

**LAMAR UTILITIES BOARD
MINUTES OF THE UTILITIES BOARD MEETING
October 13, 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
Kirk Crespino arrived at 12:02 p.m.

Absent:

Minutes of Previous Meeting – September 29, 2020

Boardmember Brooke moved and Boardmember Stagner seconded to approve meeting minutes of September 29, 2020.

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

Purchase Orders #89713 through #89744

Boardmember Stagner moved and Boardmember Leonard seconded to approve purchase orders #89713 through #89744 in the amount of \$1,078,455.04.

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

Payment of Bills

Boardmember Leonard moved and Boardmember Brooke seconded to approve payment of bills: Vouchers #50270 through #50317 for a total of \$162,791.42.

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

Presentation of the 2019 Audited Financial Statement

Ronnie Farmer of RFarmer, LLC gave an in-depth review of the 2019 Lamar Utilities Board financial audit. Also gave an explanation of the PERA liability disclosed in the financial audit.

2019 Write-Offs

Boardmember Brooke moved and Boardmember Stagner seconded to approve the 2019 Write-Offs in the amount of \$36,393.53. This represents .25% of the 2019 revenues of \$14,035,973.00. The budget for write-offs is \$70,000.00

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

Consider Approval of 2021 Budget

Boardmember Leonard moved and Boardmember Brooke seconded to approve the 2021 Lamar Utilities Board Budget.

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

Consider Proposed Rate Modification

Boardmember Brooke moved and Boardmember Boxley seconded to approve the Rate Modification Official Statement Docket No. 20-1 and Resolution No. 20-3 a 1.4% rate increase to begin January 1, 2021.

Voting Yes: Brooke, Thrall, Leonard, Boxley
Voting No: Stagner

System Operating Report

Superintendent Hourieh reported that with E2PSI on site, the substation crew has completed the upgrade of 5-69 kv circuit breaker. This oil circuit breaker was installed in the 1960's and is no longer supported by G.E. The new Siemens breaker incorporates the latest technology of substation power protection using SF6 gas. Breaker 5-69 is LUB's backup breaker to the 4-69 kv breaker that feeds the northern half of Lamar including the 25kv circuits that feed Holly, Hartman, Bristol, Wiley, and McClave areas. This is also the main breaker that feeds the 69 kv west to Las Animas. The upgrade went well without any power interruptions to the customers. This ongoing 4 year upgrade will complete the 69 kv substation 4 breaker ring bus upgrade, and will help improve the LUB's system efficiency and reliability.

Superintendent Hourieh reported that there was an outage on Sunday, October 11, 2020 due to the wind storm. They lost a wooden pole at Cty. Rd. 11 and 196 which effected the Holly, Bristol, Hartman areas.

Superintendent Hourieh announced that we are moving forward with our Rebuttal Testimonies. The new development is that SECPA's attorney reached out to our attorney asking if we could resume the settlement discussion, so we are starting the negotiations dialog with SECPA. We are willing to negotiate a settlement but if nothing is resolved prior to the hearing on November 9, 2020 the hearing will proceed as scheduled.

Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Board, Boardmember Stagner moved and Boardmember Brooke seconded that the meeting adjourn.

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

The meeting adjourned at 12:55 p.m.

Linda Williams – City Clerk

Doug Thrall – Chairman