

FINAL

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
UTILITY ADVISORY BOARD
COUNCIL WORK SESSION ROOM
CITY HALL
FEBRUARY 24, 2009
6:02 P.M.**

1. Welcome/Roll call

Present: Lowell Hyatt, Linda Kirk Campbell, Billy Thompson, Chris Luna, Tony Torres, Gary Pickens,

Absent: Lee Alewine

Staff Present: Greg Vetrano, Aubrey Harris, Frank Hoelscher, Ray Riedinger, James Meriwether, Allan Hooks, Josh Scott, Carol Bentzlin

2. Consider Approval of the Minutes from the Regular Meeting of February 10, 2009

Mr. Torres had one change to the minutes. Item 7 currently reads: "Mr. Torres wants the Board to keep in mind that they are an advisory board only." Corrected Item 7 should read: "Mr. Torres commented that the operative word for the Utility Advisory Board is "advisory" and that the Board needs to pass advice to the City Council as soon as possible. 11."

--Motion by Mr. Thompson to accept the minutes with the change; seconded by Mr. Torres. Motion passed unanimously.

3. Consideration of Excusing Absences for UAB Members (previously #3 on agenda)

The Board will continue the same procedure as last time for excusing absences. The members will vote to approve the absence after that member leaves the room.

Mr. Hyatt presided over this item.

Mrs. Campbell left the room for the vote and the members voted on Mrs. Campbell's absence from the February 10th meeting.

--Mr. Torres made a motion to approve Mrs. Campbell's excuse for absence. Motion seconded by Mr. Thompson and passed unanimously.

Ms. Campbell returned to the room.

Mr. Luna left the room for the vote and the members voted on Mr. Luna's absence from the February 10th meeting.

--Mr. Torres made a motion to approve Mr. Luna's excuse for absence. Motion seconded by Mr. Thompson and passed unanimously.

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Mr. Luna returned to the room.

Mrs. Campbell and Mr. Luna were told that their absences had been approved.

4. Overview of GP&L Production (previously #5 on agenda)

Aubrey Harris, Production Director, began the presentation for his Department discussing plant goals, stats, objectives and ratings.

- Frank Hoelscher presented information on development and cross training of employees, goals and objectives, staff empowerment and teamwork, and the succession plan to retain knowledge.
- Ray Reidinger gave an overview on the operations, stats and administration on the Spencer Plant, Denton.
- Allan Hooks spoke on the maintenance program at the Spencer Plant, planned outages for maintenance, and the warehouse for plant parts/Production.
- James Meriwether presented the environmental aspects of running plant which included core responsibilities, new regulations, and staff awareness of the new regulations, reporting and permitting, studies, and monitor testing and budgeting.
- Josh Scott talked about the engineering projects, accomplished and in progress.
- 2008 accomplishments and preparedness drills were also reported.
- Final Statement: Production is preparing to face the future challenges in the electric market

Each employee presented slides and gave their background and experience. They answered questions from Board members.

Discussion only, no action

The UAB commented positively on the employee cross training, the expertise of the staff and the changes.

UAB requested a CD copy of the GP&L Production presentation to go out in the next agenda packet.

5. Review of proposed UAB By-Laws (previously #4 on agenda)

Chris Luna spoke with Mark Dempsey of the Legal Department about the UAB By-Laws. Adopt what the UAB wants in the By-Laws and forward to Mark for review. Then the By-Laws would go before City Council for approval. If the By-Laws follow regular business practices and don't violate the Ordinance, there should not be a problem.

Two changes to go in the ordinance would be the following:

- Meetings "should" be held monthly instead of "shall" be held monthly. A meeting may not be held due to bad weather which occurred January 24th or due to the holidays or lack of quorum and will be the discretion of the UAB Chair or Deputy Chair.

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- Absences would be accepted by the UAB via vote of the members.

After much discussion and on the recommendation of Mr. Luna and Mr. Pickens, the UAB voted to rework the UAB By-Laws to a slimmed down version, i.e. not repeating in the UAB By-Laws word for word what is already in the Ordinance. The By-Laws should only include those things that the UAB has control over...

Action: Chairman Hyatt conducted a vote and the 6 present members all voted their approval to go with the slimmed down version for the By-Laws.

Some of those items under the UAB's control will be changed as follows:

Meet once per month or if the Chairperson or Vice Chair determines that the meeting must be canceled due to the holidays, lack of quorum, inclement weather.

Excused absences: written request for approval of excused absences must be submitted.

The UAB discussed the changes to the By-Laws, with the slimmed down version in mind. Mr. Luna and Mr. Pickens will bring that revised version to the next UAB Meeting.

Mr. Torres would like some direction from City Council concerning citizen input. Citizens are allowed by the ordinance to attend UAB meetings and can be heard but how should the UAB handle these comments. Ms. Campbell asked out does the UAB interact with the public? How can we measure our success?

Action: Chairman Hyatt will check with Mayor Jones and Council's intent on handling citizen input at UAB meetings.

Under the Ordinance, Article 5, Section 1, the GP&L Director can call special meetings. Mr. Luna disagrees, that the word "or" changes the meaning.

6. Committee Reports

A. Evaluation Committee:

Mrs. Campbell said that she and Mr. Alewine would have a skeleton form ready to present for the March 24th UAB meeting

B. Assignment Committee:

Chairman Hyatt set up a committee to come up with a list of assignments or projects that the UAB might be interested in. Mr. Tony Torres and Mr. Billy Thompson will be on the committee. They asked for some guidance.

Chairman Hyatt suggested checking with Jeff Janke for a feel of what is of interest to City Council. Greg Vetrano suggested that the committee check with Ray Schwertner; Ray knows all the issues facing GP&L. Ray can be reached through Administrative Staff. One such project might be the Long Term Transmission Plan that will be coming up before the Council. Mr. Torres requested that Mr.

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Schwertner send 5 or 10 items to the committee. Mrs. Campbell suggested adding the New Energy Act to the list. Mr. Torres and Mr. Thompson will receive a list through Greg Vetrano from Ray Schwertner for the next UAB meeting.

How do UAB projects get reported to the Council? This will be determined in the future.

7. Future Agenda Items

- GP&L Finance
- GP&L 10 Year Plan
- GP&L Operations & Maintenance Plans
- Long Term Transmission plan
- 5 or 10 Key issues facing GP&L to be determined by Ray Schwertner & Staff
- Tour of electric generation plant

8. Agenda Items

- Call to Order
- Consider approving Lee Alewine's absence Feb 24, 2009
- Consider approval of minutes from Feb 24th
- Guidelines for receiving comments of Citizens
- Review UAB By-Laws
- Committee Reports: Written Briefings & Verbal Presentations
- Briefings by Staff, to be determined
- Future Agenda Projects
- Agenda Items
- Adjourn

8. Adjourn

Chairman Hyatt adjourned the meeting at 8:58 pm.

Submitted by:

Carol A Bentzlin, Secretary

Approved by:

Lowell Hyatt, Chairman