

AUSTIN UTILITIES

MINUTES OF MEETING

7:30 am, September 14th, 2021

Date

Regular Meeting

Steve Greenman

President

Members Present:

Steve Greenman, President
Jay Lutz, Commissioner
Kristin Johnson, Commissioner (via video call)
Jeanne Sheehan, Commissioner
Tom Baudler, Commissioner (video & in-person)

Others Present:

Mark Nibaur, General Manager
Alex Bumgardner, Utility Operations Director
Ann Christianson, Finance Manager
Dan Ulland, Employee Relations Director
Kelly Lady, Marketing & Energy Services Manager
Tom Tylutki, Electric Operations Director

Members Absent:

President Steve Greenman called the meeting to order. Due to COVID-19 limitations, some Commissioners participated through video call.

Moved by Jeanne Sheehan, seconded by Jay Lutz, to approve the meeting agenda. Approved unanimously.

Moved by Kristin Johnson, seconded by Tom Baudler, to approve the regular meeting minutes of August 19th, 2021. Approved unanimously.

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

Mark Nibaur, General Manager, and Alex Bumgardner, Utility Operations Director, presented the bids received for the NE Plant demolition project. The low bidder was VEIT with a bid of \$1,056,340. AU staff expected bids to be approximately 1.6 Million. References and some details still need to be checked so a request was made to authorize Mark Nibaur, General Manager, to officially award the bid after those checks are completed. Moved by Jeanne Sheehan, seconded by Jay Lutz, to approve authorizing the General Manager to award the NE Plant demolition project. Approved unanimously.

Mark Nibaur, General Manager, presented a potential Federal EDA grant for Creekside Business Park. The City of Austin is proposing co-submitting with AU for grant funds to develop the lots. AU's estimated cost for gas, water, and electric infrastructure is \$1,381,000. The City's portion is estimated at \$2,350,000. AU staff is requesting approval of \$5,000 to cover its half of the costs associated with the grant submittal. AU staff also noted that the Creekside work would need to be done eventually, regardless of successful grant funding. Moved by Tom Baudler, seconded by Kristin Johnson, to approve the \$5,000 payment for grant submittal costs. Approved unanimously. Commissioner Baudler left the video call to come to AU for in-person participation.

Tom Tylutki, Electric Operations Director, provided an update on AU's continuous improvement program and cost savings associated with the new Central facility. Hard cost savings like reductions in insurance, labor and equipment total over \$1.5 million in the last 5 years the Central facility has been in operation. Soft costs like savings from technology efficiencies, shift changes and staff being in one location, totaled over \$500,000. Staff also noted that during the 5 year span gas rates remained flat and electric rates decreased by 0.85%. Commissioners thanked staff for the detailed tracking and reporting.

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

- SMMPA minutes
- Safety Committee minutes
- Scheduled Budget committee meeting for Sep. 28th
- SMMPA annual meeting attendance

A scheduled Work Session will begin immediately following today's Board Meeting. The next regular Board meeting was scheduled for 4:00 pm, Tuesday, October 19th, 2021.

Moved by Tom Baudler, seconded by Jeanne Sheehan, to adjourn. Approved unanimously. Adjourned 8:35 am.

President

Secretary