

CITY OF RIVERSIDE
BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES

Minutes of: Meeting of the Board of Public Utilities
Date of Meeting: February 10, 2020
Time of Meeting: 6:30 p.m.
Place of Meeting: Art Pick Council Chambers
3900 Main Street (at Main and Tenth Streets)
Riverside, California

CHAIR CALLED MEETING TO ORDER

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG WAS GIVEN

PUBLIC COMMENT

1. None

CONSENT CALENDAR

A motion was made to approve items 2 through 6 on the Consent Calendar:

Motion – Miramontes Second – Oceguela

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

MINUTES

2. Board of Public Utilities Minutes of January 13, 2020

BOARD ATTENDANCE

3. Excuse the absence of Board Member Gil Oceguela from the Board of Public Utilities regular meeting on January 27, 2020 due to a prior commitment.
4. Excuse the absence of Board Chair Jo Lynne Russo-Pereyra from the Board of Public Utilities regular meeting on January 27, 2020 due to illness.

OTHER ITEMS

5. Approve purchase of ninety (90) Cradlepoint cellular modems, associated equipment, and monthly cellular service fees for one year from AT&T under the NASPO ValuePoint Cooperative Purchasing Agreement MA149-1, for Advanced Meter Infrastructure communications network, in the amount of \$116,962.21.

6. Approve the 2020 annual interest rate of 0.03% to be paid on customer deposits, as provided by Riverside Public Utilities' Electric and Water Rules.

DISCUSSION CALENDAR

7. Recommend that the City Council approve the Agreement for the Sale of Surplus Potable Water and Emergency Potable Water between the City of Norco and City of Riverside for a five-year term; and authorize the City Manager, or his designee, to execute the Agreement. (Presented by Michael Plinski)

Water Engineering Manager Michael Plinski gave a presentation to the Board starting with background and history of the Water Sales Agreement between the Cities of Riverside and Norco. He detailed specific terms of agreement including delivery, pricing calculations and longevity terms. He noted RPU would receive approximately \$821,000 annually (minimum 1,000 acre feet) from surplus water sales to the City of Norco.

Malissa McKeith spoke during the public comment period against the issue on the dais.

Board discussion ensued. Questions regarding comparison to RPU Tier 3 water rates were discussed and explained. Concerns regarding the agreement duration were discussed. Water Engineering Manager Michael Plinski and Assistant General Manager Todd Jorgenson replied to questions regarding infrastructure costs, agreements with other water agencies, interruptible water delivery to Norco and uninterruptible water availability for RPU customers. General Manager Todd Corbin explained the water sales were built into the current rate structure. The rules of two agreements were clarified.

Motion – Miramontes Second – Austin

Board Member Walcker offered a substitution motion:

Recommend approval of item and:

- 1) Item returns to Board and Council after the first five year term of the contract to consider continuance and;
- 2) Annual reporting to the Board on upcoming year's rates, past year's usage price calculation.

Deputy City Attorney Anthony Beaumon pointed out that the Agreement was approved by City of Norco, therefore, any changes would need to return to their City Council. Further discussion ensued between General Manager Todd Corbin, Chair Russo-Pereyra, Board Member Walcker. General Manger Todd Corbin clarified recommendation as follows, with approval from Board Member Walcker:

Recommend approval of staff's recommendation Items 1 and 2 and ask that City Council review the availability of surplus water during year 4 of this agreement and ask staff to bring back to the Board annual reporting of cost of next year's delivery for water and amount of deliveries for the past year.

Second on the substitution motion: Sanchez-Monville

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

Water Engineering Michael Plinski added a progress report of this item will be added to each Board agenda under General Manager's Report.

8. Receive an update on California's long-term water efficiency laws, Assembly Bill 1668 and Senate Bill 606. (Presented by Robert Ennis)

Principal Legislative Analyst Robert Ennis clarified AB1668 and SB 606 establishing long term commercial and residential water use standards.

Malissa McKeith commented on surplus water sales versus state mandated restrictions and climate change issues.

Board Members discussed Riverside's commitment to local conservation. Assistant General Manager Todd Jorgenson explained water efficiencies past, present and future. Board members urged RPU to react quicker including social media for constituents, to educate and inform.

Motion – Austin Second – Ocegüera

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

BOARD MEMBER/STAFF COMMUNICATIONS

9. Systematic reporting on meetings, conferences, and seminars by Board members and/or staff:
 - Board Member Miramontes attended RPU Rate Presentation to Greater Riverside Chamber of Commerce. She noted it was well received, the information exchanged provided clarity and urged continued mutual communication and support.
10. Items for future Board of Public Utilities consideration as requested by a member of the Board of Public Utilities:
 - Board Chair Russo-Pereyra requested information on upcoming Legislative events Board members may want to attend.
 - Board Member Crohn requested an informational update on reclaimed water river restoration to the Board and City Council.

GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

11. SHARE Customer Update through December 2019
12. Riverside Public Utilities Financial Results Quarterly – October 31, 2019
13. Monthly Power Supply Report - December 2019
14. Monthly Water Report – December 2019
15. SCPPA Monthly Agenda & Draft Minutes - December 19, 2019

16. City Council / Committee Agendas
17. Upcoming Meetings
18. Electric / Water Utility Acronyms

General Manager Todd Corbin updated the Board on Employee Recognition presentation to City Council at 2:00 pm on February 11 and Rate Plan presentation at 7:00 pm.

Jennifer O'Farrell will be honored at Board and Commissions Recognition on Wednesday, March 11 at 5:00 pm.

Also coming to the Board in March: Emergency repairs to RERC and the RPU/SCPPA audit will be presented for Board and Council consideration.

Board Member Austin inquired on audit initiated last year. General Manager Todd Corbin told the Board the expenditure was approved by Council and will be presented to Council soon.

Board Member Austin adjourned the meeting at 8:04 p.m. with honorable mention to Riverside Fire Captain Richard Percival, a 30 year veteran of Riverside Fire Department. The next regular meeting of the Board of Public Utilities will be on Monday, February 24, 2020 at 6:30 p.m. in the Art Pick Council Chamber, Riverside, California.

By: 

Todd M. Corbin, General Manager
Board of Public Utilities

Approved by: City of Riverside Board of Public Utilities

Dated 2/3/2021