

AUSTIN UTILITIES

MINUTES OF MEETING

4:00 pm, September 17th, 2024
Date

Regular Meeting

Jay Lutz
President

Members Present:

Jay Lutz, President
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:

President Jay Lutz called the meeting to order.

Moved by Tyler Hulsebus, seconded by Kristin Johnson, to approve the meeting agenda. Approved unanimously.

Moved by Steve Greenman, seconded by Jeanne Sheehan, to approve the regular meeting minutes of August 20th, 2024. Approved unanimously.

Moved by Tyler Hulsebus, 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 Dan Kasbohm, Bobby Blank, and Dawn Lund of UFS (via online meeting) reviewed AU rate study results. A cost of service study was performed on each utility department along with rate design considerations. The presentation was for information and guidance for the board and staff over the next few years. Ultimately the preparation of the annual budget and actual costs will drive board action on annual rate/tariff changes. Staff will take the Commissioners input and work with UFS to prepare potential rate structures and adjustments to the customer service charge to share at the next meeting.

Dan Ulland, Employee Relations Director, reviewed progress on the General Manager hiring process. The job description has been reviewed with the Personnel committee and some of the criteria for applicants will be to live in Austin, be involved in community organizations and work onsite, not remotely. The timeline is still progressing with a start to opening the hiring process in January of 2025.

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

- SMMPA meeting minutes - 1 year accident free milestone
- Safety committee minutes
- SMMPA annual meeting set for Oct 16-17
- Upcoming events: Employee picnic, retirement party for Dave Thompson, Flu Shot Clinic

The next regular board meeting was set for 4:00 pm, October 15th. A planned work session at 7:00 am on October 2nd has also been scheduled.

Moved by Jeanne Sheehan, seconded by Kristin Johnson, to enter closed session pursuant to Minn. Stat. §13D.03 Subd. 1(b) for strategy relating to labor negotiations with AFSCME union. Approved unanimously at 5:50 pm.

The board meeting returned to open session at 6:20 pm. Moved by Kris Johnson, seconded by Jeanne Sheehan, to adjourn. Approved unanimously at 6:22 pm.

President

Secretary