



# UTICA WATER AND POWER AUTHORITY

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

## Minutes of the August 24, 2021 Regular Board Meeting

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

### Directors present:

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

### Directors Absent:

- Larry Thompson, At-Large Community Board Member

### Also present:

- Joel Metzger, General Manager
- Lori Karnes, Administrative Manager
- Frank Fields, O & M Superintendent
- Kyle Rasmussen, Water 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 – 4-0-1- absent. All present said aye. Director Thompson was absent.

**Item 3: APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

- **Motion:** Director Rasmussen
- **Second:** Director Davis-Herndon
- **Board Discussion:** None
- **Public Comment:** None
- **Vote:** 4-0-1 absent
- **Ayes:** Directors Chick, Broglio, Davis-Herndon, Rasmussen
- **Noes:** None

**Item 4: PUBLIC COMMENT**

Members of the public may address the Board on items not listed on the agenda. Comments are limited to five minutes. The public is encouraged to work with staff to put items on the agenda for Board consideration. No action will be taken on items not on the agenda

- There was no public comment

**Item 5: CONSENT CALENDAR**

These items are expected to be routine and non-controversial. Unless a Board member pulls an item, all items will be approved together at one time without discussion.

- A. Approval of the minutes of the regular meeting dated 7/29/21
- B. General Manager's report (Metzger)
- C. Financial Reports 6/1/21 – 6/30/21 (Karnes)
- D. Operations report (Fields)
- E. Conveyance report (Rasmussen)
- F. Social Security Absolute Agreement Resolution 21-09 (Metzger)
- G. Drought Monitor Report (Metzger)

- **Motion:** Director Rasmussen
- **Second:** Director Davis-Herndon

- **Board Discussion:** None
- **Public Comment:** None
- **Vote:** 4-0-1 absent
- **Ayes:** Directors Chick, Broglio, Davis-Herndon, Rasmussen
- **Noes:** None
- **Abstain:** None
- **Absent:** Director Thompson

**Item 6: ADJOURN TO CLOSED SESSION**

The Board adjourned to closed session at 5:33 p.m.

- A. Public Employee Performance Evaluation Pursuant to Government Code Section 4957(b)(1) Title: General Manager
- B. Conference with Legal Counsel – Anticipated Litigation Pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(2). One Potential Case.

Closed session ended at 6:36 p.m.

**Item 7: REPORT ACTION FROM CLOSED SESSION**

The Board reconvened at 6:41 p.m.

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

Chair Chick reported that the General Manager’s contract had been adjusted

- B. Conference with Legal Counsel – Anticipated Litigation Pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(2). One Potential Case.

Nothing to report.

**Item 8: REGULAR AGENDA**

Discussion and possible action on all items

- A. Report on water supply conditions. State Water Resources Control Board emergency regulation and proposed water conservation target (Metzger)

Metzger gave an overview of the state’s water diversion curtailment orders and conservation mandates. Utica was notified to immediately curtail all diversions of natural flow under pre-1914 water rights with the following exceptions: Minimum human health and safety needs, non-consumptive uses. Use of previously stored water is not subject to curtailment. Since Utica is using previously stored water, the water is not being curtailed by the State Board’s emergency regulation.

Mr. Metzger recommended that the board approve a voluntary 15% water conservation target, consistent with what the UPUD Board approved earlier in September 2021.

The board discussed the voluntary conservation, which would only affect Utica's agricultural customers. To calculate the 15% reduction, Utica would compare 2020's usage compared to 2021's. The board discussed conservation options and the importance of showing the State Board Utica is trying to make efficient use of water during the drought emergency, even though it is not mandatory for Utica at this time. The Board also emphasized the importance of providing Utica's 16 irrigation customers with notice of the voluntary water conservation target and information on what a 15% reduction would be.

Director Broglio moved to adopt a 15% voluntary water conservation target for all of Utica's Irrigation Water Contractors compared to 2020 usage, effective immediately, and to coordinate closely with UPUD, COA and Calaveras Conserves to provide our communities with water conservation education and information.

- **Motion:** Director Broglio
- **Second:** Director Rasmussen
- **Board Discussion:** None
- **Public Comment:** None
- **Vote:** 4-0-1 absent
- **Ayes:** Directors Chick, Broglio, Davis-Herndon, Rasmussen
- **Noes:** None
- **Abstain:** None
- **Absent:** Director Thompson
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#### B. Calaveras Public Power Agency rate increase (Metzger)

Metzger gave a brief overview of the history of the Calaveras Public Power Agency. PG&E is proposing to increase rates because they must build infrastructure to supply power during peak demand, even though many customers only use peak power for a few months out of the year. PG&E has proposed a new cost structure to "smooth" rates over the entire year based on peak or average demand, rather than being charged based on monthly use. This new rate structure would lead to increased costs for CPPA member agencies. CPPA has hired legal counsel to protest this rate change, and the legal proceeding could take months to settle. Retroactively to June 1, 2021, CPPA rates are expected to increase from 0.085 per kWh to 0.09 per kWh.

### Item 9: **BOARD REPORTS AND FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

Metzger requested that the Board set a date to review the Community At Large Board applicants. The Board selected Thursday, October 7, at 5:30 p.m. to hold a special meeting to interview the applicants. The Board agreed to close the application window on August 31.

Metzger suggested a Utica System Tour for City of Angels and Union Public Utility District Board members and staff, along with other community members. The purpose of this tour is to educate and inform community leaders about where their water comes from and the challenges and opportunities on Utica's system. The Board directed staff to move forward with planning the tour for October 13.

Regarding the ReMAT Program application for Murphys Powerhouse, Metzger advised the Board that PG&E correspondence indicated Utica would not be able to schedule a Commercial Operation Date (COD) until after Utica's annual maintenance outage. He anticipates the COD to be in December 2021. The contract is expected to be executed by the end of August.

Director Rasmussen reported that Union Public Utility District (UPUD) staff notified their customers on water bills of the voluntary 15% water reduction target and sent out additional public education about conservation. He suggested Utica keep in touch with new irrigation contractors and let them know about new developments with the state's conservation mandates.

Director Broglio - None

Director Davis - Herndon - None

Director Chick - Announced upcoming meetings

**Item 10: NEXT BOARD MEETINGS**

- Tuesday, September 28, 2021 at 5:30 p.m.
- Thursday October 7, 2021, at 5:30 p.m.
- Tuesday, October 23, 2021 at 5:30 p.m.
- November meeting cancelled due to maintenance outage

**Item 11: ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:22 p.m.

Approved at the September 28, 2021 meeting:

*Ralph Chick*

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Chair

Attest:

*Lori Karnes*



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Clerk to the Board

# Signature Certificate

Document Ref.: CKGTB-4S4GA-G5KAI-7DNU2

Document signed by:

	<p><b>Lori Karnes</b> Verified E-mail: admin@uticapower.net</p> <p>IP: 96.92.110.142      Date: 15 Oct 2021 00:44:10 UTC</p>	 
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	<p><b>Rocky Chick</b> Verified E-mail: rockyc@uticawater.com</p> <p>IP: 98.224.22.18      Date: 18 Oct 2021 21:13:22 UTC</p>	 
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Page 1 of 1



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