



LOS ALAMOS

County of Los Alamos

Minutes

Board of Public Utilities

1000 Central Avenue
Los Alamos, NM 87544

*Cornell Wright, Chair; Stephen McLin, Vice-chair;
Eric Stromberg, Steve Tobin and Carrie Walker Members
Philo Shelton, Ex Officio Member
Steven Lynne, Ex Officio Member
James Robinson, Council Liaison*

Tuesday, September 7, 2021

1:00 PM

Remote Zoom Meeting:
<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/81844189487>

Special Session

1. CALL TO ORDER

A special meeting of the Incorporated County of Los Alamos Board of Public Utilities was held remotely on Wednesday, September 7th at 1:00 p.m. Board Chair Cornell Wright called the meeting to order at 1:05 p.m.

BPU members and staff participated via Zoom online video conferencing platform. This social distancing was to comply with the recommendations of the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) to prevent the spread of COVID-19. Members of the public were able to live-stream the meeting online and submit public comment. The following board members were present:

Present 6 - Vice Chair McLin, Board Member Stromberg, Board Member Tobin, Board Member Walker, Board Member Shelton and Chair Wright

Absent 1 - Board Member Lynne

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mr. McLin moved that the agenda be approved as presented. The motion passed by the following vote:

Yes: 5 - Vice Chair McLin, Board Member Stromberg, Board Member Tobin, Board Member Walker and Chair Wright

3. BUSINESS & PUBLIC COMMENT

[14736-21](#)

Strategic Planning for the Department of Public Utilities

The Utilities Manager is expected to annually develop strategic objectives and long-term goals and present them to the Board for approval. The Utilities Manager has scheduled a meeting on September 30th for staff to

begin strategic planning for fiscal year 2023. Staff plans to return to the Board at the September 15th regular meeting to present and request approval of any proposed revisions to the Mission, Vision, Values, Strategic Goals and Objectives. Prior to that, staff would like the Board's input to incorporate into planning efforts to ensure alignment of focus areas, strategic objectives and goals with Board and County priorities.

Ms. Dawn Reed, a consultant from Human Strategies, LLC was present to facilitate the meeting and gather feedback. Items 3.a. through 3.f. below are derived from the meeting schedule that she distributed. Revisions made to documents are attached to the minutes.

3.a. Review DPU Mission/Vision/Values

3.b. Review DPU FY2022 Focus Areas and Goals

3.c. Public Comment

Mr. Wright opened the floor for public comment on Current Focus Areas and Goals and items not otherwise included on the agenda. There were no comments.

RECESS

Chair Wright called for a recess at 2:52 p.m.
The meeting reconvened at 3:02 p.m.

3.d. Prioritize DPU Objectives

Ms. Reed clarified that since Goal 1.0 is part of the DPU's Mission Statement voting would only occur for Goals 12.0 through 6.0. Mr. Shelton and Mr. Wright also stated that Goal 1.0 is priority and not voting on that item is not intended to diminish its importance (see attached).

3.e. Possible new Focus Areas, Goals, Objectives

"Educate Board Members on markets, contracts, and production options for electricity and solar."

3.f. Public Comment

Mr. Wright opened the floor for public comment on any items. There were no comments.

3.g. Verbal Prioritization; Plus/Delta

Plus (no pluses)

Delta

1. More votes/fractional votes to spread across the objectives
2. Separate the goals from what we do every day (Goal 1)
3. Don't eliminate Focus Area 1; ensure that communication of priorities to the department and public emphasize the importance of Focus Area 1.
4. Meetings are better when conducted in person
5. Have Deputy Managers participate more

4. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Wright adjourned the meeting at 3:39 p.m.

APPROVAL:

Cornell Wright, Jr

Board of Public Utilities Chair Name



Board of Public Utilities Chair Signature

September 15, 2021

Date Approved by the Board

September 7, 2021

BPU Special Meeting

Strategic Planning

FOCUS AREA - FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE

♥ →	2.1 OBJECTIVE - Utilize revenues to provide a high level of service while keeping rates competitive with similar utilities.
→	2.2 OBJECTIVE - Conduct cost of service studies for each utility at least every 5 years.
♥	2.3 OBJECTIVE - Meet financial plan targets by 2025, water by 2028.
♥ →	2.4 OBJECTIVE – Achieve workplans while operating within budget.

FOCUS AREA - CUSTOMERS & COMMUNITY

♥ → ✓	3.1 OBJECTIVE - Customer service processes and systems are efficient, secure and user-friendly.
	3.2 OBJECTIVE - Stakeholders are engaged in and informed about Utilities operations affecting the community.
	3.2.1 OBJECTIVE – Conduct a community survey of the new conservation objectives.

FOCUS AREA - WORKFORCE

✓	4.1 OBJECTIVE - Leaders invest in employee training and professional development.
→	4.2 OBJECTIVE - Employees promote a culture of safe, ethical and customer focused behavior.
♥	4.3 OBJECTIVE - Employees are engaged, satisfied and fairly compensated.

FOCUS AREA - ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

✗ ♥	★ ✗ ✗	5.1 OBJECTIVE - ELECTRIC (EP & ED) Be a carbon neutral electric provider by 2040.
	★ ★	5.2 OBJECTIVE - Electric efficiency is promoted through targeted electric conservation programs. Increase local solar peak production to 6 MW by 2040. (This is 30% of local solar produced based on LAC peak load of 18 MW)
	★	5.3 OBJECTIVE - WATER (DW) – Reduce potable water use by 12% per capita per day by 2030 using a 2020 calendar year-end baseline.
	★ ★ ✗ ✗	5.4 OBJECTIVE - GAS – Reduce natural gas usage by 5% per capita per heating degree day by 2030 using a 2020 calendar year-end baseline and support elimination of natural gas usage by 2070.
→	✗ ✓ ✓	5.5 OBJECTIVE - SEWER (WT) – Provide Class 1A effluent water in LAC

FOCUS AREA - PARTNERSHIPS

✓	6.1 OBJECTIVE - Communicate with stakeholders to strengthen existing partnerships and identify new potential mutually beneficial partnering opportunities
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STAMP ASSIGNMENTS:

McLin – Arrow →

Stromberg – Check ✓

Tobin – X Mark ✗

Walker – Star ★

Wright - Heart ♥