



UTICA WATER AND POWER AUTHORITY

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

Minutes of the February 22, 2022 Regular Board Meeting

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

Directors present:

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

Directors absent: Greg Rasmussen, (UPUD), Director

Also present:

- Joel Metzger, (UWPA), General Manager
- Lori Karnes (UWPA), Administrative Manager
- Kyle Rasmussen, (UWPA), Conveyance Supervisor
- Frank Fields, (UWPA), O&M Superintendent

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 Quincy, Director Conrado.

All present said aye.

Item 3: APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

Item 4: PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

Item 5: CONSENT CALENDAR

- A. Approval of minutes of the regular meeting dated 1/25/22
- B. General Manager's report (Metzger)
- C. Financial reports 1/1/22 – 1/31/22 (Karnes)
- D. Generation report for January (Fields/Karnes)
- E. Operations report (Fields)
- F. Conveyance report (Rasmussen)
- G. Water Supply Conditions Report (Metzger)
- H. Resolution No. 22-03, COVID-19 State of Emergency Dec. (Metzger)

Director Broglio made a motion to approve the Consent Calendar.

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

Item 6: REGULAR AGENDA

Discussion and possible action on all items

- A. *Chief Dam Safety Engineer Introduction and Overview of Responsibilities (Metzger and Kessler)

Metzger introduced John Kessler, Utica's Chief Dam Safety Engineer. Kessler has more than 40 years of broad hydropower experience and has been working with Utica for more than two decades assisting with dam safety and compliance. His experience includes operations, maintenance, engineering, dam safety, relicensing, license compliance, environmental assessment and permitting, and hydrology. Kessler also worked for Northern California Power Agency (NCPA) on the North Fork Project. He currently works as a Dam Safety Engineer for El Dorado Irrigation District (EID) and for Utica Water and Power Authority (Utica). The El Dorado Forebay Dam Modification Project, Silver Lake Dam Replacement, Outingdale Dam Rehabilitation Project, El Dorado Penstock Project are a few of the projects Kessler has managed. He joined Utica in 2000 when asked to prepare the Dam Safety Surveillance and Monitoring Reports (DSSMRs) and has continued to provide advice and guidance for dam safety and reporting to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) to date. He provided relicensing support for Utica, in 2003 and assisted in developing license conditions that protect Utica's water supply and entitlements.

Kessler explained the Board's role as defined in the Owner's Dam Safety Plan (ODSP) and its responsibilities to public safety and regulatory compliance.

B. *Update on Hunter Reservoir Fuels Reduction Project Grant Application (Metzger)

Metzger recapped the Hunter Reservoir Fuels Reduction Project Grant that was submitted on Feb. 9. The grant funding request is \$1.5 million with, no local match. Utica will act as the fiscal agent, preparing reports and submitting invoices for reimbursement. The project is anticipated to begin in the fall 2023.

C. *Update on the Development of Utica's New Employee Handbook, Mission Statement, Core Values and Strategic Goals (Metzger)

Metzger gave an update on the Core Values, Mission, and Strategic Goals Ad Hoc Committee meeting. The ad hoc committee, made up of Director Thompson and Director Rasmussen, created a new draft of Utica's mission statement, identified draft core values and draft strategic goals for Utica which could be incorporated into the Employee Handbook once the Board has given its approval.

The employee handbook update is underway with the first draft ready for review. Employees will review the draft and provide feedback. It will then be taken to the board for its approval. May 2022 is the target date to complete the Employee Handbook update project.

D. *Mid-year Budget Report and Direction Regarding UPUD and COA Budget Development Meetings (Metzger)

Metzger provided an overview of the budget expenses and revenue to date. Revenue is up, due to water sales and higher-than-expected power prices. About 64% of the budget has been spent and on target for the first half of the year.

Grant spending is at 30%. There is \$395,000 budgeted for grants and the bulk of it is for the Power Resiliency Grant Project, which does not have to be spent until the end of calendar year 2022. A majority of the money spent was toward the Power Resiliency Project to install generators at various sites for Union Public Utility District, our grant partner, and Utica Water and Power Authority. Utica has several grants applications that have been submitted and anticipates spending the money for those projects by the end of the fiscal year. The Wooden Flume grant, with budgeted for \$85,000 local match, is still under review by Cal OES and therefore the local match portion has yet to be spent. Expenditures to date are approximately \$116,000.

With both the Angels and Murphys hydroelectric power plants in ReMAT contracts, anticipated income in a water year 4, which is Utica's current tier until May 1, would be approximately \$310,000 more than under Utica's previous contract with Calpine. Until Utica can determine what water year tier Utica will be in, we cannot accurately project revenue for May or June of this fiscal year.

Other budget items, Wages and Benefits are at 57%, Maintenance and Repair, and Misc. Supplies are around 30%, Professional Services is at 16%, Regulatory Fees at 45%, Communications at 35%, Utilities 35%, Travel and Training 20%, Capital Improvement 57%, Contingencies 51%, Reserves are on target at 56%, and Grant Expenditures are at 29%. The overall budget is just short of the target for mid-year.

Metzger went on to explain the overall low percentage of spending for mid-year. Under Professional Services there are two large projects that GEI Consultants is working on totaling \$200,000, and GEI has sent limited invoices. These projects should be completed – or the planned phase completed - and the line item expended by the end of the fiscal year. Communications and utilities were lower than expected. There was \$61,000 set aside for the Department of Water Resources, that has not been billed yet – that bill is expected in late March or April. Capital Improvement projects were partially limited, due to supply chain delays and unavailability of materials. Substantial expenditures are forthcoming for some of the categories.

Metzger also addressed the financial commitments from Utica's Joint Power Authority members and raised the idea of holding a joint meeting with Union Public Utility District Board, City of Angels Camp Council, and Utica Water and Power Authority Board to discuss short- and long-term goals, and seek consensus on making commitments to funding those goals.

The Board gave Metzger the approval to pursue organizing a joint board meeting and to work with the COA City Administrator and UPUD General Manager to discuss budget and financial needs.

E. *Discussion Regarding Upcoming Irrigation Water Contractor Rates (Chick)

Metzger reviewed the current irrigation fees with the Board. The Board discussed proposing a 5% increase which would keep the irrigation rates on par with the new ReMAT contract prices. The Resource Committee meeting is scheduled for March 8, 2022, at 2 p.m. to further discuss irrigation fees and contracts.

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

Metzger mentioned the staff will be looking at budget and irrigation season recommendations when the committees meet in March to bring back to the Board for review.

Item 8: UPCOMING BOARD MEETINGS AND CALENDAR EVENTS

- Tuesday, March 22, 2022 at 5:30 p.m. – Regular Board Meeting
- Tuesday, April 26, 2022 at 5:30 p.m. – Regular Board Meeting

Item 9: ADJOURNMENT

Director Conrado made a motion to adjourn the meeting.

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

The meeting was adjourned at 6:49 pm.

Approved at the March 22, 2022 meeting:

Ralph Chick

Chair

Attest:


Jori Karnes

Clerk to the Board

Signature Certificate

Reference number: C6HB7-UXZFJ-DDNVA-FDP6C

Signer	Timestamp	Signature
Lori Karnes Email: admin@uticapower.net		
Sent:	23 Mar 2022 20:03:45 UTC	IP address: 96.92.110.142
Viewed:	23 Mar 2022 20:03:48 UTC	Location: Stockton, United States
Signed:	23 Mar 2022 20:04:48 UTC	

Rocky Chick Email: rockyc@uticawater.com		
Sent:	23 Mar 2022 20:03:45 UTC	IP address: 98.224.22.18
Viewed:	24 Mar 2022 03:21:35 UTC	Location: Sutter Creek, United States
Signed:	24 Mar 2022 03:21:50 UTC	

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