



LOS ALAMOS

County of Los Alamos
Minutes
Board of Public Utilities

1000 Central Avenue
Los Alamos, NM 87544

*Jeff Johnson, Chair; Stephen McLin, Vice-chair; Paul Frederickson, Kathleen Taylor and
Carrie Walker, Members
Tim Glasco, Ex Officio Member
Harry Burgess, Ex Officio Member
Susan O'Leary, Council Liaison*

Wednesday, October 18, 2017

5:30 PM

1000 Central Avenue
Council Chambers

REGULAR SESSION

1. CALL TO ORDER

The regular meeting of the Incorporated County of Los Alamos Board of Public Utilities was held on Wednesday, October 18, 2017 at 5:30 p.m. at 1000 Central Ave., Council Chambers. Board Chair Jeff Johnson called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

Present 7 - Board Member Johnson, Board Member McLin, Board Member Frederickson, Board Member Taylor, Board Member Walker, Board Member Glasco and Board Member Burgess

2. PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Johnson opened the floor for public comment on items on the Consent Agenda and for those not otherwise included on the agenda. There were no comments.

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mr. McLin moved to approve the agenda as presented. The motion passed by the following vote:

Yes: 5 - Board Member Johnson, Board Member McLin, Board Member Frederickson, Board Member Taylor and Board Member Walker

4. BOARD BUSINESS

4.A. Chair's Report

Mr. Johnson reported on the following items:

1) Next month, the Board will begin its annual self-evaluation. Mr. Johnson asked the Executive Assistant, Ms. Jaime Kephart, to send to the Board copies of the evaluation completed the previous year.

2) Mr. Johnson asked if another Board and Council subcommittee meeting has been scheduled yet. It has not.

4.B. Board Member Reports

Board members reported on the following items:

1) Mr. Frederickson - Mr. Frederickson provided a written report, which is included in the minutes as an attachment.

4.C. Utilities Manager's Report

Mr. Glasco provided a written report, which is included in the minutes as an attachment.

4.D. County Manager's Report

Mr. Burgess reported on the following items:

1) On October 31st, the County is hosting its annual employee appreciation event. This has traditionally been something that County Council has hosted for County employees. He invited the Board to participate as well. It is quite typical that many members of the Utilities Department are in attendance. It is a once-a-year opportunity to thank employees. There are three serving shifts at Fuller Lodge at 11:00, 12:00 and 1:00. There is also a costume contest during each shift, which Council has traditionally judged. Council would probably appreciate input from Board members if they are so inclined to participate.

4.E. Council Liaison's Report

Ms. Susan O'Leary was not in attendance. No report was given.

4.F. Environmental Sustainability Board Liaison's Report

Ms. Susan Barns provided a written report, which is included in the minutes as an attachment.

4.G. General Board Business

4.G.1 [9704-17](#) Quarterly Update on Utility System - Gas

Presenters: Jack Richardson

Deputy Utility Manager of Gas, Water and Sewer Mr. Jack Richardson presented this item. The following is the substance of the item being considered.

The Board has requested a quarterly system assessment on a different utility each quarter. This quarter, Mr. Richardson presented an update on the gas distribution system.

The Board discussed this item and requested clarification where necessary.

Mr. Burgess left the meeting at approximately 7:00 p.m.

4.G.2 [9957-17](#) Request to Move Regular December Board of Public Utilities Meeting to December 12th, 2017.

Presenters: Tim Glasco

Utilities Manager Mr. Timothy Glasco presented this item. The following is the substance of the item being considered.

Mr. Glasco is requesting that the Board consider moving the December meeting to the 12th to account for Board and staff winter holiday plans, account for Mr. Glasco's attendance at the annual UAMPS meeting in Salt Lake City on December 20th and to allow staff to obtain Board approval on agenda items earlier in December so that they can be scheduled for Council approval at their December 19th meeting.

The Board discussed this item and requested clarification where necessary.

Mr. McLin moved to change the December regular meeting to December 11th.

The motion passed by the following vote:

Yes: 4 - Board Member Johnson, Board Member McLin, Board Member Frederickson and Board Member Walker

No: 1 - Board Member Taylor

4.H. Approval of Board Expenses

There were no expenses.

4.I. Preview of Upcoming Agenda Items

4.I.1 [9917-17](#) Tickler File for the Next 3 Months

Presenters: Board of Public Utilities

The tickler uploaded to the agenda packet was not the correct file for November - January. Ms. Kephart will send the correct file to the Board.

No additional items were identified for the tickler.

5. PUBLIC HEARING(S)

There were no public hearings scheduled for this meeting.

6. CONSENT AGENDA

Mr. McLin moved that the Board of Public Utilities approve the items on the Consent Agenda as presented and that the motions contained in the staff reports be included in the minutes for the record. The motion passed by the following vote:

Yes: 5 - Board Member Johnson, Board Member McLin, Board Member Frederickson, Board Member Taylor and Board Member Walker

6.A [9989-17](#) Approval of Board of Public Utilities Meeting Minutes

Presenters: Board of Public Utilities

I move that the Board of Public Utilities approve the meeting minutes of September 20th, 2017 and October 3rd, 2017 as presented.

Mr. Johnson called for a recess at 7:26 p.m. The meeting reconvened at 7:33 p.m.

7. BUSINESS

7.A 9992-17 Presentation of an Updated Implementation Plan for the Future Energy Resources Recommendations Adopted as Policy

Presenters: Steve Cummins

Deputy Utility Manager of Power Supply Mr. Steve Cummins presented this item. The following is the substance of the item being considered.

In January 2016, the Board adopted a Strategic Policy for Electrical Energy Resources and two months later in March, the Board adopted a strategic Policy for Distributed Energy Resources (DER) and Rate Structure. The Board also directed the Utilities Manager to schedule and develop an implementation plan for the adopted Future Energy Resources recommendations and present to the Board no later than June FY17. DPU was on track to complete an Integrated Resource Plan (IRP) by August of 2017, so staff recommended delaying the June 2017 deadline until October to allow sufficient time to incorporate the findings of the IRP into the Implementation Plan. Staff presented the revised plan showing the adopted recommendations followed by a brief description of how the work will be accomplished, expected deliverables, variables and interdependency between the recommendations, decision points and an estimated cost and schedule for each.

The Board discussed this item and requested clarification where necessary.

Mr. Johnson opened the floor for public comments. Members of the public gave the following summarized comments:

1) Ms. Susan Barns, 3406 Ridgeway Drive - Ms. Barns is pleased to see that so much planning is going into the Department's carbon independence goal and commended the level of detail in the plan. With regards to the community solar garden, Ms. Barns believes community awareness has grown in the last year and asked the Board to consider the fact that interest may have increased since the last survey. With regards to the small modular reactor project, she hopes that the Department is planning for likely delays and that there are contingencies in place if the project doesn't come together at the expected time.

2) Mr. Robert Gibson, 1465 Camino Redondo - Mr. Gibson is gratified that the Board and staff have pursued so diligently the many complex issues involved in pursuing the carbon neutrality goal. With regards to pumped hydro storage, he has a different opinion on buffering renewables than was otherwise expressed in Mr. Cummins' presentation. If renewables are going to be a major component of electric supply, then storage will be necessary. Mr. Gibson discussed some of the challenges with battery storage and some of the benefits and challenges of pumped hydro storage technology. Rather than postponing research on this option, he recommended that staff research it more now so that it can be fully considered as a possible storage solution. He suggested a very high-level feasibility study for both pumped hydro and other local storage options.

The following actions were identified for follow-up:

ATTACHMENT
OFFICER REPORTS
SUBMITTED AT THE MEETING

Board Member's Report
Paul Frederickson
October 18, 2017

We might encourage more rooftop solar installations, at customer expense, and provide county-wide backup. An engineering/economic analysis would determine if this makes good economic sense.

As electric vehicles become more common in the LANL parking lots we may be able to provide low cost metered electricity in some of the parking lots with the understanding that the flow of electricity would reverse for a few minutes while our gas turbines rev up.

We may also want to consider building an array of mirrors heating a phase change liquid in the tower. The turbines would continue running when a cloud rolls over the facility, for the pumps would bring up hot liquid from the insulated underground storage facility for the duration. This would also require a cost analysis!

Paul Frederickson

MANAGER'S REPORT

October 18, 2017

1. Traveled to Idaho Fall, ID for UAMPS Board Meeting and retreat. Discussed having UAMPS and NuScale come out for joint BPU/CC meeting before the two bodies will be asked to consider the Power Sales Contract, which basically obligates the County for the next phase of the CFPP (approx. \$425K).
2. A news article appeared on KOB Channel 4 news about partnerships between the County and Bandelier NM. Particularly mentioned is the partnership with the electrical system upgrade at the park.
3. PNM is proposing to extend the life of the San Juan Generating Station for three months, from June, 2022 until September, 2022 in order to get through the peak summer electrical demand season before shutting down their largest generating asset. We will be meeting with the other Owners on October 26 to discuss.
4. Meetings have been scheduled with large commercial customers during the month of October. So far Plateau Properties, LAMC, LACDC, LANL, UNMLA and LANB have been scheduled.

DRAFT - These minutes have not yet been approved by the Board of Public Utilities.
Environmental Sustainability Board (ESB) liaison report

Susan Barns, ESB Liaison *10/18/2017*

Recent activities include:

- A presentation on construction and demolition recycling by El Paso C&D Recycling
- Informational audit of recycling carts, to determine how many are in use, what sizes, how often they are set out, etc. to help our Environmental Services Dept. insure that collection services are used as efficiently as possible.
- Proposal, and tabling, of a Wildlife Ordinance that would prescribe measures to reduce bear activity, and help keep humans and bears safe. We received a lot of public comment, as well as information from NM Game and Fish experts, and will continue to discuss and revise the ordinance. Environmental Services will also be making heavy-duty bear proof roll carts available to customers.
- Promotion of and participation in the EcoChallenge, which provides a fun way for residents to conserve resources, reduce carbon emissions, and change other habits to live more sustainably. We have 12 teams competing, including schools, church groups, the LAC Green Team and others. The EcoChallenge ends on Oct 25, and we will have an awards celebration during the Recycle Fashion Show.

Upcoming activities include:

- Review of the updated Los Alamos County Environmental Sustainability Plan, including progress on water, energy and greenhouse gas emission goals.
- A presentation on the Night Sky cooling system installed at the Eco Station
- The Recycle Fashion Show will be held on Friday, Nov 3 at 7 pm at Fuller Lodge. We invite everyone to attend this festive and fun event!