

# AUSTIN UTILITIES

## MINUTES OF MEETING

4:00 pm, September 10th, 2019  
Date

Regular Meeting

Geoff Baker  
Presiding Officer

**Members Present:**

Geoff Baker, President  
Steve Greenman, Commissioner  
Tom Baudler, Commissioner  
Tyler Hulsebus, Commissioner

**Others Present:**

Mark Nibaur, General Manager  
Alex Bumgardner, Energy Resources & Utility Op. Dir.  
Ann Christianson, Finance Manager  
Tom Tylutki, Electric Operations Director  
Kim Duncomb, Customer & Employee Relations Dir.

**Members Absent:**

Jeanne Sheehan, Commissioner

President Geoff Baker called the meeting to order.

Moved by Tom Baudler, seconded by Tyler Hulsebus, to approve the meeting agenda. Approved unanimously.

Moved by Steve Greenman, seconded by Tyler Hulsebus, to approve the regular meeting minutes of August 13th, 2019. Approved unanimously.

Moved by Tom Baudler, 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.

Mark Nibaur, General Manager, and Ann Christianson, Finance Manager, presented a 2019 O&M and capital budget review and projections. Geoff Baker asked about the amount of contingency funding projected to be used. A finance committee meeting will be scheduled for October to plan the 2020 budget before presenting at the November board meeting.

Mark Nibaur, General Manager, presented Resolution No. 306 - Accepting Donations. Items accepted were a screwdriver kit and utility worker gloves. Moved by Tom Baudler, seconded by Tyler Hulsebus, to approve Resolution No. 306 as presented. Yeas - 4, Nays - 0 resolution passes.

Kim Duncomb, Employee Relations Director, presented the pay equity implementation report to be submitted to Minnesota Management and Budget. The previous report submitted in January 2018 was out of compliance. Due to implementation of Flaherty & Hood's base pay structure AU is now in compliance. Moved by Tom Baudler, seconded by Steve Greenman, to approve the report and have it submitted to Minnesota Management and Budget. Approved unanimously.

Tom Tylutki, Electric Operations Director, presented AU's plan to deploy an Advanced Metering System. A pilot project with electric metering began in 2018. The current proposal is to purchase the bulk of the electric meters for \$1.5 Million in 2020 to be installed by AU staff. The cost estimate for the entire project is estimated at \$2.8 Million with full deployment by 2023. The benefits of AMI were reviewed in depth. Commissioners asked about potentially including gas and water meters. Staff did not recommend it at this time due to less advanced technology with gas and water meters.

Alex Bumgardner, Energy Services and Utility Operations Director, presented an update on natural gas supply contracts. Five proposals were received and staff is narrowing down the choices and will report again at the October meeting.

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

- Badger Coulee Bonding
- SMMPA minutes
- Safety Committee minutes
- Ellis wellhouse damage
- Winter Readiness open house
- RFP for Health Insurance broker
- Customer rate report and new bill designs

The next regular Board meeting was scheduled for 4:00 pm, Tuesday, October 8th, 2019.

Moved by Tyler Hulsebus, seconded by Tom Baudler, to adjourn the meeting. Approved unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 5:25 pm.

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President

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Secretary