Mar 2022 17:51:17 UTC Viewed: 03 Mar 2022 14:26:39 UTC Signed: 03 Mar 2022 14:26:50 UTC		 IP address: 98.224.22.18 Location: Sutter Creek, United States

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