



REGULAR BOARD MEETING AGENDA

5:30 p.m. Tuesday October 24, 2023
Utica Headquarters | 1168 Booster Way, Angels Camp, CA 95222

Join by video conference: <https://meet.google.com/ift-ojra-hxf>
Join by phone: 740-303-2745 and enter this PIN: 503 098 659#

View the meeting agenda packet: www.uticawater.com/board-meeting-minutes-agenda

UTICA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Alvin Broglio, City of Angels – Board Chair
Ralph “Rocky” Chick Union Public Utility District – Board Vice Chair
Jen Davis-Herndon, City of Angels – Board Secretary
Greg Rasmussen Director – Union Public Utility District
Gary Conrado, Community At-Large Member

ORDER OF BUSINESS

Agenda Items

1. **Call to Order / Pledge of Allegiance**

- **Meeting Called to Order:** 5:31 p.m.

2. **Roll Call**

- **Directors Present:**
 - Director Broglio
 - Director Davis-Herndon
 - Director Chick
 - Director Rasmussen
 - Director Conrado
- **Directors Absent:**
 - None
- **Utica Staff Present:**
 - Joel Metzger, General Manager
 - Kyle Rasmussen, Conveyance Supervisor

- Stacie Walker, Administrative Specialist
- Halle Bell, Administrative Technician
- **Others Present**
 - Brian Mason, Public
 - Michael Manwaring, Stantec (Virtual)
 - Jessica Self, UPUD General Manager (Virtual)

3. Approval of Agenda

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

4. Public Comment

- None

5. Consent Calendar

A. Approval of minutes from the August 3 Special Board Meeting, August 25 meeting Regular Board Meeting, and September 18 Special Board Meeting

Director Davis-Herndon said she wanted to pull Item 5A from the Consent Agenda because she had not attended one of the meetings.

- **Board Discussion:** This item is to be voted on separately because Director Davis-Herndon was not at the September 18 meeting
- **Public Comment:** None
- **Motion to approve Item 5A:** Director Broglio
- **Second:** Director Rasmussen
- **Vote:** 4-0-1
- **Ayes:** Director Broglio, Director Chick, Director Rasmussen, Director Conrado
- **Noes:** None
- **Abstain:** Director Davis-Herndon
- **Absent:** None

B. Financial reports August and September 2023 (Walker)

C. Generation Report August and September 2023 (Walker / Fields)

D. Operations Report (Fields)

- E. Conveyance Report (Rasmussen)
- F. Water supply conditions report (Metzger)
- G. Bennett request for off-season water (Metzger)
- H. Consideration of adoption of Resolution 2023-20 authorizing the General Manager to execute paperwork needed to join the Federal Surplus Property Program (Walker)

- **Board Discussion:** None
- **Public Comment:** None
- **Motion to adopt Resolution 2023-20 authorizing the General Manager to execute paperwork needed to join the Federal Surplus Property Program:** Director Chick
- **Second:** Director Conrado
- **Vote:** 5-0-0
- **Director Broglio:** Aye
- **Director Davis-Herndon:** Aye
- **Director Chick:** Aye
- **Director Rasmussen:** Aye
- **Director Conrado:** Aye

6. Regular Agenda

- A. Consideration of approval of Mason irrigation application (Metzger)

Mr. Metzger provided an overview of a request from Mr. Brian Mason for a 10 AF water contract. Mr. Mason recently purchased property next to Utica's Water Conveyance System above Murphys Powerhouse. Mr. Mason would like to create a Christmas tree farm, fruit and vegetable garden, and native plants nursery. Staff reviewed this request and have no concerns. The service hookup location will be on the penstock at an air relief valve (ARV). Irrigation requests for properties that are located in Union Public Utility District's (UPUD) service area must be approved by the UPUD Board before the connection can be made. In the future UPUD will hear these requests first. However, due to Utica's FERC relicensing efforts the UPUD general manager approves of Utica's Board taking action pending UPUD Board approval.

- **Board Discussion:** Director Rasmussen asked what domestic water Mr. Mason will use. Mr. Mason stated that his parcel has an agreement for use of an existing domestic water line. Director Conrado asked how Utica would meter the penstock. Mr. Kyle Rasmussen said they will tap in on an ARV and the irrigator may need to put in pressure reducers. Director Davis-Herndon asked if pressure reduction was built into the cost of installation. Mr. Kyle Rasmussen said the pressure reduction would be after the meter and the responsibility of the irrigator. Director Broglio suggested sending a notification to JPA members when an irrigation applicant is within their service area so member agencies can ensure backflow requirements are met.

- **Public Comment:** Mr. Mason thanked the Board for their consideration and said he's always wanted to do something like this. Pending approval, his family is looking forward to creating a Christmas tree farm, native plant nursery, and eventually livestock.
- **Motion to authorize the General Manager to execute a water contractor agreement with Brian Mason for 10 acre-feet of water, pending approval from Union Public Utility District Board of Directors:** Director Chick
- **Second:** Director Davis-Herndon
- **Vote:** 5-0-0
- **Ayes:** Director Broglio, Director Davis-Herndon, Director Chick, Director Rasmussen, Director Conrado
- **Noes:** None
- **Abstain:** None
- **Absent:** None

- B. Consideration of authorization for the General Manager to submit an initial consultation document and draft application for a small conduit exemption for the Utica Project P-2019 and Angels Project P-2699 from the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (Metzger)

Utica staff has been compiling Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) exemption applications. Mr. Manwaring of Stantec is here to provide information about what his team has been working on and what to expect moving forward. The cost to relicense in 2033 will cost over \$10 million. Relicensing will cost millions not only in 2033 but every 30 years moving forward. Due to the expense, staff reviewed alternative ways to move forward. It was determined Utica qualifies for the small conduit exemption, and it is likely the commission will grant it. The exemption is projected to cost between \$400,000 and \$1.2 million. Mr. Manwaring expects to have a better estimate by mid-2024, once the draft application is submitted and stakeholders have had time to comment. Utica has spent \$188,000 on exemption efforts to date. The FERC relicensing/exemption reserve has funds set aside for these efforts and staff is working hard to get this done with the funds that are already allocated. Mr. Manwaring said the application process could be completed in 2025, with approval by FERC and stakeholder agreements in place by 2026. If Utica goes through this exemption process and cannot come to an agreement the FERC relicensing process would be 75% done. Exemption documentation has the same requirements as the relicensing application. Staff feels strongly that it is Utica's responsibility to make water conveyance as cost-effective as possible. Once the financial burden of relicensing is eliminated, Utica's funds will be available for use on infrastructure, equipment, materials, employee retention, and growth.

- **Board Discussion:** The board is supportive. Director Conrado said even if we are unsuccessful with the exemption we can use this information, so we are not throwing money out the window.
- **Public Comment:** None
- **Motion to approve the agenda:** Director Davis-Herndon

- **Second:** Director Rasmussen
- **Vote:** 5-0-0
- **Director Broglio:** Aye
- **Director Davis-Herndon:** Aye
- **Director Chick:** Aye
- **Director Rasmussen:** Aye
- **Director Conrado:** Aye

C. Informational overview of the 2023 Maintenance Outage (Metzger, Fields, Rasmussen)*

Utica’s annual maintenance outage is scheduled to begin on October 30. Staff has been topping off reservoirs in preparation. City of Angels customers have been notified to conserve water during the first week of the outage. Staff expects the early maintenance to go smoothly but has backup plans should the need for more water arise. Mr. Rasmussen outlined the repairs he plans to make to shotcrete-lined canals and Flumes 14, 10, and 11. Other maintenance will include vegetation clearing, penstock inspections, and cleaning Angels Forebay. Mr. Rasmussen has hired temporary labor and licensed contractors to get the job done but mentions access to CalFIRE’s work crew is crucial to the outage. Mr. Rasmussen will also oversee the wastegate 24 automation project. The installation work for this project will be completed by Sutton Enterprises at the direction of Mr. Rasmussen. Metzger outlined the maintenance slated for the powerhouses. General powerhouse maintenance will include, generator cleaning, governor bet cleaning, and overspeed shaft repairs. Murphys Powerhouse will be getting new line-breakers. A governor upgrade has been scheduled as well, but due to supply chain delays the work may be completed at a later date. The outage is scheduled to be completed on December 1.

- **Board Discussion:** None
- **Public Comment:** None

7. Board / General Manager Reports, Future Agenda Items

A. Correspondence

- a. AB 1594 coalition letter concerning California Air Resources Board’s electric vehicle requirements (Metzger)

- **Board Comment:** None
- **Public Comment:** None

B. Board Reports

- a. CalOES accepted Utica’s notice of intent for the Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC) project and invited Utica to submit a full application. Utica will be competing with the rest of the nation. If the BRIC isn’t funded, the same project can be submitted to the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP). Utica qualifies for the

Prepare California Initiative, which means, that if Utica is granted the BRIC award with Prepare California, the grant will be 100%.

- b. Road repairs are going well. Not all roads are complete. There are another three or four days of work on the Tonopah Station road and a long section that needs grading and two culverts. Utica is working with FEMA closely for reimbursement.
- c. Davis-Herndon will be absent at the December Board meeting.
- d. UPUD's board meetings will be held on the fourth Wednesday starting in January 2024.

8. Upcoming Board Meetings and Calendar Events

- (Cancelled) Tuesday, November 28, 2023, at 5:30 p.m.
- Tuesday, December 12, 2023, at 5:30 p.m.

9. Adjournment

- **Board Discussion:** None
 - **Public Comment:** None
 - **Motion to Adjourn the agenda:** Director Rasmussen
 - **Second:** Director Broglio
 - **Vote:** 5-0-0
 - **Ayes:** Director Broglio, Director Davis-Herndon, Director Chick, Director Rasmussen, Director Conrado
 - **Noes:** None
 - **Abstain:** None
 - **Absent:** None
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- **Meeting Adjourned:** 7:05 p.m.

Utica Mission Statement

We are committed to preserving and protecting local control of our water resources through effective fiscal and operational management and assuring a safe and reliable water supply for municipal and agricultural stakeholders, while ensuring the quality and quantity of this precious resource for generations to come.

Americans With Disabilities Act

In compliance with Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act, 28 CFR Part 36, if you need special assistance to participate in this meeting, please contact the Utica office at (209) 736-9419 or email your request to admin@uticawater.com. Notification in advance of the meeting will enable Utica to make reasonable accommodations to ensure accessibility to this meeting. Any materials distributed to the Board that relate to an item on the agenda are available at the Utica office 72 hours prior to the scheduled meeting.

Questions?

Contact Utica at admin@uticawater.com or (209) 736-9419.

Approved at the December 12, 2023 meeting:



ALVIN BROGLIO (Dec 18, 2023 12:02 PST)

Alvin Broglio, Chair

Attest:



Stacie Walker, Clerk to the Board







10.24.23 Regular Board Meeting Minutes (approved)

Final Audit Report

2023-12-18

Created:	2023-12-18
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"10.24.23 Regular Board Meeting Minutes (approved)" History

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