

AUSTIN UTILITIES

MINUTES OF MEETING

4:00 pm, February 21st, 2023

Date

Regular Meeting

Kristin Johnson

President

Members Present:

Kristin Johnson, President
Steve Greenman, Commissioner
Jeanne Sheehan, Commissioner
Jay Lutz, Commissioner
Tom Baudler, Commissioner

Others Present:

Mark Nibaur, General Manager
Alex Bumgardner, Utility Operations Director
Dan Ulland, Employee Relations Director
Melissa Swenson, Customer Service Supervisor
Kelly Lady, Marketing & Energy Services Manager

Members Absent:

President Kristin Johnson called the meeting to order.

Moved by Jeanne Sheehan, seconded by Tom Baudler, to approve the meeting agenda. Approved unanimously.

Moved by Tom Baudler, seconded by Jeanne Sheehan, to approve the regular meeting minutes of January 17th, 2023. Approved unanimously.

Moved by Jay Lutz, seconded by Steve Greenman, to approve the disbursements summary, accounts payable list, additional bills and expenses, and authorize warrants to be drawn for their payment. Approved unanimously.

Melissa Swenson, Customer Service Supervisor, presented the total HeatShare donation for 2022. Customers participating in the Round up program or making other monthly or one-time donations contributed \$2,914.60 which will help approximately 10 local families. Moved by Jeanne Sheehan, seconded by Tom Baudler to approve the HeatShare donation for 2022. Approved unanimously.

Alex Bumgardner, Utility Operations Director, presented an update to the Distributed Generation Rules. Yearly, the Board of Commissioners is required to approve the rules Governing the Interconnection of Cogeneration and Small Power Production Facilities with Austin Utilities. The 2022 Minnesota Municipal Interconnection Process (M-MIP) was also presented to the Board. Moved by Tom Baudler, seconded by Jeanne Sheehan, to approve both as presented. Approved unanimously.

Alex Bumgardner, Utility Operations Director, presented the Cogeneration and Small Power Production Tariff and Qualifying Facilities report. Both are submitted annually for review and approval. Upon approval of the Cogeneration and Small Power Production Tariff, Austin Utilities will publish a cogeneration and small power generation notice in its newsletter. Moved by Steve Greenman, seconded by Jeanne Sheehan, to approve the tariff and QF report as presented. Approved unanimously.

Alex Bumgardner, Utility Operations Director, presented an amendment to the PEAK and AU natural gas prepay agreement. PEAK and the supplier, BPEC, have created amendments to the gas supply contract which will allow for AU to roll the prepay volume into future Fixed Price deals, referred to as an Alternate Price in the Amendment. AU has been requesting this option from PEAK and BP for some time, as this will be an advantage to AU by allowing AU to layer in purchases of Fixed Price deals and achieve the discount on that price. Staff recommends the First Amendment to the Short-Term Gas Supply Contract and the First Amendment to the Gas Supply Contract be approved as presented. Moved by Jeanne Sheehan, seconded by Jay Lutz, to approve both amendments as presented. Approved unanimously.

Mark Nibaur, General Manager, once again presented options for an AU contribution to the Port Authority regarding a potential business development project at the Creekside location. Commissioners discussed the merits of the project, its impact on the development park, and setting a precedent for future Port Authority deals. The matter was tabled until the March meeting.

Dan Ulland, Employee Relations Director, provided a review of AU's Base Pay Structure (BPS) and MN's Pay Equity requirements. AU will be required to file a report every three years with the state of MN. The next filing will be in January 2024 reporting 2023 data.

Mark Nibaur, General Manager, also updated the Board on the following:

- SMMPA
- Safety committee minutes
- New IT Director Marc Oleson starts mid March

The next regular Board meeting was scheduled for 4:00 pm, March 21st, 2023.

Moved by Tom Baudler, seconded by Jeanne Sheehan, to enter a closed meeting to receive attorney-client privileged information pertaining to threatened litigation regarding a former employee and their separation from employment, pursuant to Minnesota Statute 13D.05 subdivision 3(b). Approved unanimously. Closed session begins at 5:25 pm.

Returned to open meeting at 5:44 pm.

Moved by Steve Greenman, seconded by Jay Lutz, to adjourn. Approved unanimously. Adjourned 5:45 pm.

President

Secretary