

AUSTIN UTILITIES

MINUTES OF MEETING

4:00 pm, August 20th, 2024
Date

Regular Meeting

Steve Greenman
Vice President

Members Present:

Jeanne Sheehan, Commissioner
Tyler Hulsebus, Commissioner
Kristin Johnson, Commissioner
Steve Greenman, Commissioner

Others Present:

Mark Nibaur, General Manager
Alex Bumgardner, Utility Operations Director
Kory Robinson, Finance & Customer Care Director
Dan Ulland, Employee Relations Director

Members Absent:

Jay Lutz, President

Vice President Steve Greenman called the meeting to order.

Moved by Kristin Johnson, seconded by Jeanne Sheehan, to approve the meeting agenda. Approved unanimously.

Moved by Jeanne Sheehan, seconded by Tyler Hulsebus, to approve the regular meeting minutes of July 16th, 2024. Approved unanimously.

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

Kory Robinson, Finance & Customer Care Director, reviewed financials through June 2024. The electric department is seeing lower sales than last year and an added cost from SMMPA required an increase in the PCA which is helping recoup those costs. The water department has also seen lower consumption this year compared to the dry summer of 2023. Staff believes these sales will catch up in near future. The gas department is showing a nearly 3 million dollar deficit in sales compared to what was anticipated in the 2024 AU budget. The PGA should help recoup some of the loss if gas consumption increases as expected the rest of the year.

Dan Ulland, Employee Relations Director, presented AU's Employee Survey results. This year AU chose not to use Gallup and create their own paper survey instead. Participation was nearly 84% and only six questions were asked. Scores for the ranked questions ranged from 3.4 to 4.2 on a 5 point scale. Some themes were evident from the employees' answers. Better communication, more relationship building, need for better succession planning, more leadership follow through, and better benefits were the top answers to the question 'How can we make AU better?'. The survey committee plans to offer the survey twice a year.

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

- SMMPA meeting minutes
- Safety committee minutes
- Dave Thompson retirement
- Artworks Festival Aug 24-25

The Personnel committee has started looking at a timeline for replacing the General Manager when he retires in August of 2025. Commissioner Sheehan described the beginning of the process including updating the job description and deciding on resident requirements and length of contract. The plan is to be ready to conduct candidate interviews by early second quarter of 2025.

Commissioner Johnson suggested getting a meeting on the calendar for the Budget Committee to start working on the 2025 budget.

The next regular board meeting was set for 4:00 pm, Tuesday, September 17th. A planned work session at 7:00 am on September 17th will be need to be rescheduled due to a scheduling conflict with Kent Myers.

Moved by Jeanne Sheehan, seconded by Kristin Johnson, to adjourn. Approved unanimously. Adjourned at 5:29 pm.

President

Secretary