

**ACTION MINUTES OF
BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSIONERS
CITY OF TULARE**

June 15, 2017

A regular session meeting of the Board of Public Utilities Commissioners, City of Tulare, was held on Thursday, June 15, 2017, at 7:00 p.m., in the Tulare Public Library & Council Chambers.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: James Pennington, Howard Stroman, Gregory Blevins, Thomas Griesbach, Erica Cubas

STAFF PRESENT: Joe Carlini, Sarah Tobias, Trisha Whitfield, Darlene Thompson, Michael Miller, Jason Bowling, Tim Doyle, Nick Bartsch, Melissa Hermann

I. CALL TO ORDER:

President Pennington called the regular meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Board Member Blevins led the Pledge of Allegiance and an invocation was given by Vice President Stroman.

III. CITIZEN'S REQUEST OR COMMENTS:

President Pennington advised that comments from the public are for items within the jurisdiction of the Board. Speakers will be allowed three minutes.

There were no citizen comments presented.

IV. COMMUNICATIONS:

There were no items for this section on the agenda.

V. CONSENT CALENDAR:

It was moved by Board Member Blevins, seconded by Board Member Griesbach, and unanimously carried that the items on the Consent Calendar be approved as presented with the exception of items 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, and 7.

(1) Approve minutes of June 1, 2017 regular meeting(s).

(2) Receive the Public Works performance reports for May 2017. Board Member Blevins pulled this item to inquire about the measurement used on the Water Conservation dashboard. City Manager Joe Carlini, Water Utility

Supervisor Tim Doyle, and Interim Public Works Director Jason Bowling provided a response thereto. Board Member Blevins inquired about the water waste tickets issued. City Manager Joe Carlini, Water Utility Supervisor Tim Doyle, Interim Public Works Director Jason Bowling, and Finance Director Darlene Thompson provided a response thereto. Board Member Blevins inquired about the amount paid to Hydros Agritech in June. A copy of the invoice was provided to the Board. City Manager Joe Carlini provided a response thereto. Patrick McLafferty of Hydros Agritech provided additional information in regard to questions asked by the Board.

Following a lengthy discussion, it was moved by Board Member Blevins, seconded by Vice President Stroman, and unanimously carried to accept the item as presented.

- (3) **Accept Public Works Monthly Water System Report.** Board Member Griesbach pulled this item to inquire about the number of connections for May 2017. City Manager Joe Carlini and Interim Community and Economic Development Director Michael Miller provided a response thereto.

Following discussion, it was moved by Vice President Stroman, seconded by Board Member Griesbach, and unanimously carried to accept the item as presented.

- (4) **Water System Development Program update.** Board Member Blevins pulled this item to inquire about the length of time for constructing wells and whether or not that time can be shortened. Project Manager Trisha Whitfield provided a response thereto. Interim Community and Economic Development Director Michael Miller provided additional information in regard to the questions asked by the Board.

Following discussion, it was moved by Board Member Blevins, seconded by Board Member Griesbach, and unanimously carried to accept the item as presented.

- (5) **Accept as complete the contract with Anthony J. Prieto Water Well Drilling, Inc. of Selma, California on Project WT0027 – Construction of a well at 333 S. I Street; authorize the City Project Manager to sign the Notice of Completion; and direct the City Clerk to file the Notice of Completion with the Tulare County Recorder’s Office.** Board Member Blevins pulled this item to inquire about the change order and reimbursement for sewer overflow that was referenced on the staff report. Project Manager Trisha Whitfield provided a response thereto.

With no further discussion, it was moved by Board Member Blevins, seconded by Board Member Cubas, and unanimously carried to accept the item as presented.

- (6) **Receive an update, project budget and design proposal for the Cartmill Corridor Improvements project located on Cartmill Avenue between the Cartmill Avenue Interchange at Highway 99 and De La Vina St. It is recognized that the scope of this project includes the expansion of the water and sewer system infrastructure, but because the funding required for this project does not impact the budgets under the purview of the Board of Public Utilities, this is being provided as an informational item only.** Board Member Cubas recused herself from this item stating a possible professional conflict of interest.

It was moved by Vice President Stroman, seconded by Board Member Griesbach, and unanimously carried 4-0 (Board Member Cubas recused) to accept the item as presented.

- (7) **Receive updates to Administrative Policy 15-01 Transportation System Planning Policy.** Board Member Blevins pulled this item to inquire if the policy provided is the most recent. Senior Project Manager Nick Bartsch provided a response thereto. Vice President Stroman inquired about cash flow and contingency reverse reduction. Senior Project Manager Nick Bartsch provided a response thereto. President Pennington and Board Member Griesbach inquired about the minimum Pavement Condition Indexes (PCI). Senior Project Manager Nick Bartsch and Interim Community and Economic Development Director Michael Miller provided a response thereto.

Following discussion, it was moved by Board Member Griesbach, seconded by Vice President Stroman, and unanimously carried to accept the item as presented.

- (8) **Accept Financial Status Report.**

VI. GENERAL BUSINESS:

Comments related to General Business Items are limited to three minutes per speaker for a maximum of 30 minutes per item unless otherwise extended by the Board.

- (1) **Authorize the Public Works Director or City Manager to execute a twenty (20) year Gas Purchase Agreement with Fuel Cell Energy, Inc. of Danbury, Connecticut (FCE) at a fixed minimum rate of \$5.00 per MMBtu with the potential of additional revenue if the BioMat tariff is revised upwards during the term of this agreement subject to minor conforming and clarifying changes acceptable to the City Attorney and City Manager.** City Manager Joe Carlini provided a report for the Board's review and consideration. Patrick McLafferty of Hydros Agritech provided the Board with additional information regarding the background and current status of the project. Ben Tobey of Fuel Cell Energy (FCE) provided the Board with information regarding the contract.

The Board inquired about various areas of the contract. Ben Tobey provided responses thereto.

Following a lengthy discussion, it was moved by Board Member Blevins, seconded by Board Member Cubas, and unanimously carried to accept the item as presented.

- (2) Receive status update on Public Works CMMS implementation project.** City Manager Joe Carlini provided a report for the Board's review and consideration. Chris Ewers of Ewers Engineering provided a presentation to the Board regarding the background and current status of the CMMS project. This item was informational only.

VII. ITEMS OF BOARD INTERESTS (may include City Council and Planning Commission updates) – GC 54954.2(3)

Items of Board interest were discussed among the Board and staff.

VIII. ADJOURN REGULAR MEETING

President Pennington the regular meeting at 9:05 p.m.

President of the Board of Public Utilities
Commissioners of the City of Tulare

ATTEST:

Secretary of the Board of
Public Utilities Commissioners