

**LAMAR UTILITIES BOARD  
MINUTES OF THE UTILITIES BOARD MEETING  
July 14, 2020**

The Lamar Utilities Board met in regular session in the Utilities Board Room at 12:00 p.m. with Chairman Thrall presiding.

Present: Jay Brooke, Doug Thrall, Patrick Leonard, Clifford Boxley, Roger Stagner, Don Steerman, Houssin Hourieh, Lisa Denman, Leala Owen, Linda Williams

Absent: Kirk Crespin

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**Swearing in of New Board Member – Roger Stagner**

Judge Porter administered oath of office to Roger Stagner.

**Reorganization of Board: (a) Elect Chairman, (b) Elect Vice-Chairman, (c) Appoint Attorney, (d) Appoint Superintendent, (e) Authorize Check Signing**

- a) Elect Chairman – Board Attorney Steerman assumed the role of Chairman for this vote. Boardmembers Brooke and Stagner nominated Doug Thrall as Chairman; no further nominations. Boardmember Stagner moved and Boardmember Brooke seconded cease nominations and elect Doug Thrall as Chairman.

Voting Yes: Brooke, Thrall, Leonard, Stagner

Voting No: Boxley

Doug Thrall reassumed the role of Chairman.

- b) Elect Vice-Chairman – Boardmembers Leonard and Stagner nominated Jay Brooke as Vice-Chairman. Boardmember Leonard moved and Boardmember Stagner seconded to cease nominations and elect Jay Brooke as the Vice-Chairman of the Board.

Voting Yes: Thrall, Leonard, Boxley, Stagner

Voting No: None

Abstain: Brooke

- c) Appoint Superintendent – Boardmember Brooke moved and Boardmember Stagner seconded to appoint Houssin Hourieh as the Superintendent of Light & Power.

Voting Yes: Brooke, Thrall, Leonard, Boxley, Stagner

Voting No: None

- d) Appoint Board Attorney – Boardmember Leonard moved and Boardmember Boxley seconded to appoint Don Steerman as the LUB Attorney.

Voting Yes: Brooke, Thrall, Leonard, Boxley, Stagner

Voting No: None

- e) Authorize Check Signing – Boardmember Stagner moved and Boardmember Brooke seconded to authorize check signing by all Boardmembers, City Clerk, and City Treasurer in absence of City Clerk.

Voting Yes: Brooke, Thrall, Leonard, Boxley, Stagner  
Voting No: None

**Minutes of Previous Meeting – June 23, 2020**

Boardmember Brooke moved and Boardmember Leonard seconded to approve meeting minutes of June 23, 2020.

Voting Yes: Brooke, Thrall, Leonard, Boxley  
Voting No: None  
Abstain: Stagner

**Purchase Orders #89496 through #89528**

Boardmember Stagner moved and Boardmember Brooke seconded to approve purchase orders #89496 through #89528 in the amount of \$857,754.03.

Voting Yes: Brooke, Thrall, Leonard, Boxley, Stagner  
Voting No: None

**Payment of Bills**

Boardmember Stagner moved and Boardmember Brooke seconded to approve payment of bills: Vouchers #49977 through #50028 for a total of \$195,535.95.

Voting Yes: Brooke, Thrall, Leonard, Boxley, Stagner  
Voting No: None

**System Operating Report**

Superintendent Hourieh reported that they have been tracking customer meter numbers for the month of May on an annual basis since 1999. Due to the meter fluctuation they use the month of May as an indicator. In May 2020 there was a total of 5,734 customer connected meters for 4,034 customers, while in 2003 there was 5,836 connected meters. 2015 had the lowest meter count of 5,594. Since then we have gained 140 connected meters.

Superintendent Hourieh reported that on Friday, June 26, 2020 at about 9:35 p.m. the S.W. 24.9kv breaker tripped open due to a severe thunderstorm that uprooted a tree which fell on the main line at 6<sup>th</sup> and Poplar St. The incident caused a phase to phase permanent fault that caused two surge arresters to fail at the Santa Fe substation. The outage affected the N.W. section of Lamar. All repairs were made and power was restored at 10:58 p.m.

Superintendent Hourieh gave a COVID-19 update. He stated that the Governor extended Executive Order D-2020-098 directing utilities to waive disconnection, reconnection fees, and suspend accrual of late payment fees for residential and small business customers who have missed payments during the pandemic.

Superintendent Hourieh reported that there will be a rate study review at the August 11, 2020 meeting. He also stated that ARPA will hold an Executive Session on