

# **PASCOAG UTILITY DISTRICT - BOARD OF UTILITY COMMISSIONERS MINUTES**

**The regular meeting of the Pascoag Utility District Board of Utility Commissioners was held on Monday, July 27, 2015, 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, Michael Kogut and Doug Lees**

**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**
- 4. Good and Welfare of the District**

## **A. Docket No. 1725**

**Ms. Round reviewed the customer shut off information. There were 15 standard customers and one protected status customer, terminated in the month of June. Pascoag Utility District sent 856 disconnection notices for customers whose past due balances were more than \$50.00. Motion to receive and file made by Mr. Kogut, seconded by Mr. Lees. The vote in favor was unanimous.**

## **B. Exxon Mobil Settlement Fund**

**Ms. Allaire stated that money was taken out of the fund for water exploration and for the tank repair. PUD did receive word from the insurance company that they will be reimbursed \$40,000 for the repair**

**with \$35,000 going back into the settlement fund and a \$5,000 credit that would be split between water customers. Motion to receive and file made by Mr. Jenks, seconded by Mr. Kogut. The vote in favor was unanimous.**

### **C. Hydrant Flushing**

**Mr. Kirkwood stated that there was an extensive flushing program completed at the end of June. The flushing seems to have cleared out some of the problem areas. There's a possibility that they'll need to do the flushing program twice a year but staff is trying to see if they only have to do it once. Mr. Palmisciano asked that Mr. Kirkwood thank the staff that worked on the project.**

### **D. Valve Repair**

**Mr. Kirkwood stated that when they were flushing the system they found a valve that was in need of repair. They needed to replace the valve on Centennial and Grove Street. On July 6th they had to dig it up and change it out.**

### **E. Rock Ave Tank Repair Update**

**Mr. Kirkwood was happy to report that the repair has been done for about a month. The insurance company reimbursed the District \$40,000 of the \$45,000 project. The District will divide a credit of \$5,000 among the water customers on their water bills which represented the water lost from the tank repair.**

### **F. RI Energy and Environmental Leaders Day**

**Mr. Kirkwood attended the event put on by Senator Whitehouse that's held every year for Rhode Island's energy and environmental leadership.**

#### **G. 2016 Salary Cost of Living Adjustment**

**Mr. Kirkwood stated there would be a 2.9% increase raise for staff this year.**

#### **H. Thank You**

**There were two notes; one from a customer who was happy with tree trimming that had been done at their house and one from Ms. Cournoyer regarding her retirement. Motion to receive and file made by Mr. Jenks, seconded by Mr. Kogut. The vote in favor was unanimous.**

#### **5. Approval of Minutes**

- Regular BUC Meeting- June 22, 2015-Motion to approve as submitted made by Mr. Jenks, seconded by Mr. Kogut. The vote in favor was unanimous.**

#### **6. Unfinished Business**

- 14-06 Electric AMR Meters**

**Mr. Kirkwood notified the Board that the meter project is almost half way completed. The meters are less expensive than the meters we used to purchase. Meter reading is going faster and billing has become less time consuming.**

#### **7. New Business**

- 15-09 LED Streetlight Project**

**Mr. Kirkwood said the power point presentation from the Town**

**Council meeting on the LED streetlight program was in the Board member's packets. The State gave the District a grant in the amount of \$62,000 last year to install more LED streetlights this year. They are also proposing a grant in the amount of \$150,000 to finish up the District's LED streetlight installations. There will be a hearing later this week in regards to the latest grant. Ms. Round has done an excellent job managing the project and Mr. Guertin and his staff have done a great job completing the installations.**

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

## **8. Financial Reports**

### **A. Electric Department- May 2015**

### **B. Water Department-May 2015**

**Ms. Allaire reviewed the electric reports for May and the Electric Department is posting net revenue of \$580,000. It's still early to say but it looks like we'll be reducing Standard Offer fairly substantially if this trend continues. The Water Department is doing well because monthly billing has helped with the cash flow. The Water Department is posting a slight loss of \$9,900.00. Motion to approve the financial reports as submitted made by Mr. Jenks, seconded by Mr. Kogut. The vote in favor is unanimous.**

## **9. Executive Session**

**To go into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing the future relationship between Pascoag Utility District and Harrisville Fire District Water Department concerning the current wholesale water**

supply and implications should the current supply arrangement be reconsidered, 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.

Mr. Jenks made a motion to enter Executive Session at 6:26PM, seconded by Mr. Kogut. The vote in favor was unanimous.

Mr. Kogut made a motion to leave Executive Session, seconded by Mr. Lees. The vote in favor was unanimous. Executive Session ended at 6:36PM.

Mr. Jenks made a motion to seal the minutes with no votes taken, seconded by Mr. Kogut. The vote in favor was unanimous.

Mr. Kogut made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Jenks. The vote in favor was unanimous. The meeting was adjourned at 6:39PM.

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**Michael Kogut, Secretary**  
**Board of Utility Commissioners**

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**Desarae Dolan, Recording Secretary**