

BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSIONERS

The special meeting of the CITY OF FARMINGTON BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSIONERS was held Wednesday, June 4, 2014 at 3:00 p.m., in the Executive Conference Room at City Hall, 800 Municipal Dr., Farmington, New Mexico, in full conformity with the laws and ordinances of the Municipality.

I. GENERAL

1. Commission members present: Amanda Weese
James Spence
Jeff Parkes
Tory Larsen
Carol Cloer
Marty Johnson
Chris Hunter

Commission members absent:

Keith Johns
Bill Standley
Vic Eicker
Bill Hall

City Council Liaison: Gayla McCulloch

City personnel present:

Water/Wastewater	Jeff Smaka
CH2MHill OMI	Ron Rosen
PUC Secretary	Amy McKinley
Utility Business Operations	Susan Nipper
Electric Utility Director	Michael Sims
Electric Transmission & Distribution	Rodney Romero
Electric Generation	Jim McNicol
Electric Engineering	John Armenta
Administrative Services	Andy Mason
Accounting	Sheree Wilson

2. Chair Weese called the meeting to order at 3:00 PM with a quorum present to conduct the business of the Commission.
3. Commissioner Cloer made a motion to approve the Minutes of the May 14, 2014 meeting. Commissioner Johnson seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

II. BUSINESS

1. NMMEAA Gas Prepay Agreement:

Mr. Sims stated the purpose for calling the special meeting of the PUC was to discuss the proposed amendment to the New Mexico Municipal Energy Acquisition Authority (NMMEAA) Gas Prepay Agreement. Mr. Sims stated this presentation was for informational purposes only and that no recommendation from the Commission was required.

Ms. Nipper reviewed a presentation detailing the current gas prepay agreement between NMMEAA and the City of Farmington as well as the changes offered in the proposed amendment. Discussion ensued regarding the proposed amended agreement.

Chair Weese asked how the situation changed so that action by the Commission was no longer necessary.

Mr. Sims stated that in discussions he had with Mayor Roberts, Mayor Roberts had some questions of his own regarding the proposed amendment and since the documentation continued to be in a state of flux, Mr. Sims and Mayor Roberts both agreed that it was unfair to ask the Commission to make a recommendation on such an important issue without more information; information staff was not prepared to offer at the time. Mr. Sims reported that Mayor Roberts stated if the Commission chose to offer a recommendation, the Mayor would be amenable to it, but the Commission was not obligated to offer a recommendation.

Chair Weese asked if the City Council would have information that was not available to the Commission at this special meeting.

Mr. Sims stated he was not aware of any information regarding this matter that would be presented to the City Council that had not already been presented to the Commission. Mr. Sims stated the information presented to the Commission was information that was only recently made available.

While a recommendation from the Commission was not required, Commissioner Hunter made a motion to recommend to the City Council the adoption of a resolution to continue the finalization of the proposed NMMEA gas prepay amendment for signature by Mayor Roberts. Vice Chair Spence seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

2. Water/Wastewater Report:

Mr. Smaka presented the Water/Wastewater report for the month of May.

Mr. Smaka reported that NMED approved funding of the waste water treatment plant Upgrade through the Clean Water State Revolving Loan Fund program. Mr. Smaka stated the loan documents are in the hands of the NMED legal department.

Mr. Smaka stated Red Oak Consulting is working on the rate study. Mr. Smaka anticipates receiving information regarding the rate study from Red Oak by the end of June.

Mr. Smaka reported on the various water and wastewater projects throughout the city.

3. Water/Wastewater Operations Report:

Mr. Rosen reported on water/wastewater operations for the month of May.

Mr. Rosen stated the household hazardous waste drop-off day was held in May and 362 cars came to the drop-off location. Commissioner Larsen stated he managed the Aztec household hazardous waste drop-off location and approximately 125 cars came through the Aztec location.

Mr. Rosen stated the meter replacement project has begun and approximately 590 meters have been installed at the date of this meeting.

4. Electric Utility Report:

Ms. Nipper presented the May and year to date Electric Utility Report. The Commission had no questions.

5. Director's Report:

Mr. Sims reported on activities of the Electric Utility. Mr. Sims stated that all of the plants are up and running. The Navajo plant is on line but operating at minimum load.

Mr. Sims stated the Compliance division continues to work on the permit process for the new outfall at the Bluffview Plant.

Mr. Sims reported on the many activities of the Engineering division and briefly reviewed the status of the contract with Ward Electric to replace a large amount of distribution poles, many transmission structures and also conductor. Mr. Sims stated this contract was recently completed and engineering staff are presently performing an audit on the activities of the contractor. Mr. Sims stated that electric utility crews are also performing similar work in areas throughout the system.

III. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Commission, upon motion duly made and seconded, the meeting was adjourned.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:46 p.m.

Approved this 9th day of July, 2014.


Amanda Weese, Chair