



LOS ALAMOS

County of Los Alamos

Minutes

Board of Public Utilities

1000 Central Avenue
Los Alamos, NM 87544

Robert Gibson, Chair; Eric Stromberg, Vice-chair
Matt Heavner, Charles Nakhleh and Jennifer Hollingsworth, Members
Philo Shelton, Ex Officio Member
Anne Laurent, Ex Officio Member
Suzie Havemann, Council Liaison

Wednesday, June 25, 2025

5:30 PM

Municipal Building, B&C Rm #110

Public Participation: in person or <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/85828927209>.

1. CALL TO ORDER

This regular meeting of the Incorporated County of Los Alamos Board of Public Utilities was held on Wednesday, June 25, 2025 at 5:31 p.m. Members of the public were notified of the ability to participate and provide public comment in-person or over Zoom.

The following board members were in attendance:

Present - 6: Members Gibson, Stromberg, Heavner, Hollingsworth, Shelton, and Laurent

Remote - 0: Member

Absent - 1: Member Nakhleh

Others in attendance in Chambers:

Suzie Havemann, Council Vice Chair / BPU Liaison

Thomas Wyman, Assistant County Attorney

Stephen Marez, Deputy Utility Manager - Electric Distribution

Joann Gentry, Deputy Utility Manager - Finance & Administration

James Alarid, Deputy Utility Manager - Engineering

Ben Olbrich, Deputy Utility Manager - Power Supply

Cathy D'Anna, Public Relations Manager

Dennis Astley, Electrical Engineering Manager

Shannon Blair, ESB Liaison

Kathy Casados, Executive Assistant

Zachary Parlman, Information Management

Zoom participants:

Clay Moseley, Deputy Utility Manager - GWS Services

Angelica Gurule, Sustainability Manager

Elliot Popel, 1898 & Co.

Jake Wells, 1898 & Co.

Josh Loyd, 1898 & Co.

Joni Arends, CCNS

2. PUBLIC COMMENT

Chair Gibson provided an opportunity for public comment on the Consent Agenda or those

not otherwise included on the agenda. There was none.

No action was taken on this item.

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Chair Gibson called for amendments to the agenda or a motion for approval.

Member Heavner moved and Member Hollingsworth seconded that the agenda be approved as presented.

The motion passed by the following vote:

YES - 4: Members Hollingsworth, Heavner, Stromberg and Gibson

NO - 0:

Absent - 1: Member Nakhleh

4. CONSENT AGENDA

Chair Gibson called for amendments or a motion for approval.

Member Heavner moved and Member Hollingsworth seconded that the Board of Public Utilities approve the items on the Consent Agenda as presented and that the motions in the staff reports be included in the minutes for the record.

The motion passed by the following vote:

YES - 4: Members Hollingsworth, Heavner, Stromberg and Gibson

NO - 0:

Absent - 1: Member Nakhleh

- 4.a [19714-25](#) Approval of Board of Public Utilities Meeting Minutes - May 7 and May 21, 2025

I move that the Board of Public Utilities approve the minutes for the May 7 and May 21, 2025 meetings as presented.

5. PRESENTATIONS

- 5.a. [19930-25b](#) Discussion of the Draft Electrification Study

Mr. Stephen Marez, Deputy Utility Manager - Electric Distribution introduced Mr. Dennis Astley, Electrical Engineering Manager. Mr. Astley reported that at the June 4, 2025 BPU Work Session from 1898 & Co - a division of Burns and McDonnell Engineering Consultants, presented a preliminary report on the electrification study commissioned by the Board of Public Utilities demonstrating their assumptions on conversions of gas appliances and gasoline cars to all electric appliances and electric vehicles. The Board requested that they return and provide a draft of their findings to date. Mr. Jacob A. Wells, Mr. Elliott J. Popel, and Mr. Josh Loyd of 1898 & Co, presented remotely over Zoom. The discussion reviewed Chapters 1- 4 and the draft was included in the meeting packet as Attachment A.

Chair Gibson provided an opportunity for comments and questions from the board. The following individuals spoke:

1. Member Hollingsworth
2. Member Stromberg

3. Mr. Marez
4. Member Heavner
5. Member Gibson

No action was taken on this item.

RECESS (8:00 - 8:10 p.m.)

6. PUBLIC HEARINGS (None)

No action was taken on this item.

7. DEPARTMENT BUSINESS

7.a. 19708-25 Annual Update on the Wastewater System

Mr. Clay Moseley, Deputy Utility Manager - GWS Services participated remotely. A copy of his presentation slides were included in the meeting packet. Due to time constraints, he provide a quick synopsis. He also commended Ms. Cathy D'Anna and Ms. Abbey Hayward for their public outreach highlighting non-flushable items. He has received a lot of positive feedback from the community. Chair Gibson provided an opportunity for comments or questions from the board, there were none.

No action was taken on this item.

7.b. 19709-25 Department of Public Utilities Quarterly Report for Fiscal Year 2025 - Quarter 3

Ms. Catherine D'Anna, Public Relations Manager presented; a copy of the full publication was included in the meeting packet and is also available online: <https://ladpu.com/FY25Q3>. Due to time constraints, she provided some quick highlights. She also commended Mr. Ricardo Lambert and Mr. Isaiah Martinez from GWS Division who have assisted with community outreach activities. Chair Gibson provided an opportunity for comments or questions from the board; there were none.

No action was taken on this item.

7.c. 20209-25a Award of Bid No. IFB 25-45 for the Purpose of Purpose of the Trinity Drive Primary Electric Replacement with DUB-L-EE LLC. in the Amount of \$988,917.01 plus a 20% Contingency in the Amount of \$197,783.40, and Applicable Gross Receipts Tax for the Term of Six Months

Mr. Stephen Marez, Deputy Utility Manager - Electric Distribution presented. Chair Gibson provided an opportunity for comments and questions from the board. The following individuals spoke:

1. Member Stromberg

Chair Gibson provided an opportunity for public comment; there was none. He then called for further discussion or a motion.

**Member Stromberg moved and Member Hollingsworth seconded that the Board of Public Utilities approve the Award of Bid No. 25-45 for the Purpose of the Trinity Drive Primary Electric Replacement with DUB-L-EE LLC. in the Amount of \$988,917.01 plus a 20% Contingency of \$197,783.40, and Applicable Gross Receipts Tax for the Term of Six Months and forward to Council for approval.
The motion passed by the following vote:**

YES - 4: Members Hollingsworth, Heavner, Stromberg and Gibson

NO - 0:

Absent - 1: Member Nakhleh

8. BOARD BUSINESS

8.a. Chair's Report

Chair Gibson reported that:

1. He presented to the League of Women Voters on June 19th for their "Lunch with a Leader" event.
2. He contributed some research to Sandia National Laboratory on the Los Alamos County Power System. They have presented their findings, which focused on electric growth in the country. Unfortunately it did not mention Los Alamos County.
2. He will represent the BPU at Farmers Market on Thursday, June 26th.

No action was taken on this item.

8.b. Board Member's Reports

Chair Gibson provided an opportunity for board members to report. There were no individual reports.

No action was taken on this item.

8.c. Utilities Manager's Report

Mr. Shelton reviewed his written report which is attached to the minutes. He provided summarized comments and Chair Gibson provided an opportunity for comments or questions from the board; there were none.

No action was taken on this item.

8.d. County Manager's Report

Ms. Laurent reported that:

1. The County now has Electric Golf Carts.
2. The front half of the Golf Course will be opening soon.
3. The DP Road projects are finally complete.
4. Collection of Gross Receipts Taxes has been lower than anticipated.
5. Fourth of July festivities will be held at Ashley Pond. Central and 20th Streets will be closed. There will be a drone show in lieu of fireworks. She encourage everyone to utilize free bus service from White Rock and townsites.

Chair Gibson provided an opportunity for comments and questions from the board. There were none.

No action was taken on this item.

8.e. Council Liaison's Report

Vice Chair Havemann provided quick updates from the June 10, 17, and 24 Council meetings. Chair Gibson provided an opportunity for comments and questions from the board; there were none.

No action was taken on this item.

8.f. Environmental Sustainability Board Liaison's Report

Ms. Shannon Blair attended in person and asked everyone present to please take the EV Survey. The survey can be accessed at <https://lacnm.com/EVSurvey> and will remain open until 11:59 p.m. on Thursday, July 31, 2025. She had no other items to report.

No action was taken on this item.

8.g. General Board Business

No action was taken on this item.

8.g.1. [20051-25](#) Open Meetings Act Training

In the interest of time and due to the scheduled Closed Session, Chair Gibson stated that this item would be postponed until the July 16 regular session.

No action was taken on this item.

8.g.2. [19711-25b](#) Approval of the Board of Public Utilities Annual Presentation to County Council

Chair Gibson reviewed the final draft of the presentation and an additional slide which was distributed at the meeting. He also presented a few revisions for discussion. Chair Gibson then provided an opportunity for questions and comments from the board; there were none. He provided an opportunity for public comment; there was none. Chair Gibson then called for discussion or a motion.

Member Heavner moved and Member Hollingsworth seconded that the Board of Public Utilities approve the Annual Presentation to Council and Chair Gibson's delivery of the presentation at the June 15, 2025 Council meeting.

The motion passed by the following vote:

YES - 4: Members Hollingsworth, Heavner, Stromberg and Gibson

NO - 0:

Absent - 1: Member Nakhleh

8.h. Board Expenses

8.h.1. [20207-25b](#) BPU Educational Opportunity: UAMPS Annual Member Conference - August 17-19, 2025

Chair Gibson introduced the topic and asked board members if anyone was interested in attending. None of the board members present indicated that they could participate.

No action was taken on this item.

9. STATUS REPORTS

19715-25 Status Reports - May 2025

Chair Gibson stated that in the interest of time he would not have Mr. Shelton review the reports. He then provided an opportunity for questions or comments from the board; there were none.

No action was taken on this item.

10. UPCOMING AGENDA ITEMS

19716-25 Tickler File for July - September 2025

Chair Gibson quickly reviewed the upcoming agenda items. He then provided an opportunity for questions or comments from the board and staff. The following individuals spoke:

1. Member Heavner
2. Vice Chair Havemann
3. Mr. Shelton
4. Mr. Marez

No action was taken on this item.

11. PUBLIC COMMENT

Chair Gibson provided an opportunity for public comment on any topic; there was none.

No action was taken on this item.

12. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 9:08 p.m.

APPROVAL

Board of Public Utilities Chair

Date Approved by the Board

Minutes transcribed by: Kathy Casados, Executive Assistant

ATTACHMENTS

(in agenda order):

- 7.c. Award of IFB 25-45, new Attachment C - Trinity Dr Traffic Impact
- 8.c. Utilities Manager's Report 6/25/2025
- 8.g.2. BPU Presentation, Attachment A - New Slide #11



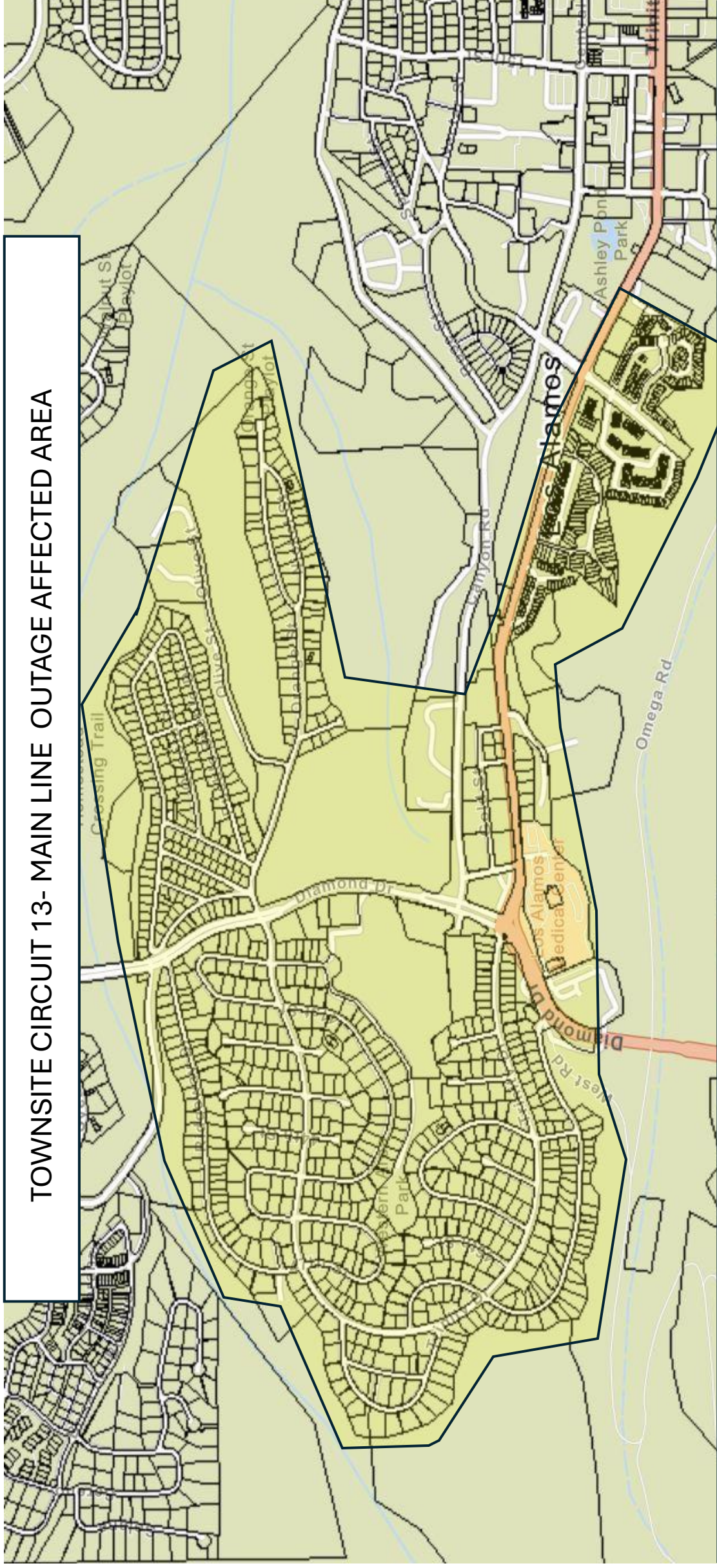
BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES

ADDITIONAL MEETING DOCUMENTS

Additional or revised information or documents are often distributed to members at the meetings.
Whenever possible, this informational cover page will accompany those documents.

MEETING DATE	June 25, 2025 – Regular Session
AGENDA ITEM	7.c. Award of Bid No. IFB 25-45 for the Purpose of the Trinity Drive Primary Electric Replacement ...
ATTACHMENTS	C – Trinity Drive Traffic Impact
NEW OR REVISED? Is this a revision that is different from what was in the agenda packet, or is it something entirely new?	NEW
RECOMMENDED ACTION If you have a new or revised recommended motion for the Board, enter it here.	NO CHANGES
ADDITIONAL INFORMATION Please VERY BRIEFLY explain the purpose of this information or document.	Additional information provided by Stephen Marez.

TOWNSITE CIRCUIT 13- MAIN LINE OUTAGE AFFECTED AREA



THE AFFECTED AREA INCLUDES THE LOS ALAMOS MEDICAL CENTER, WESTERN AREA, SKI HILL AND RESIDENTIAL AREAS ON OPPENHEIMER. 1655 CUSTOMERS

TRINITY DRIVE SOUTH SIDE ELECTRIC TRENCH AND TRAFFIC IMPACT.
THE ORANGE SECTION WILL BE A TRAFFIC CONTROL BUFFER FOR
CONTRACTOR TO EXCAVATE UNDER OR BEHIND THE SIDEWALK.
TRENCH FROM OPPENHEIMER TO TIMBER RIDGE.

— TRENCH PATH UNDER SIDEWALK
— REDUCED TRAFFIC LANE

Trinity Drive (NM 502)

TRINITY DRIVE NORTH SIDE ELECTRIC TRENCH AND TRAFFIC IMPACT.
THE ORANGE SECTION WILL BE A TRAFFIC CONTROL BUFFER FOR
CONTRACTOR TO EXCAVATE UNDER OR BEHIND THE SIDEWALK



— TRENCH PATH UNDER SIDEWALK
— REDUCED TRAFFIC LANE

Utilities Manager's Report
June 25, 2025

1. For Elk Ridge, Yes Communities held a preconstruction meeting to build a new gas line and when it is completed it will be turned over to the County. It is anticipated that construction will commence after the 4th of July holiday weekend and last about 90 days. DPU will need to upgrade all the gas meters as part of this renewal project, and it is budgeted in the CIP fund.
2. DPU has a few openings; a business operations manager, engineering associate, and two billing and service specialists.
3. There are many changes in Washington D.C. that are impacting DPU. I was informed that the proposed award for the Jemez Fire Protection Project at just under \$5 million budget, that any amount over \$100,000 that FEMA is going to obligate must be personally approved by Secretary Noem, which unfortunately adds additional delays to this potential grant award. Likewise, for the ECA, we were informed yesterday that the draft final ECA agreement that will essentially be a complete contract with terms, conditions and operating procedures will require "S1 sign off" or Secretary approval. I asked how long this new procedure will take and was given a 60-day timeline. I expressed my frustration and NNSA shared that they are equally frustrated and explained that they get new direction in the morning and later that day get updated direction and then a few days later receive a court order to reverse the latest direction. Essentially the federal government is in gridlock. I asked our Intergovernmental Affairs Manager to assist us on how to push these projects along and she is checking with her federal contacts. Next, the proposed "Big Beautiful Big (BBB)" has many provisions to remove production and investment tax credits for new wind and solar projects. However, we were informed by DESRI that the Foxtail Flats project has met the definition of commencing construction and should not be impacted by BBB, because they have initiated the installation of the transmission grade transformers for the project. While all the sub-agencies have given this project a green light, DESRI is anticipating receiving a FONSI from BIA any day now. Finally, San Ildefonso has shifted gears from the solar and battery storage project to a geothermal project because these tax credits are proposed to remain in place and the State of NM has some funding to explore geothermal sites. More details to come on this project change.
4. UAMPS held project meetings this month. The Cove Fort II project is actively working on a Power Purchase Agreement (PPA) that is subject to receiving transmission rights for the project. This PPA is proposed to be ready in August, and we will then need to decide after that point on proceeding with the project at the proposed subscription rate of 4 MW with commercial operation date of 2030. The Rodatherm project has not yet obtained project financing, and it will most likely not meet their June 30th deadline. Finally, CFPP LLC has come to terms with the DOE and NuScale on the value of the commercial assets. The project will close out by October 1, 2025, and my board position as chair should wrap up by year end as there will be a close out audit to complete after October 1st.

5. DPU's charter requires a review of our operations every five years, and I have been exploring programs to participate in for the next one to be performed in 2030. We just completed the APWA accreditation that was more focused on water and sewer operations, and I have been attending noon trainings on APPA's Reliable Public Power Provider (RP3) Program that is electric operations focused. The RP3 program is based on industry-recognized leading practices in four important disciplines: Reliability, Safety, Workforce Development, and System Improvement and has a large peer review committee of industry experts. I believe there is great benefit for DPU to participate in this program as part of our next review, and I will propose bringing this back to BPU for consideration.
6. Attended Kit Carson Electric Coop's annual meeting. The Questa solar/hydrogen storage and fuel cell project is having a hydrogen safety assessment performed and the project is in the preliminary engineering stage. I spoke to the general manager about if there will be any additional capacity to share with LAC, and he said he would know more after the preliminary engineering study is completed later this year. Another interesting note is that Kit Carson only allows solar projects coupled with battery storage. The reason given is they are already 100% supplied with daytime solar, and any new solar installations would be wasted energy.
7. We are planning a water well tour for Friday, July 11 from 10 to 12:30 and based on participation, we will offer more tours in the future. Please be on the lookout for an email if you are interested in signing up.



BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES

ADDITIONAL MEETING DOCUMENTS

Additional or revised information or documents are often distributed to members at the meetings.
Whenever possible, this informational cover page will accompany those documents.

MEETING DATE	June 25, 2025 – Regular Session
AGENDA ITEM	8.g.2. Approval of the Board of Public Utilities Annual Presentation to County Council
ATTACHMENTS	A – BPU Presentation to County Council
NEW OR REVISED? Is this a revision that is different from what was in the agenda packet, or is it something entirely new?	REVISED – A new slide was added, which is now #11.
RECOMMENDED ACTION If you have a new or revised recommended motion for the Board, enter it here.	NO CHANGES
ADDITIONAL INFORMATION Please VERY BRIEFLY explain the purpose of this information or document.	Additional information provided by Chair Gibson.

Electric Distribution Study: Preliminary/Partial Results

- Existing system needs renewal
- 2055 peak loads (MVA \approx MW)

<u>Scenario</u>	<u>Load</u>
1 (high)	70
2 (med.)	52
3 (low)	37
Present	22

} New Eastgate substation req'd

- “Hosting Capacity” sufficient for much more
“rooftop” PV