

CITY OF RIVERSIDE  
BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES

Minutes of: Meeting of the Board of Public Utilities  
Date of Meeting: April 27, 2020  
Time of Meeting: 6:30 p.m.  
Place of Meeting: Virtual Meeting – Microsoft Teams

**CHAIR CALLED MEETING TO ORDER**

**ROLL CALL**

Present: Board Chair David Crohn	Ana Miramontes
Vice Chair Elizabeth Sanchez-Monville	Jo-Lynn Russo-Pereyra
David Austin	Gil Ocegüera
Jeanette Hernandez	Andrew Walcker
	Peter Wohlgemuth

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG WAS GIVEN**

Board Chair David Crohn raised the issue of taking a formal vote to change length of individual public comment from three minutes (according to Board of Public Utilities Standing Rules ) to five minutes to take place by telephone at the beginning of the meeting, as did City Council who did not take a formal vote. Assistant City Attorney Susan Wilson suggested adding this issue to the next Board agenda.

**PUBLIC COMMENT/E-COMMENT**

1. None

**CONSENT CALENDAR**

Board member Elizabeth Sanchez-Monville pulled Item #9 from Consent Calendar.  
Board member Peter Wohlgemuth pulled Item #3 from the Consent Calendar.

A motion was made to approve Items 2, 4 through 8 and 10 on Consent Calendar:

Motion – Walcker Second – Sanchez-Monville

Ayes: Crohn, Austin, Hernandez, Miramontes, Russo-Pereyra, Wohlgemuth  
(Board member Ocegüera experiencing technical difficulties and did not vote)

## Minutes

2. Board of Public Utilities Minutes - March 23, 2020 Cancelled

## Water Items

4. Recommend that the City Council approve Amendment No. 5 to the October 29, 2002, Interim Agreement between the City of Riverside and Lockheed Martin Corporation for the removal of perchlorate from water extracted from four City of Riverside wells.
5. Approve a Supplemental Agreement in response to Request for Proposal Number 2000 for the Bunker Hill Well Siting and Replacement Study with Geoscience Support Services, Inc. of La Verne, California, in an amount not to exceed \$130,714.

## Other Items

6. Approval of a five-year agreement with Cemtek Environmental, Inc., of Santa Ana, California, to provide data acquisition software support services at the Riverside power plants for \$144,650.
7. Approve the Service Agreement with Drilling Info, Inc., for online load forecasting service for Riverside Public Utilities for a term of three years for a total contract amount of \$111,240.
8. Approve the Energy Trading System Service Agreement with Open Access Technology International, Inc., of Minneapolis, Minnesota, for software applications and services for a term of thirty-six (36) months for a total contract amount of \$107,935.
10. Recommend that the City Council approve the Agreement of Purchase and Sale and Joint Escrow Instructions with the San Bernardino County Transportation Authority for the sale of a partial fee interest, a permanent easement, and a twenty-four month temporary construction easement on a portion of City-owned land, identified as Assessor's Parcel Number 0281-431-01, for the Redlands Passenger Rail Project for a total revenue of \$60,500.

## DISCUSSION CALENDAR

### Electric Items

3. Approve the expenditure in the total amount of \$68,715 with Weka, Inc., of Highland, California, for the Streetlight Installation component of Public Works Bid No. 7717 for Fiscal Year 2018/2019 Community Development Block Grant Street and Storm Drain Improvements, Phase 2 Project; and approve Work Order No. 1924329 for a total capital expenditure of \$97,000.

Assistant General Manager George Hanson explained this is the Public Utilities portion of a Public Works project (streetlight installation). Discussion ensued regarding the source of funding,

the process and residential input on public improvements funded by Community Development Block Grants. Assistant General Manager George Hanson explained the delay in the bid award date.

A motion was made to approve Item 3 on the Discussion Calendar:

Motion – Russo-Pereyra      Second – Walcker

Ayes: Crohn, Austin, Hernandez, Miramontes, Ocegüera, Sanchez-Monville, Wohlgeüuth

### Other Items

- 9 That the Board of Public Utilities consider whether to amend the Standing Rules of the Board of Public Utilities to provide rules of conduct for Board members who appear at or attend non-Board of Public Utilities meetings and provide direction to staff to prepare any such amendments.

Assistant City Attorney Susan Wilson reviewed the Board of Public Utilities Standing Rules and the City Council Standing Rules as to the rules of conduct for Board members who appear at or attend non-Board of Public Utilities meetings and advised Board as to next steps. It was agreed that clarity and specification on the role of Board Chair and Board members in a public capacity needs to be clearly differentiated between personal and professional opinion. Assistant City Attorney Susan Wilson advised this issue can be addressed as part of the Board's annual review of the Code of Ethics in August.

A motion was made to approve Item 9 on the Discussion Calendar:

Motion – Austin      Second – Russo-Pereyra

Ayes: Crohn, Hernandez, Miramontes, Ocegüera, Sanchez-Monville, Walcker, Wohlgeüuth

11. Authorize the City Manager, or his designee, to (1) implement the COVID-19 Emergency Recovery Assistance Program (ERAP) with a program amount of \$5,000,000 and (2) make adjustments to or temporarily suspend all programs funded with Public Benefit Funds except for the ERAP program in order to assist low income residential electric customers that have been adversely financially impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic, as outlined in this report; authorize a supplemental appropriation from the Electric Public Benefits Cash Reserve to the Electric Public Benefits Low Income Assistance Residential COVID-19 Program Account to fund ERAP in the amount of \$3,600,000; and consider further rate relief assistance programs for all utility customers.

General Manager Todd Corbin introduced this comprehensive assistance program in response to the March 13, 2020, COVID-19 pandemic declaration of local emergency. Power Resources Manager Tracy Sato gave a detailed, comprehensive presentation into the newly created customer assistance program for low-income and financially affected RPU customers. She explained objectives, funding, and program mechanics (application process, bill credits, data tracking, etc.). Board members shared directives such as: requirement of income reduction, dual participation in SHARE program, Public Benefits accounts, launch date after City Council approval, staff support and training. Mention of Restart program and delayed repayment was well received and supported by the Board. She summarized what other utilities are doing and their

funding sources. She detailed community outreach efforts and the ease of the application process, necessary customer identification and proof of hardship. The program will be ready to stand up after City Council approval.

A motion to approve Item 11 on the Discussion Calendar:

Motion – Oceguera      Second – Miramontes

Ayes: Austin, Crohn, Hernandez, Russo-Pereyra, Sanchez-Monville, Walcker, Wohlgemuth

### **BOARD MEMBER/STAFF COMMUNICATIONS**

12. Systematic reporting on meetings, conferences, and seminars by Board Members and/or staff: None.
13. Items for future Board of Public Utilities consideration as requested by a Member of the Board of Public Utilities: None.

### **GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT**

14. Update on Impact of COVID-19 Pandemic and Emergency Orders
15. Contracts Executed Not Requiring Board Approval – March 2020
16. Water Consultant Contract Panel Update as of April 1, 2020
17. Upcoming Meetings
18. Electric / Water Utility Acronyms

General Manager Todd Corbin updated the Board on recent COVID measures: Set up of remote 311 call center; Customer Engagement group for set up of customer assistance programs, Sewing Angels making protective face masks; continued system upgrades and timely service.

General Manager Todd Corbin requests a Budget meeting with the Board on June 1, 2020 and thanked the Board for their support on the assistance programs.

Board Chair David Crohn adjourned the meeting at 8:15 p.m. The next regular meeting of the Board of Public Utilities will be held on Monday, May 11, 2020 at 6:30 as a virtual meeting.

By:   
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Todd M. Corbin, General Manager  
Board of Public Utilities

Approved by: City of Riverside Board of Public Utilities

Dated June 8, 2020