

CITY OF RIVERSIDE

BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES

Minutes of: Regular Meeting of the Board of Public Utilities

Date of Meeting: September 28, 2020

Time of Meeting: 6:31 p.m.

Place of Meeting: Virtual Meeting – Microsoft Teams

**CHAIR CALLED MEETING TO ORDER**

**ROLL CALL**

Present:

Board Chair David Crohn  
Elizabeth Sanchez-Monville  
David Austin  
Jeanette Hernandez  
Ana Miramontes

Gil Oceguela  
Jo-Lynn Russo-Pereyra  
Andrew Walcker  
Peter Wohlgemuth

Board Member Oceguela joined the meeting at 6:46 p.m.

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

**PUBLIC COMMENT/E-COMMENT**

1. None

**CONSENT CALENDAR**

2. Surplus declaration of approximately 0.61 acres of City-owned vacant land in its as-is condition located at 7270 Bodewin Court, Assessor Parcel Number 243-460-018, formerly known as the Whitegates I Reservoir.
3. Excuse the absence of Board Member David Austin from the Board of Public Utilities regular meeting on August 24, 2020 due to a prior commitment.

A motion to approve Consent Items 2 and 3 was made:

Motion- Sanchez-Monville Second – Walcker

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

## **DISCUSSION CALENDAR**

4. Award Bid No. RPU-7782 to Pyramid Building and Engineering, Inc. for the construction of the Gage 29-3R Groundwater Well Replacement Project (Phase II) in the amount of \$1,964,543.34 including a 10% or \$196,454.33 change order authority and approve the capital expenditure for Work Order No. 1704585 in the amount of \$2,420,000.

Principal Water Engineer John Farley gave a presentation to the Board detailing background information, project location, description, fiscal breakdown and bid results. Project will begin in October 2020, lasting approximately in nine months.

## **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Jason Hunter commented on meeting delays and returning to live meetings. He commented on Measure A water funding and Gage Canal policy on cost sharing of capital improvements with Riverside Public Utilities.

Discussion ensued regarding production of Gage 29-3R Well and its relation to the declining Bunker Hill water table and related costs. Water treatment methods were discussed. General Manager, Water, Todd Jorgenson provided clarification to the issue of the Gage Canal's participation in joint projects with Riverside Public Utilities (RPU). Lockheed Martin's participation in the project was clarified for Board Members. Since maintenance of the wells are Riverside Public Utilities responsibility, Board Members commented on the need for a functional operating agreement with Gage Canal. It was suggested the Water Committee should meet to address the issue of the Gage Canal operating agreement. Water Engineer John Farley reminded the Board a portion of the project is completed. Assistant General Manager, Water, Todd Jorgenson explained the relationship with the Gage Canal and acknowledged the Board's request to engage the Gage Canal in this project. General Manager Todd Corbin spoke to the Board of the risks of delaying this project and background on the relationship with the Gage Canal and asked to move forward on this project and engage with Gage Canal as a separate issue. Board Members urged clarity and a timetable for staff to address the Gage Canal operating agreement. General Manager Todd Corbin discussed subrogating costs of project and Board discussed the cost of delaying project. Assistant General Manager, Water, Todd Jorgenson provided further information on the agreement. The Board urged staff to review the Gage operating agreement to understand equity position of each entity. Board Members were concerned that RPU ratepayers are solely funding projects benefitting Gage Canal minority shareholders unfairly. Assistant City Attorney Susan Wilson informed the Board that the City requires bidders to hold their bids open for 120 days.

A final motion was made as follows:

- 1) Approve the award of the project as per staff recommendation, and;
- 2) Refer the discussion of the Gage operating agreement to the Water Committee for consideration.

Motion – Austin                      Second – Russo-Pereyra

Ayes: Austin, Crohn, Hernandez, Ocegüera, Russo-Pereyra, Wohlgemuth

Nays: Miramontes, Walcker, Wohlgemuth

5. Award Bid No. RPU-7759 to C.P. Construction Co., Inc. for the construction of the Magnolia Avenue Techite Pipe Replacement Project (Harrison Street to Van Buren Boulevard) in the amount of \$3,705,500 including a 10% or \$370,550 change order authority and approve the capital expenditure for Work Order No. 2011305 in the amount of \$4,908,000.

Principal Water Engineer John Farley gave a presentation including background, project description, scope of project, bid and budget breakdown. Project will commence October 2020 and last four months. Principal Water Engineer John Farley informed the Board the effects of the project on the local area and outreach efforts that will be employed to the community. Discussion with the Board Members included scheduling of nighttime construction. The bid process related to vendor specifications and qualifications was clarified to the Board based on question by Board Chair Crohn. Pipeline replacement on Jefferson Street as reported was clarified for the Board. The standards of vendor selection based on bids was discussed and clarified for the Board by Principal Water Engineer John Farley.

A motion was made to approve Item 5:

Motion – Walcker      Second – Sanchez-Monville

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

6. Award Bid No. RPU-7776 to Weber Water Resources for the construction of the FY2020/21 Groundwater Well Rehabilitation Project in the amount of \$647,600; approve the capital expenditure for Work Order No. 2022393 for the Garner 7 Well in the amount of \$435,000, and Work Order No. 2022394 for the Raub 8 Well in the amount of \$385,000.

Principal Water Engineer John Farley gave a presentation to the Board explaining project background, project description, scope of work, location of Garner 7 Well and Raub 8 Well, bid results and budget breakdown.

Public comment was received for item from Jason Hunter who commented on Riverside Public Utilities funding of Phase II project on Item 4.

The Board thanked Principal Water Engineer John Farley for his participation in this evening's meeting and inquired about the priority well rehabilitation schedule.

A motion was made to approve Item 6:

Motion – Austin      Second – Sanchez-Monville

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

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

7. Systematic reporting on meetings, conferences, and seminars by Board Members and/or staff: None.
8. Items for future Board of Public Utilities consideration as requested by a Member of the Board of Public Utilities:
  - 1) Presentation on Gage Operating Agreement to full Board
  - 2) Required experience standard for bid awards

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

9. Update on Impact of COVID-19 Pandemic and Emergency Orders
10. Electric/Water Consultant Contract Panel Update as of September 1, 2020 and Water as of August 1, 2020
11. Monthly Water Report – August 2020
12. Contracts Executed Not Requiring Board Approval – July 2020
13. City Council / Committee Agendas
14. Upcoming Meetings
15. Electric / Water Utility Acronyms

General Manager Todd Corbin reported the City's Strategic Planning process is being held in conjunction with City Council and Riverside Public Utilities is participating to include many elements of Utility 2.0 Plan to ensure sustainability, renewables, assistance and leadership.

Board Chair David Crohn adjourned the meeting at 9:03 p.m.

The next regular meeting of the Board of Public Utilities will be held on Monday, October 26, 2020 at 6:30 as a virtual meeting.

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

Approved by: City of Riverside Board of Public Utilities

Dated \_\_\_\_\_