

AUSTIN UTILITIES
MINUTES OF MEETING

4:00 pm, April 21st, 2026
Regular Meeting
Tyler Hulsebus
Date
President

- Members Present: Tyler Hulsebus, President; Jay Lutz, Commissioner; Geoff Baker, Commissioner; Kristin Johnson, Commissioner; Steve Greenman, Commissioner
- Others Present: Tom Dankert, General Manager; Sarah Douty, Administrative Coordinator; Marc Oleson, Information Technology Director; Dan Ulland, Employee Relations Director; Alex Bumgardner, Utility Operations Director; Kory Robinson, Finance & Customer Care Director; Michelle Orozco, Customer Service Supervisor
- Members Absent:

President Tyler Hulsebus called the meeting to order at 4:00 pm.

Moved by Geoff Baker, seconded by Jay Lutz, to approve the agenda. Approved unanimously.

Moved by Geoff Baker, seconded by Kristin Johnson, to approve the regular meeting minutes of March 17th, 2026. Approved unanimously.

Moved by Geoff Baker, seconded by Kristin Johnson, to approve the disbursements summary, accounts payable list, additional bills and expenses, and authorize warrants to be drawn for their payment. Approved unanimously.

Public Comment – Annette Beasley, Owner of Vintage Vixens LLC, presented the Board with proposed state legislation on smart meters. Ms. Beasley also requested the Board allow her to opt-out of AU’s AMI program for her commercial property. Tom Dankert, General Manager, explained the past proposed legislation she quoted was not given attention at the capitol this session and there appears to be no interest among legislators to consider the smart meter consent issue. AU staff again explained the benefits of the AMI program and the extraordinary cost that would be incurred to continue with the current obsolete meter. Commissioner Baker thanked Ms. Beasley for sharing her concerns but said he had no interest in creating an opt-out program for commercial customers.

Michelle Orozco, Customer Service Supervisor, presented the 1st Quarter charge-offs. Commissioners asked for more information on the number of charge-offs that were tenants or landlords and if landlords can be held responsible for tenants not paying. Staff will gather more data to share at an upcoming meeting. Moved by Geoff Baker, seconded by Jay Lutz, to approve the total charge-offs for \$28,354.61. Approved unanimously.

Tom Dankert, General Manager, presented the request from the Austin Enhancement Group to donate to Austin’s Freedom Festival activities. Mark and Taylor Bliese, shared AEG’s planned events for America’s 250th anniversary this year. Commissioner Baker questioned whether the AU’s budgeted amount of \$5,000 was the best use of rate payer funds. Commissioner Greenman moved to approve a donation of \$2,500. Motion failed due to lack of a second. After a brief discussion, moved by Kristin Johnson, seconded by Steve Greenman to approve a donation of \$3,500. Motion approved 4 yeas to 1 nay (Commissioner Baker nay).

Under staff reports, Kory Robinson, Finance & Customer Care Director, reviewed the Operating Margin for 2025 finished at \$7.3m. There are 3 one-off items affecting this number. The first being the SMMPA Cash Payout. This was entered in December, offsetting Purchased Power cost for the year. The other 2 adjustments for OPEB and PERA are liability adjustments only, with no cash impact. After these adjustments the Operating Margin for 2025 finished at \$4.1m compared to a budget of \$2.7m. At this time, it is the intent to move \$1m to the Capital Improvement Fund, increasing that balance to \$4.2m. Staff also summarized the PGA(Purchased Gas Adjustment) and the PCA (Purchased Cost Adjustment) for Electric rates for April. Representatives from CLA will present the 2025 audit results at the May Board of Commissioners meeting.

Alex Bumgardner, Utility Operations Director, reviewed planned construction projects, and an agreement with Charter/Spectrum involving revenue to AU for horizontal directional drilling. He also reviewed the status of the inspection of the Downtown Reservoir and changes to personnel and additional responsibilities in the Electric department due to an employee on leave.

Dan Ulland, Employee Relations Director, provided an update on three new hires and current open positions.

Tom Dankert, General Manager, updated the Board on the following:

- SMMPA meeting minutes
- Safety committee minutes
- Past due commercial accounts
- Commissioner filing opens May 19th – Greenman and Baker up for reelection

The next regular board meeting was set for 4:00 pm on Thursday, May 21st, 2026 instead of the third Tuesday of the month due to anticipated staff absences.

Moved by Geoff Baker, seconded by Steve Greenman, to adjourn. Approved unanimously at 5:26 pm.

Secretary
President