

PASCOAG UTILITY DISTRICT - BOARD OF UTILITY COMMISSIONERS MINUTES

The regular meeting of the Pascoag Utility District Board of Utility Commissioners was held on Monday, May 19, 2014 at 6:00 p.m. in the District office, 253 Pascoag Main Street, Pascoag, RI.

Members Present: Chairman Albert Palmisciano, Commissioners Ann Polacek Richard Jenks, Wallace Lees and Michael Kogut

Members Absent:

Also in Attendance: Michael Kirkwood, General Manager; William Bernstein, General Counsel

Chairman Palmisciano opened the meeting at 6:00 pm.

1. Pledge of Allegiance

2. Public Comment

3. Committee Comments

• Policy Subcommittee-Mr. Palmisciano stated that the Policy Subcommittee met and recommends that the full Board change a past retirement practice. Mr. Palmisciano stated that he would review their findings in the New Business section.

4. Good and Welfare of the District

A. Docket No. 1725

Ms. LaPorte reviewed the customer shut off information. There were 9 customers terminated in the month of April. Pascoag Utility District sent out 425 disconnection notices. During this period, the average balance was \$711.14. Motion to receive and file made by Mr. Lees, seconded by Ms. Polacek. The vote in favor was unanimous.

B. Exxon Settlement Account

Mr. Kirkwood reviewed the Exxon settlement account figures which are slightly over 2 million dollars. The only money that has been spent from this account has been for debt service and water exploration. Mr. Jenks made a motion to receive and file, seconded by Ms. Polacek. The vote in favor was unanimous.

C. RIWWA Meeting

Mr. Kirkwood and Mr. Guertin attended this meeting. This session reviewed cleaning water pipes with a technique that uses ice to help clear sediment and debris.

D. NISC Training

Ms. Dolan stated that NISC will be in to train staff on the accounting side of the new software package this week. The accounting package will go live in June.

E. Meeting with State Energy Office

Mr. Kirkwood stated that staff met with the State Energy Office last week to discuss the challenges Pascoag has with energy costs.

F. GNEF Luncheon

Mr. Kirkwood wanted to remind the Board that the RIGNEF luncheon is coming up on June 13, 2014 at Crystal Lake Golf course. Motion to receive and file made by Mr. Lees, seconded by Mr. Jenks. The vote in favor was unanimous.

G. PUC Hearing

The hearing has been scheduled for June 12th for the mid-year filing. The projected increase would go from 7 to 8 cents for the standard offer.

H. Unaccounted for Water

Mr. Kirkwood was happy to announce that last quarter, the water loss was under 10% and this quarter the District was at 6%. Mr. Guertin and his team went around to make sure the hydrants were ratcheted down which helped with the water losses. The crews have been patrolling for water leaks. A section of water pipe was replaced on Bethany Lane. Check valves were also placed around the system.

5. Approval of Minutes

A. Regular BUC Meeting-April 28, 2014

Motion to approve as submitted made by Mr. Lees, seconded by Mr. Kogut. The vote in favor was unanimous.

6. Unfinished Business

7. New Business

A. Action Item: To Review and Approve District Past Practice

Mr. Lees made a motion that as of December 31, 2017 the policy of the severance package given to employees upon the Social Security full retirement age ceases to exist; seconded by Mr. Kogut. The vote in favor was unanimous.

8. Financial Reports

A. Electric Department- March 2014

Mr. Kirkwood stated that purchase power was 135% above budget as well as transmission being 145% above budget which was a product of the high power costs during the winter. The proposed increase that is being filed with the RIPUC in June, will help to offset these costs.

B. Water Department-March 2014

Motion to receive and file made by Mr. Lees, seconded by Mr. Jenks. The vote in favor was unanimous.

9. Executive Session

To go into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing a potential business expansion that is in Pascoag Utility District's territory pursuant to R.I.G.L. 42-46-5(a)(6). The minutes of said meeting shall remain confidential for as long as necessary pursuant to RIGL 42-46-5, until a majority of the Board shall vote to open said minutes as provided for and subject to the open meetings law.

Motion to grant Executive Session made by Mr. Lees, seconded by Mr. Kogut. The vote in favor was unanimous. The Board entered into Executive Session at 6:26 PM

Motion to exit Executive Session made by Mr. Lees, seconded by Mr. Kogut. The vote in favor was unanimous.

The Board came out of executive session at 6:29. Mr. Lees made a motion to seal the minutes with no votes being taken, seconded by Mr. Jenks. The vote in favor was unanimous.

10. Adjournment

Mr. Lees made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Jenks. The vote in favor was unanimous. The meeting ended at 6:30PM.

Wallace Lees, Secretary

Board of Utility Commissioners

Desarae Dolan, Recording Secretary