

2019 Annual Report for the Hualapai Tribal Utility Authority HTUA



Prepared by: Hualapai Tribal Utility Authority Board and
General Manager
William L. Cyr

Presented to HTUA Board on February 17, 2020

Approved by HTUA Board on February 17, 2020

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Preface

Formation / Mission

Hualapai Tribal Utility Authority (HTUA) has been formed by the Hualapai Council in accordance with Hualapai rules, regulations and ordinances.

The five primary missions for the HTUA as defined by Section 107 of the Ordinance are as follows;

- 1) Establish and maintain electric power service for Grand Canyon West,
- 2) Establish and maintain water service for Grand Canyon West,
- 3) Establish and maintain sewage service for Grand Canyon West,
- 4) Establish and maintain telecommunications service,
- 5) Establish and maintain such additional utility services for such other locations within the Hualapai Reservation and on other Tribal lands under the jurisdiction of the Hualapai Tribe as the Tribal Council may deem appropriate pursuant to Section 108 of this Ordinance.

To accomplish these various missions, HTUA is authorized to carry out the following kinds of activities:

- (1) To plan for, provide, and furnish electric power, water and wastewater utility services to GCW and provide telecommunication services for the Hualapai Reservation and other Tribal lands under the jurisdiction of the Hualapai Tribe. Such services may include other energy-related services, including energy conservation and the use of renewable energy technologies.
- (2) To promote the use of HTUA's services where available in order to improve the health and welfare of residents of the Reservation and to facilitate economic development.
- (3) To acquire, construct, operate, maintain, promote, and expand electric power service, water service, and wastewater service at GCW as well as acquire, construct, operate, maintain, promote, and expand telecommunications throughout the Hualapai Reservation and on such other locations within the Hualapai Reservation and on other Tribal lands under the jurisdiction of the Hualapai Tribe as the Tribal Council may deem appropriate pursuant to Section 108 of this Ordinance.
- (4) To operate utility services so as to provide revenue sufficient to service debt on particular component projects as may be required by creditors on such component projects.
- (5) To do everything necessary, proper, and advisable, or convenient for the accomplishment of the mission set forth in this section, and to do all things incidental to or connected with such mission, which are not forbidden by law, this Ordinance, or the Hualapai Constitution.

Annual Report Requirements

In accordance with Section 110 of the Hualapai Tribal Utility Authority (HTUA) Ordinance, the Board of Directors (Board) shall submit a report to the Tribal Council on an annual basis. The report shall include, but not be limited to;

- 1) financial conditions,
- 2) proposed budget for the upcoming fiscal year,
- 3) rates for various classes of consumers,
- 4) progress on HTUA's mission, and
- 5) other pertinent utility matters.

Any actions that the Board plans to take in the upcoming year that appear to require approval by the Tribal Council shall be highlighted in the annual report, including any request for the appropriation of Tribal funds for the operation of HTUA. The Board may assign the General Manager the responsibility for preparing the report, although it shall be presented to, and must be approved by, the Board before being submitted to the Tribal Council. Failure to seek Council approval in an annual report will not necessarily preclude the HTUA from taking a planned action, but, if Council approval is required, a supplemental report to the Council (followed by Council approval) shall be required.

Current HTUA Board Members

Charlie Vaughn, Chairman
Joe Montana, Vice Chairman
Lana Keller-Robinett, Secretary
Jason Davis, Treasurer
Rory Majenty

Mr. Davis and Ms. Keller-Robinett were appointed to the HTUA Board by Tribal Council joining the Board in April 2019.

I. Executive Summary

During 2019, HTUA continued to address the mission(s) set forth by the tribal council at its formation as described in the preface above. HTUA made several presentations during 2019 to the Hualapai Council, obtaining direction and guidance from the Council on its efforts. HTUA's primary efforts continued to be directed towards the utility (electricity, water, wastewater, telecomm) requirements for Grand Canyon West (GCW) with a primary focus of the development of a Power line and a Solar Power Plant for GCW. Additionally HTUA, at Council direction, is overseeing the deployment and operation of a high speed wireless educational internet for Tribal homes in Peach Springs.

The development of the GCW Power line focused on satisfying environmental regulatory requirements. The proposed route traverses the Hualapai Reservation and on lands administered by the BLM. Over the course of 2019 HTUA has been able to submit a Biological Report, Cultural Report, Plan of Development, and Vegetative Management Plan to both the BLM and Hualapai Cultural and natural Resources Departments for their review and approval. The final draft Environmental Assessment document should be completed and submitted to the HTUA in January 2020 for review and approval prior to distribution for public comment. Preliminary economic models for operating and maintaining the power line after construction have also been completed. The HTUA plans to complete the final engineering of the Power Line as soon as the BLM grants the requested ROW. HTUA anticipates submitting to the Hualapai Council a complete; financial, engineering and construction plan for the Power Line plan for possible funding in the 2021 Hualapai budget.

HTUA also issued an RFP for a Solar Power Plant at GCW. The RFP requested bids for the engineering, procurement and construction of a Solar Power Plant that can provide for up to 50% of the electric energy requirements currently used by GCW. The HTUA Board met with all of the responders to the RFP to review the technical and economic merits of their responses to the RFP. HTUA is planning on requesting DOE matching grant funding for the Solar Power Plant through a grant application for the recently announced DOE funding opportunity. The grant application deadline is February 6, 2020.

The Hualapai council requested that HTUA oversee the installation and management of a free high speed internet service to households in Peach Springs with school age children. HTUA posted a public notice seeking voluntary participants in the pilot program. As a result of that posting, approximately 25

households were identified as qualified participants in the pilot. . HTUA is planning on activating the service during the month of January 2020.

II. Mission Related Accomplishments 2019

1) New Board Members

HTUA welcomed two new Board members in 2019. Jason Davis and Lana Keller Robinett were appointed by the Hualapai Tribal Council and joined the Board in April 2019. Mr. Davis is serving as the Board Treasurer and Ms. Keller Robinett is serving as the Board's Secretary.

2) Power Line Related

The HTUA Board has been investigating the construction of a power line to GCW. The closest feasible point for connecting the new Power line is at the UniSource/TEP Dolan Springs Substation on Pierce Ferry Road in Dolan Springs.

- a. Completed an interconnection study with Tucson Electric Power. The interconnection study examined the technical merits of interconnecting the proposed GCW power line to Tucson Electric Power system at the existing Dolan Springs substation located on the Pierce Ferry Road in Dolan Springs. The interconnection study showed that approximately 3 MW of power can be transmitted from the proposed Dolan Springs interconnection point to GCW. The 3 MW transfer capacity is approximately 3 to 5 times greater than the current power requirements at GCW today. The Tucson Electric Power system in this area is working close to maximum capacity. As the regional power demands continue to increase we can expect that Tucson Electric Power will upgrade their system and as a result we can also expect a greater transfer capacity than the 3MW currently identified.

The cost for the equipment to connect to the Dolan Springs substation is estimated to be approximately \$1.0 million. The final cost to interconnect will be determined by Tucson Electric Power through a System Facility Study by the end of the second quarter in 2020. The primary components for the interconnection are; substation metering, Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA), circuit breaker, isolation switch(s) and a multi-step capacitor bank.

- b. Completed and submitted Cultural and Biological report for the proposed ROW from Dolan Springs substation to GCW to the BLM and Hualapai Cultural for review and approval.
- c. Completed and submitted plan of development and vegetation management plan for the proposed power line from Dolan Springs to GCW to BLM and Hualapai Cultural for review and approval.

- d. HTUA met with the Friends of the Joshua Tree Forest to discuss the proposed Power Line routing. This organization was opposed routing the power line among the Joshua Trees along Diamond Bar Road. It was after our meeting with this organization that the BLM advised that the Diamond Bar route should be removed from further consideration.
- e. A series of public meetings were held to present the project specifics to the communities in the vicinity of the proposed power line route. Meetings were held in Dolan Springs, Meadview and Peach Springs. The meetings were lightly attended. Opposition to the proposed power line routing was again expressed by the Friends of the Joshua Tree Forest at the Meadview meeting.
- f. An internal draft of the final environmental assessment document for the power line from Dolan Springs to GCW has been reviewed internally and it is planned to submit the final document to the BLM and Hualapai Cultural and Natural Resource Departments for review and approval in January 2020.
- g. The HTUA Board met with senior management of the Western Area Power Administration (WAPA) at its January 2019 Board meeting. As a result of that meeting, HTUA worked with Western Area Power Administration (WAPA), completed a technical power line interconnection options study. The primary purpose was to identify and then review the technical feasibility of all available interconnection options in the region. The study identified 4 possible interconnection points. Dolan Springs substation, Round Valley substation, Peacock substation and a yet to be developed White Hills substation to be constructed as part of the new wind farm. These identified interconnection locations will be further reviewed in the future as HTUA looks at serving potential future loads such as Peach Springs, GCW future development (hotel, golf course, etc....) and the expected water pumping loads with a future Colorado River water allocation.

HTUA views the development of the Dolan Springs interconnection and construction of the Dolan Springs to GCW power line as a first step and the power line will continue to be used in the future to serve load and enhance overall HTUA electric grid system reliability. It is envisioned that in the future a power line system loop will be established from Dolan Springs to GCW then down the Buck and Doe road out to Peach Springs continuing to Round Valley or Peacock substations. HTUA is planning to continue working with WAPA in developing the HTUA power delivery system.

- h. An economic model has been developed for the feasibility of HTUA constructing and operating the power line. The economic evaluation reviews the costs of constructing the line and continuing operating expenses such as purchase power, maintenance and labor. The economic model also quantifies the savings to GCW and the Hualapai Tribe from the

reduction (total elimination except for emergencies) of generator diesel fuel expenses at GCW.

3) GCW Solar Project

The HTUA Board has also been investigating the construction of a solar power system for GCW to supplement to the new power line from the Dolan Springs Substation.

- a) HTUA issued an RFP for the construction of a solar power plant at GCW. The solar power plant as currently envisioned will; provide 50% of the current electrical requirements of GCW, be integrated into the GCW micro grid, be expandable, and provide for energy storage batteries.
- b) HTUA Board conducted a special Board meeting to review all of the submitted proposals. At this meeting the Board discussed the technical and economic merits of the proposals.
- c) The work completed by HTUA on the solar power plant this year will allow for the submission of an application for the Department of Energy grant to support the construction of the solar power plant.

4.) Telecommunication

The Hualapai tribal Council requested that HTUA oversee the installation and management of a pilot program that will result in the offering of free high speed internet service to households in Peach Springs with school age children. This offering is being coordinated by MuralNet who is affiliated with Northern Arizona University. HTUA posted a public notice seeking voluntary participants in the pilot program. As a result of that posting, approximately 25 households were identified as qualified participants in the pilot.

HTUA has worked with MuralNet on obtaining the necessary wireless frequency from the FCC. HTUA has also assisted with the installation of the necessary equipment at the Honaga Hill tower site that will broadcast the wireless service to the participating homes. Most of the equipment had been received and/or installed by year's end. HTUA is planning on activating the service during the month of January.

The council also requested HTUA to participate in the AT&T Fiber Optic ROW grant renewal request. AT&T has an existing ROW grant on the Hualapai reservation where it has placed a fiber optic cable into the ground. This ROW grant expired 5 years ago and AT&T is now seeking

a renewal of that Grant. HTUA continues to review applicable documents and negotiations providing comments and suggestions for the negotiations.

III. FY 2019 Financial Report

HTUA's operational budget for 2019 as approved by the Hualapai Council was \$250,000. As of December 31, 2019, HTUA had expended \$215,332.32 leaving an unexpended amount of \$34,667.68.

HTUA 2019 Budget Expenditures Report			
Item	Original Budget amount	YTD Expenditures	Amount Remaining
Tierra ROW	121,224.33	\$121,218.26	\$ 6.07
BBC Consulting	\$ 88,905.00	\$ 85,087.82	\$ 3,817.18
All other items	\$ 39,870.67	\$11,950.24	\$ 27,920.43
<i>Arizona Power Authority</i>		\$6,208.70	
<i>Kingman Daily</i>		\$ 955.42	
<i>The Standard</i>		\$ 398.00	
<i>Anchor Wave</i>		\$1,394.00	
<i>Board member travel</i>		\$ 105.56	
<i>Arizona Tribal Energy Association Fee</i>		\$ 750.00	
<i>Las Vegas review Journal</i>		\$ 325.94	
<i>Arizona Republic</i>		\$ 32.75	
<i>Michelle Zephier</i>		\$ 26.05	
<i>IMEG/TTG</i>		\$ 1,753.82	
Total	\$ 250,000.00	\$218,256.32	\$ 31,743.68

IV. 2020 Budget

HTUA requested a budget amount of \$4,469,421 as shown in the column titled “as submitted “ and is shown in the spreadsheet on the next page. The Council approved a HTUA budget amount of \$2,088,685. The HTUA Board allocated the approved budget amount to the line items as shown on the next page in the column titled “as approved”.

2020 Draft HTUA Budget		Account No 01-60-00-0000			
				As Submitted	As Approved
I. General					
General Manager Consulting	Rate	units/week	weeks	Total	Notes
Labor per Hour	\$75.00	20	52	78,000	Board meetings, project management, staged construction plan
Lodging per night	\$125.00	2	6	1,500	
Per Diem	\$45.00	0	0	0	
Mileage per visit	\$0.535	250	24	3,210	
			Total	82,710	
					May exceed this amoiant based on approved budget items
Arizona Power Authority BCP Power	Rate/M WHr	MWhrs/M onth	Months	Total	
Capacity	\$28.17	15.50	12	2,293	Hualapai Tribe Federal Hydro Power Allocation
Energy				2,947	
Recoverable Capital Advances				1,451	
			Total	6,691	
Board Member Training & Travel	Rate/Mil e	Miles		Total	
Automobile	\$0.575	3,000		1,725	Misc. training and conferences TBD
Inside-State Per Diem	\$11.25	\$45.00	10	450	
Outside-State Per Diem	\$15.00	\$60.00	5	300	
Training/Conferences				2,000	
Hotel				1,500	
			Total	5,975	
Memberships	Annual Dues			Total	
Arizona Tribal Energy Assoc	\$1,500			1,500	State Tribal Energy Association
Public Outreach	Rate/Co st	Units/Mon th	Months	Total	
Domain Hosting & Web support	\$130.00	1	12	1,560	Provide information about projects to Tribal Community
Pamphlets	\$0.50	500	1	250	
Postage	\$1.47	500	1	735	
Food	\$5.00	200	1	1,000	
Supplies				2,000	
			Total	5,545	
misc				0	
		Total General		102,421.00	
					5,545
					50,000
					152,421.00
II. GCW Power Line Related					
Legal Counsel	Rate		Months	Total	
Total			Total	50,000.00	0.00 Utilize Tribal General Counsel
Other professional Services					
Transmission Line Design Substation			Total	525,000.00	325,000 May be able to rduce further depending upon vendor selection Defer GCW substation design
Survey work			Total	50,000.00	125,000 Final staking of line--
RUS construction work plan/load forecast			Total	75,000.00	deferred
Environmental Work(Tierra)			Total	50,000.00	30,000 Contingency --Environmental Assessment--- should be completed in 2019
USDA financial forecast long range			Total	17,000.00	0 deferred
UNES Facility Study			Total	100,000.00	100,000 will try and get reduced
		Total Power Line		867,000.00	580,000.00
Educational Network Back Haul				0.00	16,740.00 One year contract with WECOMM
%0 % design for Solar at GCW				\$3,500,000	\$ 1,339,524
Total Budget				\$4,469,421	\$ 2,088,685

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V. Mission Goals for 2020

1) GCW Power Line

- a. Finalize Dolan Springs to GCW power line Environmental Assessment documents with the BLM and obtain the requested power line ROW.
- b. Complete Facility Study with Tucson Electric Power for interconnection at Dolan Springs substation.
- c. Prepare power line engineering RFP and assist in completing the final power line design
- d. Once the final power line design is received, solicit bid on material costs and labor for constructing the power line.
- e. Develop economic models for the final build-out including multiyear deployment/construction/development strategies.
- f. Finalize economic model for HTUA operation, and maintenance of the power line after it is constructed
- g. Prepare a budget and construction plan for consideration by the Hualapai Council for inclusion in the 2021 budget

2) GCW Solar

- a. Complete the Grant application
- b. Finalize design to comply with grant funding levels.
- c. Provide project management and construction of the solar power plant at GCW and interconnect to the micro grid including project siting through the NEPA review process.
- d. Finalize operation and maintenance plans for the new solar power plant.

3) Western Area Power Administration (WAPA)

- a. Provide for a joint meeting with WAPA, HTUA and Tribal Council
- b. Work with WAPA to optimize and power line interconnection(s)
- c. Work with WAPA to identify wholesale market power for purchase and use at GCW after the new power line is constructed and operational

4) Mohave Electric (MEC)

- a. Meet with Mohave Electric Cooperative to determine how to improve reliability to Peach Springs.
- b. Ascertain the sale price of the MEC electrical assets in Peach Springs for the possibility of HTUA taking over ownership and operational responsibilities

- c. Develop agreements with MEC for delivering power to Peach Springs after/if HTUA obtains ownership of Peach Springs electrical assets.

5) Telecommunications Related

- a. Continue to manage and operate Peach Springs high-speed wireless educational network.
- b. Continue to advise negotiating committee and Hualapai Council on the AT&T fiber optic ROW grant renewal.

Appendix A: 2019 Meeting Minutes

**Hualapai Tribal Utility Authority Board Meeting Minutes
January 17, 2019**



1. Call to Order – Meeting was called to order at 9:10 am by Chairman Vaughn

2. Roll Call **Board Members**

Charles Vaughn, Chairman – Present

Joe Montana, Vice Chairman - Present

Secretary- Vacant

Treasurer- Vacant

Rory Majenty – Via Telephone

Support Personnel

Bill Cyr, General Manager – Present

Kevin Davidson, Planning Director – Present

Invited Guest(s) – Western Area Power Administration (WAPA)

Ron Moulton, Regional Manager, Western Area Power Administration (WAPA)

Greg Hansen, Acting Vice President Transmission Services, WAPA

John Steward, Transmission Business Unit Manager, WAPA

Roberta Sweeney, Tribal Coordinator, WAPA

Lyle Johnson, Public Utilities Specialist, WAPA

Jim Kendrick, Vice President of Power Marketing, WAPA

Tim Kutz, Contracts, WAPA

3. Review and Approve Minutes from December 20, 2018 –

The minutes were approved as written 3 – 0 on a motion by Mr. Vaughn and second by Mr. Montana

4. Final 2019 HTUA Budget as approved by Tribal Council – *Mr. Cyr and Mr. Davidson discussed the final 2019 HTUA Budget as approved by Tribal Council. The budget as approved is approximately \$251,000. Approximately, \$206,000 is already committed to professional services contracts with Mr. Cyr (\$90,000) and Tierra Right of Way (\$121,000). This leaves a balance of approximately \$40,000 for other items.*

**Hualapai Tribal Utility Authority Board Meeting Minutes
January 17, 2019**



5. Proposed Power Line to Grand Canyon West

- a. Status of BLM work – The Federal Government shutdown has impacted BLM work. It appears BLM offices were closed after December 21, 2018. We expect no additional work in this area until the government shutdown is resolved.
- b. Status of power line survey – No additional survey work has been completed and no additional survey work is scheduled.
- c. Status of NEPA/ Environmental
 - Brief on Tierra Right-of-Way work in December 2018 – Mr. Davidson notified the Board that the Hualapai Council had extended the Tierra Right of Way contract for an additional 12 months at a sum of \$121,600. The Board was also provided with a summary of Tierra Right of Ways progress to date.
- d. Status Pierce Ferry/Diamond Bar
 - i. BIA Encroachment Permit – Mr. Cyr and Mr. Davidson provided the Board with a copy of BIA Encroachment Permit Application. This permit application will be completed at the appropriate time. The appropriate time is loosely defined as final route selection, environmental preliminary results and additional clarification on ownership/maintenance of the Diamond Bar Road.
 - ii. Friends of the Arizona Joshua Tree Forest letter – The Board was presented with a draft letter to send to The Friends of the Arizona Joshua Tree Forest (FAJTF). In summary, the letter is requesting for a face to face, joint meeting between HTUA and FAJTF. After some discussion, Mr. Vaughn signed the letter and the Board approved the transmittal of said letter.
- e. Status Tucson Electric Power System Impact Study Dolan Springs to Grand Canyon West
 - Potential Interconnection Study funding source – The Board reviewed a potential interconnection study funding source from The Office of Indian Energy and Economic Development.
- f. Status Final Transmission Line/Substation Design – The Board was informed that no additional design work has occurred.
- g. Financing – The Board was informed that no additional work was performed in this area.

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January 17, 2019**



6. Water/Wastewater/Electric/Telecommunication services to all parts of Hualapai

Reservation - HTUA Strategic Plan

a. Path forward for HTUA electrical ---Base Model Strawman – The Board was presented with a Base Model Strawman detailing the expense revenues for HTUA electric service to Peach Springs and Grand Canyon West. The model identified the following items:

- Expected Revenues from Grand Canyon West and Peach Springs electric service
- The expenses for:
 - Labor
 - Cost of power
 - Transmission
 - Wheeling
 - Debt service. Debt service was defined as:
 - Power line \$12.1M
 - 2MW Solar \$2.2M
 - Cost to purchase MEC assets in Peach Springs \$1M
 - Startup cost \$1.5M

The model relies heavily on a redirection of the current fuel costs and some of the operating costs associated with the diesel generation located at Grand Canyon West. The model includes a \$2M redirection of those diesel costs to the HTUA. With the redirection of said \$2M the model has a net positive yearly cashflow of \$115,000. It was further relayed to the Board that this is a very preliminary estimate on this model and the numbers are expected to change as we obtain greater clarity on the overall project.

Mr. Vaughn relayed to staff and all Board members that at the time the diesel generation was installed at Grand Canyon West that the EPA qualified the installation with environmental requirements, specifically GCW is located in a Class 1 Air Shed. Mr. Vaughn indicated that we should become familiar with said regulations to ensure GCW remains in compliance.

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7. Federal Hydro Power/ WAPA/Other Power related

- a. Hoover operating committee – 2019 meetings – The Board was informed of a recent Hoover operating committee meeting.
- b. WAPA Presentation – At this point in the board meeting WAPA provided the Board with various presentations from three primary areas:
 - CRSP Management Center
 - Department of Energy Office of Indian Energy (Power Point presentation)
 - Overview of Interconnection Process (Power Point presentation)

Additionally, WAPA provided the following handout(s):

- Colorado River Storage Project Management Center – brochure
- 2018 State of WAPA's Assets – Customer Circuit
- Strengthening Tribal Communities, Sustaining Future Generations – booklet
- Value of WAPA Annual Report 2018 – booklet

During and after WAPAs formal presentation, HTUA was able to update WAPA on its efforts to date on bringing power to Grand Canyon West. WAPA suggested strongly that HTUA immediately apply for technical assistance grant with the Office of Indian Energy to fund a broad interconnection study to be conducted by WAPA that would look at:

- Alternative Routes
 - From Round Valley
 - From Peacock
 - From unknown or undefined locales as determined by WAPAs study
- Capability of 69kv system through Dolan Springs to supply 10MW or more at GCW
- Benefits to adjacent utilities of a looped system through the Hualapai Reservation essentially looping UniSource and Mohave Electric.

Mr. Cyr and Mr. Davidson will work with WAPA and the Office of Indian Energy to initiate the study as soon as possible. Mr. Davidson volunteered to create a new geographically based map that identifies all the alternative routes mentioned above including the alternative routes from UniSource's Dolan Springs substation already under consideration.

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8. Other Matters
 - a. Update on Tribal Council actions – Kevin
 - b. AT&T fiber optic easement and status of awarded contract – update – Mr. Davidson indicated that the kick off meeting for the AT&T Fiber Optic negotiations should occur next week. He informed the Board that some of them may be requested to participate on the newly formed committee.
 - c. Arizona Tribal Energy Association (ATEA) Annual Meeting – January 23-24, 2019 – The Board was informed of the upcoming subject meeting and that there are no plans for attendance at this meeting.
 - d. Replacement Board Member Search – Mr. Davidson indicated that he did receive a call from a potential candidate but never received follow-up. Mr. Davidson will extend the deadline again.
 - e. Announcements
9. Set time and location for next meeting – Next meeting date was set for February 21, 2019 at 9:00am in the conference room at the Hualapai Health, Education and Wellness Center.
10. Adjourn – Adjournment at 12:04 PM was approved 3 – 0 on a motion entered by Mr. Montana and seconded by Mr. Vaughn.

**Hualapai Tribal Utility Authority Board Meeting Minutes
February 27, 2019**



1. Call to Order – Meeting was called to order at 9:45am by Chairman Vaughn

2. Roll Call **Board Members**

Charles Vaughn, Chairman – Present

Joe Montana, Vice Chairman - Present

Secretary- Vacant

Treasurer- Vacant

Rory Majenty – Via Telephone

Support Personnel

Bill Cyr, General Manager – Present

Kevin Davidson, Planning Director – Present

3. Review and Approve Minutes from January 17, 2019

The minutes were approved as written 3 – 0 on a motion by Mr. Vaughn and second by Mr. Montana

4. Proposed Power Line to Grand Canyon West

(a) Status of BLM Work – Mr. Davidson went over the report in the board package regarding his recent field trip with Andy, Matt, and Peter Bungart. The primary purpose of the field trip was to review/determine KOP locations for Hells Canyon and Diamond Bar roads.

(b) Status of Power line survey – Mr. Davidson reviewed a Preliminary Class III Cultural Resources Survey of Two Proposed Corridors for the Hualapai Tribal Utility Authority Grand Canyon West Interconnection Project, Mohave County, Arizona. The board reviewed several of the cultural sites brought forth within the survey. The survey will continue to be reviewed regarding mitigation technics by the board, HTUA staff and Hualapai Cultural experts.

(c) Status of NEPA/Environmental (i) Friends of the Joshua Tree Letter – Mr. Cyr informed the board that the letter from Chairman Vaughn to the Friends of Joshua Tree had been received by said organization. The Friends of Joshua Tree responded and proposed four different meeting dates, the board agreed to a meeting at the library in Kingman on March 8, 2019.

(d) Status Pierce Ferry/Diamond Bar – No discussion

(e) Status Tucson Electric Power System Impact Study Dolan Springs to Grand Canyon West – UniSource still has not provided HTUA with the final report. Mr. Cyr is hopeful that the WAPA

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Transmission Study (discussed more fully later in report) will be able to provide all the technical information that would/could have been generated from the UniSource interconnection study.

(f) Status Final Transmission Line/Substation Design – No discussion

(g) Financing – No discussion

5. Water/Wastewater/Electric/Telecommunication services to all parts of Hualapai Reservation – HTUA Strategic Plan

(a) Path forward for HTUA electrical – Base Model Strawman – Mr. Cyr provided an update to the board on the base model strawman for HTUA electric service to GCW and Peach Springs.

Key takeaways are as follows:

1. The model indicates that the project would be cash positive to the Hualapai bottom line for both 5%, 30-year financing or self-financing by the Hualapai Tribe.
2. New information from GCW shows a minimum yearly expenditure of \$2.3M up to \$3M for operation of the current diesels located at GCW. With a power line these costs could be reduce to approximately \$200,000 per year.
3. With the addition of a power line to GCW a 2 – 3 MW solar plant could be constructed with any excess sales flowing back into the transmission grid through Dolan Springs.

Chairman Vaughn indicated that recent discussions regarding the proposed Hualapai Colorado River water allocation focused on reducing the total costs for delivery of said allocation to the Hualapai. Based on reducing costs the option for directional bore from the rim of the Grand Canyon at GCW, down to the Colorado River may be the most cost-effective solution. Mr. Vaughn then requested Mr. Cyr work on determining the amount of power and the size of motors that would be required to pump the water from the bottom of the Grand Canyon up to GCW.¹

(b) Cost of Generation Grand Canyon West – Discussed under item 5(a)

¹ See Section 7.2.3.7 of Appraisal Design Report, Vol. 1, October, 2014

**Hualapai Tribal Utility Authority Board Meeting Minutes
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6. Federal Hydro Power/WAPA/Other Power related

(a) WAPA Interconnection Study

(i) Department of Energy – Technical Assistance Grant – Mr. Cyr and Mr. Davidson informed the board that the Department of Energy has agreed to fund an interconnection study for the following potential transmission routes:

1. New Line Round Valley to Peach Springs
2. Mohave Electric existing Round Valley to Peach Springs
3. New Line Round Valley to Peach Springs to GCW
4. New Line Peacock to Peach Springs
5. New Line Peacock to Peach Springs to GCW
6. New Line Peacock and Round Valley to Peach Springs loop with radial to GCW
7. Dolan Springs to GCW
8. Dolan Springs to GCW to Peach Springs to Round Valley loop
9. Dolan Springs to GCW to Peach Springs to Peacock loop
10. Peacock and Round Valley to Peach Springs to GCW to Dolan Springs
11. Other routes as determined

(ii) Peacock Substation potential routing – Mr. Davidson discussed with the board a possible transmission route utilizing existing both Mohave County and ADOT right of way from Peacock substation on into Peach Springs

7. Other Matters

- a. Update on Tribal Council actions – Mr. Davidson informed the board about two potential projects being considered by the Hualapai: a park/playground and a new tribal administrative building.
- b. AT&T fiber optic easement and status of awarded contract – Mr. Davidson informed the board that negotiations have not begun but preliminary meetings are scheduled for the upcoming Special Council Meeting on March 18th.
- c. Replacement Board Member Search – The board then reviewed an application letter for a potential new board member. Mr. Vaughn instructed Mr. Davidson to forward the letter to Tribal Council for consideration.
- d. Announcements – No discussion

Hualapai Tribal Utility Authority Board Meeting Minutes
February 27, 2019



8. Set time and location for next meeting – Next meeting date was set for March 21, 2019 at 9:00am in the conference room at the Hualapai Health, Education and Wellness Center.
9. Adjourn – Adjournment was approved 3 – 0 on a motion entered by Mr. Magenty and seconded by Mr. Montana.

**Hualapai Tribal Utility Authority Board Meeting Minutes
April 3, 2019**



1. **Call to Order** – Meeting was called to order at 1:11pm by Chairman Vaughn—Note: Original meeting date was scheduled for March 21,2019 however scheduling conflicts postponed meeting until April 3rd.

2. **Roll Call Board Members**

Charles Vaughn, Chairman – Present

Joe Montana, Vice Chairman - Present

Secretary- Vacant

Treasurer- Vacant

Rory Majenty – Via Telephone

Support Personnel

Bill Cyr, General Manager – Present

Kevin Davidson, Planning Director – Present

3. **Review and Approve Minutes from February 27, 2019**

The minutes were approved as written 3 – 0 on a motion by Mr. Montana and a second by Mr. Majenty.

4. **Approval of invoices**

a. The Board reviewed and approved the following invoices

- i. Invoice from Tierra ROW for \$2,933.75 Motion by Mr. Majenty second by Mr. Montana (3 for 0 against).
- ii. Invoice from BBC Consulting for January General Manager Services for \$7,255.80 Motion by Mr. Majenty second by Mr. Montana (3 for 0 against).
- iii. Invoice from BBC Consulting for February General Manager Services for \$7,376.15 Motion by Mr. Majenty second by Mr. Montana (3 for 0 against).
- iv. Invoice from BBC Consulting for January General Manager Services for \$8,375.15 Motion by Mr. Vaughn second by Mr. Majenty (3 for 0 against).

Hualapai Tribal Utility Authority Board Meeting Minutes
April 3, 2019



5. Proposed Power Line to Grand Canyon West

(a) Environmental The board reviewed a written summary by Mr. Davidson, included in Board package, of the recent meeting with the Friends of the Arizona Joshua Tree Forest recently held in Kingman Arizona. The bottom line is that the Friends of the Arizona Joshua tree Forest are not supportive of a power line that would be constructed in the Diamond Bar Road right of way.

Mr. Davidson then updated the Board regarding a recent conversation with Andy Whitefield of the BLM Kingman office. Mr. Whitefield is now indicating that the construction of the transmission line along the row of the Diamond Bar Route may not be in compliance with the BLM's Resource Management Plan (RMP). He will be getting back to Mr. Davidson in the next few days to discuss removing the Diamond Bar Road route as a primary alternative.

Mr. Davidson also briefed the Board on recent work completed by Tierra Right of Way. We can expect completed cultural and biological assessment reports in the next few weeks. Additionally, Mr. Davidson updated the Board on work related to a public outreach meeting to the communities of Dolan Springs, Meadview and Peach Springs. The Board recommends that the first meeting should occur in Peach Springs and then the other two locations thereafter. The Board further indicated that the public meetings do not occur until the Hualapai Council is briefed on the project status. The Council briefing should occur in early May and the public meetings can be scheduled after with Council concurrence. Mr. Davidson reminded the Board that the \$1.9 million grant is in jeopardy if we do not conclude environmental work by this fall.

Finally, Mr. Davidson provided a map showing the location of 3 new cultural site findings that occurred while trying to make minor adjustments to route alignment to avoid 3 other cultural sites and a stand of junipers. All of the cultural and biological reports will be available in the pending reports from Tierra and as such will be available for public comment during the public outreach phase of the project.

Hualapai Tribal Utility Authority Board Meeting Minutes
April 3, 2019



(b) Status of Final Transmission/Substation Design The Board was provided with detailed Line, Substation, and GCW site construction costs. Mr. Cyr compared the construction estimate provided by IMEG several years ago to recent cost estimates recently received on the most costly components of the project including but not limited to poles, conductors, hardware, and substation transformers. Mr. Cyr reported that the 12.6 million dollar estimate by IMEG is still valid today and can be used for developing economic models. A more detailed cost will be required after final route selection is made.

6. Water/Wastewater/Electric/Telecommunication services to all parts of Hualapai Reservation – HTUA Strategic Plan

(a) Power Point Presentation for Hualapai Council

Mr. Cyr then went over a proposed Power Point presentation to the Hualapai Council on the status of HTUA's efforts in developing HTUA with a specific emphasis on the GCW power line. The Board made numerous suggestions on corrections and additions to the presentation. The Board recommended that Mr. Cyr make the corrections and then schedule a meeting with Wanda Easter to go over the presentation in detail with a primary focus on the financing and economics of the proposed project.

Mr. Cyr indicated that the economics are such that the transmission line can be constructed and financed if most of the dollars presently allocated to the operation of diesel generators at GCW was re-allocated to HTUA to pay for the transmission line debt and support continuing HTUA operational costs. In this scenario Mr. Cyr is estimating a net saving back to the Hualapai Tribe of approximately \$300,000 per year.

Mr. Cyr also informed the Board that according to preliminary results from UNES interconnection study, the addition of the pumping load associated with the anticipated

Hualapai Tribal Utility Authority Board Meeting Minutes
April 3, 2019



Colorado River water allocation could not be technically supported by the proposed GCW power line from

Dolan Springs. Mr. Cyr indicated that additional electrical infrastructure will be required to support the pumping load and as such should be included in the project estimate associated with the pumping of said Colorado River water. It is Mr. Cyr's opinion that the construction of the proposed GCW power line today would place HTUA in a position to manage and operate the required electrical infrastructure for the future pumping load. The construction of the GCW power line will establish HTUA as a "brick and mortar" operation and provides the HTUA organization with operational experience that can be leveraged to manage the construction and then the necessary pumping load infrastructure.

It would be advantageous for the Hualapai Tribe's utility to manage the pumping load infrastructure project from both an economic and operational point of view. From an economic point of view HTUA can leverage any construction dollars to HTUA's best interest. It is important to realize that the necessary infrastructure will be built and it will be much better to keep said money in the HTUA economy and not send it off the reservation to other utilities. Secondly, if HTUA builds out the necessary infrastructure, it can leverage the knowledge gained to continue to operate the facilities after they are built. It is important to note that third-party contractors and consultants will be required to assist in a project of the pumping load scale; however, the project should be financially directed by as many of the Hualapai's entities as possible.

Hualapai Tribal Utility Authority Board Meeting Minutes
April 3, 2019



7. Federal Hydro Power/WAPA/Other Power related

(a) WAPA Interconnection Study

Mr. Cyr updated the Board on the status of the WAPA interconnection study. A one line diagram was presented to the Board depicting the power line routes that would be studied. WAPA indicated that the study is scheduled for completion in June 2019.

(b) Boulder Station Master Schedule

The Board was informed about the Boulder Canyon Project (BCP) Master Schedule primarily for information purposes only

(c) CRSP Annual Meeting

The Board was informed about the upcoming Colorado River Storage Project (CRSP) annual meeting. The Board felt attendance by HTUA was not required especially since CRSP representatives were recently at a HTUA Board meeting in Peach Springs.

8. Annual Report with Budget revisions

Mr. Cyr presented the Board with an update to the annual report due to changes in the final budget amount allocated to HTUA. The Board made some grammatical corrections and pointed out some typos. The Board indicated that the updated report be presented to the Hualapai Council after said corrections are made.

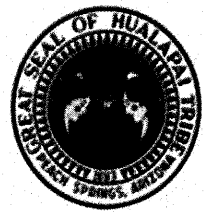
9. Other Matters

a. Update on Tribal Council actions –

b. AT&T Fiber Optic Easement – The Board was provided a written update on AT&T fiber ROW negotiations by Mr. Davidson as included in the Board package. Additionally, Mr. Davidson informed the board that negotiations have not begun. The Tribe is in the process of sending out a formal letter to AT&T that the ROW lease had expired and that AT&T was now in trespass.

c. Replacement Board Member Search – The council is considering two recent applicants for filling empty HTUA Board seats. We expect to hear from the Hualapai Council on their decision

**Hualapai Tribal Utility Authority Board Meeting Minutes
April 3, 2019**



regarding the new applicants in the next several weeks.. The candidates are Lana Keller-Robinett and Jason Davis.

- d. **Announcements** – The Board discussed the ongoing survey being conducted by Mohave Electric Cooperative regarding providing broad band services to its customers.

10. Set time and location for next meeting – Next meeting date was set for April 24 at 9:00am in the conference room at the Hualapai Health, Education and Wellness Center.

11. Adjourn – Adjournment was approved 3 – 0 on a motion entered by Mr. Magenty and seconded by Mr. Montana at 3:20 PM

Agenda for Hualapai Tribal Utility Authority Board Meeting Minutes
April 24, 2019 @ 9:00AM
Hualapai Multi-Purpose Building



1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Vaughn 9:43 AM.

2. Roll Call

a. Welcome to New Board members

Chairmen Vaughn welcomed new Board member Jason Davis. Mr. Vaughn provided a short brief on HTUA history and the proposed power line to Grand Canyon West.

Mr. Davis indicated his preference for future power supply to be renewable based and specifically solar. He indicated that he was uncomfortable with fixed power lines due to reliability concerns and the possibility of non-Tribal customer's connection to any new power line. Mr. Vaughn indicated that that HTUA had done a great deal of planning and evaluating over the last three years and that the Board's current position was that a fixed power line was in the best interest of both GCW and the entire Hualapai Tribe. Mr. Cyr, related to Mr. Davis that he had over 30 years of experience with the utility industry with 12 years serving as the General Manager of the Fort Mojave Indian Tribe's electric utility Aha Macav Power Service. Mr. Davis indicated that it was his preference to solicit bids from solar vendors for a renewable power supply at GCW.

b. Roll Call

Board Members

Charles Vaughn, Chairman Present

Joe Montana, Vice Chairman Present

Secretary-Vacant

Treasurer-Vacant

Rory Majenty Absent

Jason Davis Present

Lana Keller Robinett arrived at 11:15---delayed due to car problems and road construction

Support Personnel and Guest(s)

Bill Cyr, General Manager Present

Kevin Davidson, Planning Director Present

Agenda for Hualapai Tribal Utility Authority Board Meeting Minutes
April 24, 2019 @ 9:00AM
Hualapai Multi-Purpose Building



3. Review and Approve Minutes April 3, 2019

Motion to approve minutes by Mr. Vaughn with a second by Mr. Montana---vote 3-0

4. Approval of Invoices

a. Tierra Right of Way

The Tierra right of way invoice was approved for payment \$9,647.07. Motion by Mr. Montana with a second by Mr. Vaughn ---vote—3-0

b. BBC Consulting –General Manager Services

The BBC Consulting invoice was approved for payment \$5,342.10. Motion by Mr. Montana with a second by Mr. Vaughn ---vote—3-0

5. Managers' Report

Mr. Cyr presented the managers' report

6. Proposed Power Line to Grand Canyon West

a. BLM Related – Request letter to consider Diamond Bar Road Alternative

Mr. Davidson briefed the Board on a request by BLM to document in writing HTUA's desire to include the Diamond Bar Route as an alternative power line route. After a brief discussion, Mr. Vaughn signed the letter as drafted by Mr. Davidson

b. NEPA/ Environmental/Cultural/Biological

• Cultural Report

The Board was provided with the recently received Cultural Report for review.

• Biological Report

The Board was provided with the recently received Biological Report for review.

Agenda for Hualapai Tribal Utility Authority Board Meeting Minutes
April 24, 2019 @ 9:00AM
Hualapai Multi-Purpose Building



- **Public Outreach for upcoming meetings on Environmental Assessment**

The Board was briefed on the upcoming public information meetings. They will be held in Peach Springs, Dolan Springs and Meadview on May 21, 22 and 23. Each meeting is scheduled from 4 pm to 6 pm. The public meeting will not be held without Hualapai Council concurrence on moving forward with the GCW power line project. Said concurrence will be sought from the Council at the May 4th Council meeting after the Power Line project PowerPoint schedule to be given to the Hualapai Council by Mr. Cyr on that date. Mr. Vaughn requested that the Peach Springs meeting be conducted first.

- c. **Tucson Electric Power System Impact Study Dolan Springs to Grand Canyon West**

Mr. Cyr briefed the Board on the latest draft of the subject interconnection study. Mr. Cyr has sent Tucson Electric a series of technical questions and is hopeful to get responses to those questions in the next several weeks. Mr. Montana wanted to clarify with Tucson Electric that they totally understand the operation of the existing GCW generators currently and after the power line is constructed. Mr. Montana wanted to ensure that Tucson Electric was not including the tribe's generators in their calculation of total capacity available at GCW.

- d. **WAPA Interconnection Study**

Mr. Cyr briefed the Board that the study was ongoing and schedule for completion would be in late June early July

- e. **NextEra Proposals**

- i. **White Hills Wind Farm**

The Board was briefed by Mr. Davidson regarding s presentation by NextEra regarding the White Hills Wind Project scheduled to be given to the Hualapai Tribal Council on April 30.

Agenda for Hualapai Tribal Utility Authority Board Meeting Minutes
April 24, 2019 @ 9:00AM
Hualapai Multi-Purpose Building



ii. Grand Canyon West Solar Array

Mr. Cyr and Mr. Davidson briefed the Board regarding recent interaction with NextEra and their desire to provide a solar option presentation for GCW electrical power requirements. NextEra sent out an email indicating that they had been requested by tribal council members to present a solar project proposal for GCW.

The author of the email was contacted and an initial phone conversation was followed up by a more detailed call with Kevin Davidson, Mr. Cyr and about 4 or 5 representatives of NextEra. The bottom line of that follow up call is that NextEra does not have an actual proposal for presentation to the Hualapai Council at this time. They could not answer any technical questions regarding the operation, output or any other specifics of the proposal. Additionally, and perhaps most importantly, they indicated that they had not installed any solar solution of the magnitude required for GCW that operated off the grid. Mr. Davidson asked NextEra if a ball park estimate for such a project would be in the 8 to 12 million dollar range, to which they indicated that \$8-\$12 million is a representative estimate at this time.

NextEra requested load data from HTUA to support the development of a proposal. The Board indicated that NextEra should be directed to the GCRC organization for the load data for the GWC operation.

NextEra also indicated that they will visit GCW during the period when they will be in town making a presentation to the council and public regarding the White Hills wind project discussed above(April 30—May 1). They indicated that they were available to meet and discuss the solar option; however, the Board felt it would be more appropriate to obtain further direction from the Hualapai council prior to doing so.

7. HTUA Economic Model

Agenda for Hualapai Tribal Utility Authority Board Meeting Minutes
April 24, 2019 @ 9:00AM
Hualapai Multi-Purpose Building



i. Updated Power Point for Hualapai Council

At the April 3, 2019, meeting, the Board directed Mr. Davidson and Mr. Cyr to present the underlying economic model for the GCW power line to the Tribe's finance director, Wanda Easter. The economic model along with the proposed Council power point was presented and reviewed by Ms. Easter on April 18th, 2019. Ms. Easter quickly understood the underlying proposal and made some interesting suggestions. Specifically,

- self-financing should be considered for interest savings and may allow for quicker project approval in light of hurdles presented by the Hualapai Constitution.
- A rate should be developed that would be assessed to GCRC for power purchases from HTUA. That rate should cover all the costs HTUA requires to serve its first customer - GCRC's operations at GCW.
- Other projects are under consideration for self-financing and as such should be considered as competing projects for funding

ii. Council presentation on May 4, 2019

Mr. Cyr then went through the entire power point presentation as revised per their direction. Once the review was complete the Board felt comfortable with Mr. Cyr providing the presentation to the council on May 4th, 2019, at the regularly scheduled Hualapai Council meeting.

8. Federal Hydro Power/ WAPA/Other Power related

a. Boulder Canyon Project –Federal Register Notice –Request for Rate Change

The Board had no questions on the provided information.

9. Other Matters

Agenda for Hualapai Tribal Utility Authority Board Meeting Minutes
April 24, 2019 @ 9:00AM
Hualapai Multi-Purpose Building



a. Update on tribal council actions – Kevin

Mr. Davidson briefed the Board on the Tribe's interest in a new Cry House and his departments work in soliciting a new 1 million dollar DOE grant for solar.

b. AT&T fiber optic easement and status of awarded contract – update – Kevin

Mr. Davidson briefed the Board on the status of these negotiations. At present, the attorneys are discussing the background and working towards that first initial face to face meeting

c. Schedule Election of Board Officers

Election of officers will occur at the next scheduled Board Meeting.

d. Announcements

None

10. Set time and location for next meeting

May 22, 2019---Hualapai Health, Education and Wellness Center -9 AM

11. Adjourn

Hualapai Tribal Utility Authority Board Minutes

May 22, 2019 @ 9:00AM
Hualapai Health and Wellness Center



1. Call to Order

Chairman Vaughn called the meeting to order at 9:06.

2. Roll Call

Board

Charles Vaughn, Chairman **Present**

Joe Montana, Vice Chairman **Present**

Secretary-Vacant

Treasurer-Vacant

Rory Majenty **Present via phone**

Jason Davis **Present**

Lana Keller Robinett **Present**

Support Personnel and Guest(s)

Bill Cyr, General Manager **Present**

Kevin Davidson, Planning Director **Present**

Theresa Knoblok-Tierra Right of Way **Present**

Jennifer Jennings – Tierra Right of Way **Present**

3. Review and Approve Minutes April 24, 2019

Motion to approve minutes by Mr. Montana second by Mr. Vaughn (3-0-1)

4. Approval of Invoices

- a. BBC Consulting –General Manager Services

Motion to Approve BBC Consulting services invoice (\$5,961.6) by Mr. Majenty second by Mr.

Montana Vote--- (5-0-0)

- b. Tierra Right-of-Way – Environmental Assessment

Motion to Approve Tierra Right of Way services invoice (\$17,523.75) by Mr. Montana second

by Ms. Robinett Vote--- (5-0-0)

5. Manager's Report

Mr. Cyr then presented his monthly Managers Report (elaborate).

**Hualapai Tribal Utility Authority Board Meeting Agenda
May 22, 2019 @ 9:00AM
Hualapai Health and Wellness Center**



6. HTUA presentation to HTUA Council on Saturday May 4, 2019 and Monday May 6, 2019 Brief

Mr. Cyr provided the Board with a verbal brief on the presentation before the council on May 4, 2019. Additional details are included in the May General Manager's report. The bottom line result of the presentation was that the Hualapai Council gave HTUA the green light to continue with its development efforts associated with the proposed power line to Grand Canyon West including public meetings in Peach Springs, Dolan Springs and Meadview.

The Hualapai Council tabled the approval of the HTUA Annual Report until the next Council meeting in order to allow Council members more time to review. The Hualapai Council approved the HTUA Annual Report at their meeting on May 6, 2019.

7. Dual Track Discussion Solar//Power Line

The Board then had a general discussion regarding the merits of pursuing a more detailed Solar Power Plant proposal for the renewable energy option. Some of the specific areas discussed included

- continue moving forward with Power Line Project but also seek proposal for Solar Power Plant
- meet with GCRC Board---in the future once more is known about Solar Power Plant
- determine operator: GCCW or HTUA---Board felt HTUA charter specifies that it is the responsibility of HTUA to secure energy services for the Hualapai reservation
- Mr. Davidson and Mr., Cyr will work collectively to issue an RFP seeking proposal for a Solar Power Plant at GCW
- Mr. Davis and other Board members had suggestions on where the site for a proposed plant would be, Site alternative will be included in RFP

8. Proposed Power Line to Grand Canyon West

a. BLM Related

Mr. Davidson led the discussion on a letter received from the BLM - Kingman Office - Field Manager Amanda Dodson. The letter basically guides HTUA way from considering the Diamond Bar route as a valid option. If this is the route that is selected it is very likely that a Environment Impact Statement (EIS) will need to be pursued versus the less burdensome Environmental Assessment that we are currently performing on the other routes.

**Hualapai Tribal Utility Authority Board Meeting Agenda
May 22, 2019 @ 9:00AM
Hualapai Health and Wellness Center**



b. NEPA/ Environmental/Cultural/Biological

- i. Review of Biological & Cultural reports – Tierra Right-of-Way & Kevin Davidson**
- ii. Public Outreach meetings**

Invited Tierra Right of Way guests Ms. Knoblock and Ms. Jennings briefed the Board on the Biological and Cultural Reports. They indicated that they saw no major potential conflicts with the biological and cultural encounters on the proposed rights-of-ways in relation to the construction and operation of the 69,000 volt power line. They indicated that construction will need to be aware of the desert tortoise in the area and that special concern will need to be exercised as the power line crosses or comes close to any of the eight identified cultural sites. The Board asked a series of clarifying question on both the biological and cultural aspects.

The Board also discussed the upcoming public meetings and Tierra reviewed the proposed presentation with the Board. Individual Board members indicated that they would attend some of the upcoming public meetings.

c. Tucson Electric Power System Impact Study Dolan Springs to Grand Canyon West

Mr. Cyr briefed the Board on the subject study and indicated that he had just received the final draft after the Board meeting package was produced. He will update the Board on the study results at the next Board meeting.

d. WAPA Interconnection Study

Mr. Cyr updated the Board that this study should be completed in July.

e. Review and Finalize Cost Estimates

Mr. Cyr indicated to the Board that he will continue to update/review costs associated with Power Line construction including driving the proposed route with the aforementioned line men from Kingman. Mr. Cyr will also solicit a material costs listing from a Power Line Component supplier.

9. Federal Hydro Power/ WAPA/Other Power related

The Board then reviewed the following Board Packet information related to WAPA and Federal Hydro Allocations.

- a. Boulder Canyon Project –Master Schedule
- b. Boulder Canyon Project – Public Information Forum Presentation—Rate Change's
- c. Boulder Canyon Project -- Engineering and Operations Committee Meeting Agenda
- d. Colorado River Storage Project – Annual Meeting

**Hualapai Tribal Utility Authority Board Meeting Agenda
May 22, 2019 @ 9:00AM
Hualapai Health and Wellness Center**



10. Other Matters

a. Update on tribal council actions – Kevin

No additional items to report at this time

b. AT&T fiber optic easement and status of negotiation – update – Kevin

Mr. Davidson reported that the negotiations are proceeding. He indicated that he would be meeting with Cultural staff today to discuss cultural concerns regarding renewing the lease. Additionally, a more formal meeting with tribal staff, including the attorney reaching out to AT&T, will occur on May 31st.

c. Election of Board Officers

The Board then held annual elections

Mr. Charles Vaughn was nominated for Board Chair and the Board approved Mr. Vaughn as Board Chair. ---Motion by Mr. Montana second by Mr. Davis (vote (4-0-1))

Mr. Joe Montana was nominated for Vice Chair and the Board approved Mr. Montana as Board Vice-Chair. Motion by Mr. Majenty second by Ms. Keller-Robinett (vote (4-0-1))

Ms. Lana Keller-Robinett was nominated for Secretary and the Board approved Ms. Keller-Robinett as board Secretary. Motion by Mr. Davis second by Mr. Montana (vote (4-0-1))

Mr. Jason Davis was nominated for Treasurer and the Board approved Mr. Davis as Board Treasurer Motion by Mr. Vaughn second by Mr. Majenty (vote (4-0-1))

d. 2019 Tribal Energy Webinar Series Announcement

The Board was provided information on a self-directed Webinar ---Tribal Energy

e. Announcements

11. Set time and location for next meeting

The Board scheduled the next HTUA Board meeting for June 18th at 9:00 AM –Hualapai Wellness Center

12. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 11:01 AM Motion by Mr. Vaughn Second by Ms. Keller-Robinett

Hualapai Tribal Utility Authority Board Meeting Minutes
June 26 @ 9:00AM
Hualapai Health and Wellness Center



1. Call to Order

Chairman Vaughn called the meeting to order at 9:15am.

2. Roll Call

Board Members

Charles Vaughn, Chairman -- Present

Joe Montana, Vice Chairman -- Excused

Lana Keller-Robinett, Secretary -- Present via phone

Jason Davis, Treasurer -- Present

Rory Majenty -- Present via phone

Support Personnel and Guest(s)

Bill Cyr, General Manager -- Present via phone

Kevin Davidson, Planning Director -- Present

3. Review and Approve Minutes May 22, 2019

Motion to approve minutes By Ms. Keller-Robinett, second by Mr. Majenty vote (3-0-2)

4. Approval of Invoices

a. BBC Consulting --General Manager Services

Motion to approve BBC Consulting services for June 2019 of \$7,003.30 by Mr. Majenty second by Mr. Vaughn Vote (4-0-1)

b. Tierra Right Of Way -Environmental Assessment

Motion to approve Tierra Right of Way services for June 2019 of \$15,663.42 by Mr. Majenty second by Mr. Vaughn Vote (4-0-1)

The Board had a discussion regarding the importance of getting additional information regarding the proposed project. This discussion was prompted by the fact that the initial public hearing in Peach Springs conflicted with school graduation.

Hualapai Tribal Utility Authority Board Meeting Minutes
June 26 @ 9:00AM
Hualapai Health and Wellness Center



5. Manager's Report

Mr. Cyr proposed skipping the review of the Manager's Report but the Board requested that it be presented even though some of the material would come up again later in the meeting.

Mr. Cyr briefed the Board on the following items

- Worked on updating material costs associated with Power Line
- Attended all three public meetings and provided introductory remarks at said meetings
- Continued to work with Mr. Davidson on pressing BLM to complete their portion of the EA/Permitting work
- Reported that WAPA had completed some initial interconnection report but he had not met with WAPA as of yet. Initial findings came out close to Board meeting and there was not time to meet with WAPA prior to Board Meeting. Will meet with WAPA to discuss initial results prior to next Board meeting.
- Worked with Mr. Davidson on developing an RFP for a Solar Power Plant with battery backup for GCW. The Board is going to compare the Solar option with the power line option

6. Solar RFP

- a. RFP
- b. List of recipients
- c. June 19, 2019, Telephonic Scoping Meeting Summary
- d. June 26, 2019, Site tour starting at 2:00 PM

The board was provided, in the June Board Package, with a copy of the RFP and a list of bidders provided with the RFP. The Board was also informed of the publications that the RFP was placed into. The Board instructed Mr. Davidson to place the RFP notification into the Las Vegas publications as well (newspapers).

By a motion by Mr. Mr. Vaughn and a second by Mr. Davis the Board requested that the RFP bid due date be extended to August 8, 2019. Vote (4-0-1)

The Board was also briefed on an on-site meeting with potential bidders that will occur later today, 6/26/2019 at Grand Canyon West.

Hualapai Tribal Utility Authority Board Meeting Minutes
June 26 @ 9:00AM
Hualapai Health and Wellness Center



7. Arizona Tribal Energy Association Membership(ATEA)

The Board was briefed on the benefits of becoming a member of the ATEA. On a motion by Mr. Majenty and a second by Mr. Vaughn, the Board approved the Payment of \$1,500 for a six-month membership in the ATEA as an associate member.

8. Proposed Power Line to Grand Canyon West

a. BLM Related

i. Plan Of Development Questions

The Board was provided with a list of questions from the BLM regarding the power line Plan of Development (POD). Mr. Cyr and Mr. Davidson will reply to all the questions and make changes to the POD and submit back to the BLM ASAP.

b. NEPA/ Environmental/Cultural/Biological

i. Public Outreach meetings Summary Review

ii. Mount Tipton Student Comments

The Board was provided with a summary of the Public meetings and comments from the students at Mount Tipton. The Board discussed the public meeting summary, focusing on some of the letters received from students as well as comments from attendees at the public meeting. None of the comments were in favor of constructing a power line along Diamond Bar Road

c. Tucson Electric Power System Impact Study Dolan Springs to Grand Canyon West

i. Interconnection Study-Final

The Board was provided with a copy of the final interconnection study report from UNES. Mr. Cyr briefed the Board with the following highlights

- The maximum Load from the new power line will be about 3 MW or about 3 times the current usage at GCW
- The potential electrical loads associated with any Colorado River water allocation will require additional transmission work and additional transmission investment. Both the additional transmission work and required investment will be significant
- UNES is estimating that HTUA will be responsible for contributing \$1. Million to pay for the interconnection costs at Dolan Springs.
- The next step with UNES will be for HTUA to fund a facility study.

Hualapai Tribal Utility Authority Board Meeting Minutes
June 26 @ 9:00AM
Hualapai Health and Wellness Center



ii. Facility Study

The Board was provided with a draft Facility Study Agreement with UNES. The cost to fund the facility study is \$100,000. Based on this high cost and current work related to the Solar RFP - the Board took no action on this item. It will be brought up for discussion at the next Board meeting.

d. WAPA Interconnection Study

Reported that WAPA had completed some initial interconnection report but had not met with WAPA as of yet. Initial findings came out close to Board meeting and there was not time to meet with WAPA prior to Board Meeting. Will meet with WAPA to discuss initial results prior to next Board meeting.

e. Material Cost Estimate

Mr. Cyr provided the Board with an updated major material cost for the power Line

Item	amount	Units	Cost per unit	Total
Poles	600	poles	\$ 4,100	\$ 2,460,000
Insulators	600	poles	\$ 1,200	\$ 720,000
fiber	184,800	feet	\$ 3	\$ 462,000
power conductor	184,800	feet	\$ 2	\$ 369,600
misc				\$ 1,000,000
Pay UNES				\$ 1,000,000
Total				\$ 5,011,600

9. Federal Hydro Power/ WAPA/Other Power related

Mr. Davidson briefed the Board regarding an upcoming CRSP meeting.

10. Other Matters

a. Update on tribal council actions – Kevin

Mr. Davidson reported that there will be no more house lots offered in Box Canyon. The Tribe is considering a new residential development area around mile post 7 on Route 18.

b. AT&T fiber optic easement and status of negotiation – update – Kevin

Hualapai Tribal Utility Authority Board Meeting Minutes
June 26 @ 9:00AM
Hualapai Health and Wellness Center



Mr. Davidson briefed the board on Rosette's negotiations with AT&T and the field trip to view a portion of the line in the Peach Springs vicinity. So far, AT&T has been agreeable to the tribe's requests for information, preparing a NEPA document for the right-of-way and looking into potential internet service.

c. Announcements

11. Set time and location for next meeting

The next meeting date will be July 24, 2019 at 9:00 AM ---Health and Wellness Center

12. Adjourn

On a motion by Mr. Majenty second by Mr. Vaughn, the meeting was adjourned at 11:58 AM. Vote (4-0-1)

Hualapai Tribal Utility Authority Board Meeting Revised Minutes
July 24, 2019 @ 9:00AM
Cultural Center



1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 9:07 AM by Chairman Vaughn

2. Roll Call

Board Members

Charlie Vaughn, Chairman -- Present

Joe Montana, Vice Chairman -- Present

Lana Keller Robinett, Secretary -- Excused

Jason Davis, Treasurer -- Present

Rory Majenty -- Present via phone

Support Personnel and Guest(s)

Bill Cyr, General Manager -- Present

Kevin Davidson, Planning Director --Present

3. Review and Approve Minutes June 26, 2019

Motion to approve minutes By Mr. Vaughn second by Mr. Montana vote (?-0-1 excused)

4. Approval of Invoices

a. BBC Consulting –General Manager Services

Motion to approve BBC Consulting services for July 2019 of \$4,200 by Mr. Montana second by Mr. Vaughn Vote (4-0-1 Excused). Mr. Cyr to resubmit invoice with correct billing date.

b. Tierra Right Of Way -Environmental Assessment

Motion to approve Tierra Right of Way services for July 2019 of \$13,920.99 by Mr. Vaughn second by Mr. Montana Vote (4-0-1 Excused)

Hualapai Tribal Utility Authority Board Revised Meeting Minutes
July 24, 2019 @ 9:00AM
Cultural Center



5. Manager's Report

The managers report was presented by Mr. Cyr

- Solar Option for GCW Power Supply

Mr. Cyr discussed how it appears that the solar option for supplying today's energy requirements for GCW may be less costly, on an initial and continuing operation basis cost basis, than the power line option. Mr. Cyr pointed out that the power line would allow for addition growth at GCW (about 3 times) over GCW current electrical energy requirements but he also indicted that the power line as designed today will not be able to support significant additional load such as the energy requirements for pumping water out of the Colorado River up to the Grand Canyon rim at GCW. The Board then had a general discussion of the solar option vs. the power line option. Three of th Board members felt that the power line otion was still the best option for moving forward citing Council directive to develop a power ine for GCW, power lines abilty to serve some additional economic development and better reliability with the power line and that a significant amount of time and money have been spent on legal and technical resources in the actualization of the hard line project.

The board requested that Mr. Cyr prepare a cost comparison between the solar and power line options along with the pros and cons for both. The board requested that this analysis be completed for the August board meeting.

The Board then had a general discussion of the solar option vs. the power line option.

- Environmental Assessment for GCW Power Line

Hualapai Tribal Utility Authority Board Revised Meeting Minutes
July 24, 2019 @ 9:00AM
Cultural Center



The Board was briefed by Mr. Cyr and Mr. Davidson on the status of the environmental work related to GCW. Mr. Cyr indicated that it appeared that the BLM was introducing unnecessary delays into the project by not quickly processing the ROW application or providing timely responses to work submitted by HTUA environmental consultants Tierra Right of Way. Mr. Cyr also indicated that he felt that the BLM was not honoring the special government-to-government relationship that is supposed to exist between recognized Native American tribes and the Federal Government. The board had a general discussion resulting in a request to draft a letter for Hualapai Tribal Council Charmin to the immediate supervisors of the BLM Kingman office. The letter will discuss concerns regarding project delays and the Government to Government relationship that should be afforded to the Hualapai Tribe as it pertains to the grant of a ROW for the power line.

- **WPA Interconnection Study Results**

Mr. Cyr and Mr. Davidson reported on the results of the interconnection study performed by WAPA. The bottom line result is that to provide significant amounts of power to GCW, the WAPA 500 kv or WAPA 345 KV system will need to be tapped into. WAPA suggested that a potential interconnection point could be established if the White Hills wind generation project moves forward. If the project does move forward, the Hualapai Tribe may be able to leverage its status as a Native American Tribe to motivate the developer to pay for the interconnection equipment at no cost to the tribe. Construction of a new transmission line from GCW back to White Hills represents an additional cost to this option.

WAPA also indicated that it would go back and redo the interconnection study recently complete by UES—power line from Dolan Springs to GCW.

Hualapai Tribal Utility Authority Board Revised Meeting Minutes
July 24, 2019 @ 9:00AM
Cultural Center



6. Budget

a. 2019 to Date

The Board was updated on HTUA expenditures to date--- approximately \$127, 000 out of a budget of \$250,000

b. 2020 Direction

The Board discussed on how best to address the 2020 Budget submission. Either option for a GCW power line or a solar option will require a budget amount of between \$7 and \$15 million. The Board indicated that a special meeting between HTUA and the Tribal Council should occur in the next several months to discuss the direction the Hualapai Council would like to move forward with.

7. Proposal to Deploy Wireless High-Speed Internet in Peach Springs by Mural Net

Brian Shih of Mural Net, at Tribal council request, provided the HTUA Board with a presentation on a proposal to provide high speed wireless services to the Hualapai Tribe. In a nutshell the proposal would see the installation of high speed internet to 20 homes or businesses in Peach Springs. The Board viewed the proposal favorably. Mr. Shih indicated that wireless frequencies for Tribes along with governing rules will not become available until November 2019.

The Board also reviewed an agreement that establishes the terms, objectives and a statement of work. The Board took no action on the proposal, instead waiting for more information on the system and the frequencies along with rules that is scheduled to occur in November. Mr. Davidson will keep the Board informed as the November date comes into focus.

Hualapai Tribal Utility Authority Board Revised Meeting Minutes
July 24, 2019 @ 9:00AM
Cultural Center



8. Solar RFP

a. RFP Update

Mr. Davidson updated the Board on the status of the solar RFP including potential bidders and addenda that had been issued including the extension of the bid due date to August 8, 2019.

b. Blue Lake Rancheria – California

The Board was also briefed on a teleconference with the Blue Lake Rancheria Tribe. They have a significant solar installation that can carry their entire electrical needs with the solar plant; however, they continue to remain connected to the grid and purchase grid power due to economics.

c. NREL Study “2018 Utility Scale Photovoltaic-Plus Energy Storage System Costs Benchmark”

The Board was provided with a technical report on utility scale Solar systems with battery back-up. This report contains a variety of facts and economic data related to the solar plant with storage. HTUA will be able to utilize this report as a bench mark to evaluate solar proposals.

d. Tribal Energy Loan Guarantee Program

The Board was presented with information on “Tribal Energy Loan Guarantee Program” that could be utilized to finance the Solar or Power Line project. This program will be investigated more fully based on direction received from the Hualapai Council.

9. Proposed Power Line to Grand Canyon West

a. BLM Related

i. Plan Of Development Revision

The revised plan of development was provided to the Board

b. NEPA/ Environmental/Cultural/Biological

Hualapai Tribal Utility Authority Board Revised Meeting Minutes
July 24, 2019 @ 9:00AM
Cultural Center



i. Public Outreach meetings Summary as sent to BLM

Summary of the Public meetings along with the Biological and Cultural report have been submitted to the BLM for review, BLM has not responded with any comments as of this date.

The board had re-affirmed its desire to draft a letter for Hualapai Tribal Council Charmin to the immediate supervisors of the BLM Kingman office. The letter will discuss concerns regarding project delays and the Government to Government relationship that should be afforded to the Hualapai Tribe as it pertains to the grant of a ROW for the power line.

Mr. Davidson will reach out to the USDA to determine if they will extend the grant deadline one more time or possibly convert these funds to support the solar option.

c. Tucson Electric Power System Impact Study Dolan Springs to Grand Canyon West
i. Facility Study

Tucson Electric Power continues to wait for a \$100,000 to fund a facility study. HTUA will await further council direction prior to funding the facility study.

d. WAPA Interconnection Study Update

The WAPA interconnection study was discussed and placed into the minutes under item 5 Managers report

10. Federal Hydro Power/ WAPA/Other Power related

Hualapai Tribal Utility Authority Board Revised Meeting Minutes
July 24, 2019 @ 9:00AM
Cultural Center



The Board was informed about an upcoming CRSP meeting in Phoenix on August first. Mr. Cyr and Mr. Davidson will not be attending. The Board was reminded of the CRSP/WAPA presentation made to the Board in Peach Springs earlier this year.

11. Other Matters

a. Update on tribal council actions – Kevin

No New Tribal Action Items were brought forward for discussion.

b. AT&T fiber optic easement and status of negotiation – update – Kevin

Mr. Davidson briefed the Board on the Status of the ROW negotiations regarding the existing fiber optic line that crosses the HTUA reservation. The review should be complete in four months. They are now looking for a third-party appraiser to evaluate the value of the ROW. A site survey will be completed and the lead attorney has initiated preliminary discussions with AT&T.

c. Announcements

No announcements

12. Set time and location for next meeting

Next meeting will be at 9:00 am Wednesday August 21 at the Health and Wellness Center

13. Adjourn

Meeting was adjourned at 11:30 AM Motion by Mr. Vaughn second by Mr. Montana vote (4-0-1 excused)

Hualapai Tribal Utility Authority Board Meeting Minutes
August 28, 2019 @ 9:00AM
Hualapai Cultural Center



1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 9:15 am by Chairman Vaughn

2. Roll Call

Board Members

Charlie Vaughn, Chairman -- Present

Joe Montana, Vice Chairman -- Present

Lana Keller Robinett, Secretary --Present via phone

Jason Davis, Treasurer -- Present

Rory Majenty -- excused

Support Personnel and Guest(s)

Bill Cyr, General Manager -- Present

Kevin Davidson, Planning Director --Present

Chairman Vaughn expressed the Board's condolences to Mr. Majenty for his recent loss—the passing of his mother. Additionally Mr. Vaughn formally excused Mr. Majenty from the meeting and tabled all of agenda items related to the solar RFP and the potential solar power plant at GCW.

3. Review and Approve Minutes July 24,2019

Motion to approve minutes By Mr. Montana second by Mr. Vaughn vote (4-0-1 excused) with the following addition /correcting's to the Manager's Report section of the July 24, 2019 minutes.

Three of the Board members felt that the power line option was still the best option for moving forward citing Council directive to develop a power line for GCW, power lines ability to serve some additional economic development and better reliability with the power line and that a significant amount of time and money have been spent on legal and technical resources in the actualization of the hard line project.

Hualapai Tribal Utility Authority Board Meeting Minutes
August 28, 2019 @ 9:00AM
Hualapai Cultural Center



Additionally the Chair and other long standing Board members offered the following clarifications to newer Board members

- The past and current work related to bringing a hard wired power line to GCW was at the direction of the 2014 Hualapai Council and has been supported by subsequent Councils over the last 5 years through specific budget funding every year since then. Some of the funding was directed to preliminary engineering work, legal review, ROW surveying, cultural surveys, biological surveys, BLM funding and third-party study work by Unisource electric. Additionally, the council approved the hiring of a part time General Manager to support the development of the power line and the eventual operation of the "bricks and mortar" utility.
- The power line should be considered as the primary and only option currently under consideration by the Hualapai Council.
- The work related to determining the feasibility of a solar power plant at GCW is looking forward to what can be done after the power line is constructed
- The power line should still be considered as the most flexible (expandable) and reliable option for power supply at GCW as supported through the years of work and research conducted by HTUA
- The establishment of an operating electric utility today will be supportive of future electrical demands on the Hualapai reservation in the future. Without an operating utility the expansion of all utilities on the Hualapai Reservation will most likely continue to be provided by other non-Hualapai entities such as Mohave Electric, Unisource, Frontier and Verizon.

The best example of future utility requirements is related to a potential Colorado River water allocation. With an operating utility, the Hualapai Tribe will be able to self-direct and manage the necessary construction of assets and take ownership of the assets; without an operating utility, it will be difficult to convince third-party lenders and grant providers that the Hualapai can self-direct the construction of these assets. Without that in house expertise, the assets will be constructed by third-party –non Hualapai companies that will retain ownership and continue to remove Tribal cash as it asserts tariffs for investor profits, salaries of non-tribal employees, the continued operation and maintenance of these assets.

Hualapai Tribal Utility Authority Board Meeting Minutes
August 28, 2019 @ 9:00AM
Hualapai Cultural Center



4. Approval of Invoices

a. BBC Consulting –General Manager Services

Motion to approve BBC Consulting services for August 2019 of \$6,202.82 by Mr. Montana second by Mr. Davis. Vote (4-0-1 Excused)

b. Tierra Right Of Way -Environmental Assessment

Motion to approve Tierra Right of Way services for August 2019 of \$10,023.38 by Mr. Vaughn second by Ms. Keller Robinett. Vote (4-0-1 Excused)

5. Manager's Report

The manger's report was presented by Mr. Cyr. The Board was updated on the following items

➤ **Solar Option for GCW Power Supply**

Work related to the Solar RFP was front and center this month. The following activities surrounding this power supply option included.

- Revisions to RFP-Addendums
- Continued research into storage batteries
- Clarifying conference's with Bidders
- One site meeting at GCW with potential bidders
- Discussion with Aha Macav Power regarding their solar project and recently received grant
- Review and ranking of submitted RFP's
- Several conversations with NREL solar experts including detail discussion of NREL's opinion on solar RFP's received
- Comparison of Solar Option to Power Line Option

➤ **Environmental Assessment for Power Line to Grand Canyon west**

Per the Board's request a letter regarding concerns surrounding BLM's performance related to GCW power line environmental work.

Hualapai Tribal Utility Authority Board Meeting Minutes
August 28, 2019 @ 9:00AM
Hualapai Cultural Center



- Letter sent out and signed by Hualapai Council Vice President Philbert Watahomigie on July 29, 2019
- Reply letter from BLM Colorado River Division Manager William Mack
- Follow-up conversations with Tierra Right of Way
- The Board will be briefed in greater detail at the next Board meeting
- All written communication can be found in Board package

➤ **WAPA Interconnection Study results**

- WAPA delivered the final pre-interconnection study on July 8th, 2019
- Conference call looking at details on August 19th.
- The study seems comprehensive and includes their own independent results on the Dolan Spring interconnection
- Complete report is included in Board package

➤ **High Speed Wireless Internet Deployment –Peach Spring**

- No Activity this month

➤ **2019 Budget Expenditures to Date ---2020 Budget continued discussion**

- 2019 Budget expenditures to date including August invoices were presented to the Board at the August meeting.
- Draft letter for Board consideration requesting joint special meeting with Hualapai council to discuss Hualapai direction concerns power supply options for the Hualapai reservation

6. Solar RFP

All Agenda Items "6. Solar RFP" tabled until next meeting

- a. RFP Addendums
- b. RFP Bidders and Rankings
- c. NREL

7. Proposed Power Line to Grand Canyon West

a. BLM Related

- i. Letter to BLM
- ii. Letter From BLM
- iii. Tierra letter/notes

Hualapai Tribal Utility Authority Board Meeting Minutes
August 28, 2019 @ 9:00AM
Hualapai Cultural Center



The Board reviewed a letter to the BLM, a letter from the BLM and a clarification letter from Tierra Right of Way. The letter to the BLM was signed by the Tribal Vice Chair and discussed points of concern related to the work BLM is performing related to the Power line ROW. The letter from the Vice Chair focused on the long time it has taken to obtain approvals for the ROW request and the reluctance of the BLM to recognize the government-to-government relationship that is supposed to exist between the Tribe and the BLM. BLM has indicated that they offer more desirable ROW terms to WAPA, county and state agencies.

The response letter from the BLM Colorado District Manager was essentially non responsive on the length of time that has passed since the initial application BLM cited a host of reasons that could be disputed on a point by point basis and affirmed their position that they would not extend the same lease terms that they would extend to WAPA or County governments.

The correspondence from Tierra Right of Way provided details on the time line of various submissions related to the ROW application.

After reviewing the three different pieces of correspondence the Board felt it would be appropriate to inform the Council of the BLM position.

iv. Mohave County/BLM Quarterly Meeting Agenda/Minutes

The Board reviewed the BLM Quarterly Meeting Agenda/Minutes.

v. Revised Plan of development

The Board reviewed the revised Plan of Development

b. NEPA/ Environmental/Cultural/Biological

i. Draft EA

The draft EA was not available for review

c. Tucson Electric Power System Impact Study Dolan Springs to Grand Canyon West

i. Facility Study

On hold until further direction/funding by Hualapai Council.

Hualapai Tribal Utility Authority Board Meeting Minutes
August 28, 2019 @ 9:00AM
Hualapai Cultural Center



d. WAPA Interconnection Study Update

The Board reviewed the WAPA interconnection study. Mr. Cyr explained that the study was a comprehensive review of potential interconnection points that could be used to supply the Hualapai Reservation including the Dolan Springs interconnection that was previously studied by Unisource. Key findings of the study were as follows;

- WAPA confirmed that the Dolan Springs interconnection is suitable for 3 to 5 MW of power to the GCW.
- Power requirements in excess of 5 MW will require additional infrastructure originating from different interconnection points.
- The most promising interconnection point to serve power requirements beyond 5 MW at GCW would be the proposed White Hills wind project interconnection.
- Power supply for Peach Springs could be served by either Round Valley or Peacock substation
- WAPA is available for a more detail presentation to the Hualapai Council and the HTUA Board when requested.

8. Solar Vs. Power Line Comparison

All Agenda Items "7. Solar vs. Power Line Comparison" tabled until next meeting

9. Budget

a. Year to Date

The Board was briefed on Budget spending year to date

b. 2020 Preparation – Request Joint Meeting with Council

Mr. Cyr indicated that he felt it was appropriate to request a special joint meeting with the Hualapai Council to discuss the status of the power line development, the results of investigations into a solar power plant at GCW, listen to a presentation from WAPA on interconnection options and direction for the 2020 budget.

Hualapai Tribal Utility Authority Board Meeting Minutes
August 28, 2019 @ 9:00AM
Hualapai Cultural Center



10. Federal Hydro Power/ WAPA/Other Power related

a. National Tribal Energy Summit

The Board reviewed a flier discussing an upcoming Indian Energy Summit in Washington DC. The Board decided that it would be appropriate for Lana Keller Robinett to attend. Mr. Davidson will seek final approval from Wanda Easter.

b. Hoover Reconciliation report

The Board reviewed the Hoover reconciliation report.

c. Forward Purchase Power prices

The Board reviewed the forward purchase power prices.

11. Other Matters

a. Update on tribal council actions – Kevin

No items presented

b. AT&T fiber optic easement and status of negotiation – update – Kevin

Mr. Davidson provided the Board with a written report

c. Announcements

No announcements

12. Set time and location for next meeting

Next meeting scheduled for September 25, 2019 at the Health and Wellness Center

13. Adjourn

Meeting was adjourned on a motion by Mr. Vaughn and a second by Mr. Montana, vote (4-0-1 Excused)

Hualapai Tribal Utility Authority Board Meeting Minutes
Special Meeting- Solar RFP Review
September 10, 2019 @ 9:00AM
Hualapai Cultural Center



Item 1 – Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Vice Chair Mr. Montana at 9:22 am.

Item 2 – Roll Call

1. Roll Call

Board Members

Charlie Vaughn, Chairman -- Present

Joe Montana, Vice Chairman -- Present

Lana Keller Robinett, Secretary –Present

Jason Davis, Treasurer -- Present

Rory Majenty -- excused

Support Personnel and Guest(s)

Bill Cyr, General Manager -- Present

Kevin Davidson, Planning Director –Present

Presenters:

- Indian Energy
- Solan
- Stockbridge
- Arizona Energy Pros
- AGM Energy Services

Hualapai Tribal Utility Authority Board Meeting Minutes
Special Meeting- Solar RFP Review
September 10, 2019 @ 9:00AM
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Item 3 Review of August 28th tabled agenda items

a. RFP Summary Sheet/Bid Ranking

Mr. Cyr summarized the bid ranking summary sheets. Mr. Cyr explained that the first sheet summarized key facts such as the size and cost of the solar array, battery storage system and misc. items. Mr. Cyr pointed out that three of the bidders (Solon, Stockbridge, and Indian Energy) had proposed solar arrays and battery storage systems that were essentially the same size. The similarities of the three proposals were indicative that these three bidders have carefully reviewed the load data history provided allowing them to reach similar designs conclusions. These similarities should allow the board to focus on proposed costs and capabilities with some comfort that the proposed systems are designed for the requirements of GCW.

Bid ranking sheets of NREL, Mr. Montana and Mr. Cyr were included in Board package for review. All three ranked Indian Energy as the number one contender (Note: one ranking sheet had Indian Energy tied with Arizona Energy Partners.)

Mr. Cyr noted that Mr. Davidson had reached out to NREL for technical assistance in reviewing bids and that this technical help was very helpful and answered some of the key technical questions at hand.

Item 3 Review of August 28th tabled agenda items

b. Solar / Power Line comparison

Mr. Cyr went over a technical presentation that compared the solar option to the power line option. The presentation started with a review of various graphs showing average monthly energy consumption and energy demand at GCW. It was explained that bidders would use this information to size the proposed solar field. In addition, these same graphs could be used to help compare the solar option to the power line option. It was pointed out that both systems could meet the current

Hualapai Tribal Utility Authority Board Meeting Minutes
Special Meeting- Solar RFP Review
September 10, 2019 @ 9:00AM
Hualapai Cultural Center



power requirements at GCW but the power line could supply much more energy than the solar field without any additional capital cost whereas additional energy from a solar array would require additional capital expenditures beyond what is proposed in the RFP.

Key comparison factors were also discussed such as initial cost, visual appeal, environmental aspects, reliability, fire hazard, ability to serve future loads, power supply cost stability and the fact that the power line could be used to bring a high-speed fiber optic line to GCW.

Item 4 RFP submissions review / vendor presentations

- a. Solon
- b. Stockbridge
- c. Arizona Energy Pros
- d. AGM Energy Services
- e. Indian Energy

The above bidders provided visual and oral presentations to the Board. Mr. Davidson provided all Board members with a proposed list of questions for bidders. Drawing from Mr. Davidsons list all bidders were asked similar questions from the Board in the following areas

- How to improve upon or hide visual impact
- The ability of the system to be expanded to serve addition load at GCW
- Tilt or fixed
- Solar experience
- Ability to maintain frequency
- Maintenance requirements
- Expandability
- Ability to pump water from Colorado River at GCW
- Overall experience and experience with off-grid systems

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Special Meeting- Solar RFP Review
September 10, 2019 @ 9:00AM
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- Training of Hualapai staff to maintain
- Ability to work according to grant funding rules
- Integrating software
- How they arrived at system size

Key take away from these presentations were as follows:

- Three of the presenters had excellent presentation and appeared to have the necessary experience and staff to complete the project—Indian Energy, AGM and Solon. Stockbridge appeared to have the capabilities to complete project but did not present a very strong technical team. Arizona Energy partners had little to no experience in the scale required at GCW and the primary architect of the proposal was not in attendance
- The proposed systems for the most part would provide approximately 80 % of the energy requirements for GCW. The reminder of energy requirements would need to come from the existing diesels. Achieving a 95 % energy penetration would require additional capital expenditures of 40-50% more than currently proposed.
- The solar system, if size appropriately, could handle the pumping requirements and additional load; however, significant additional capital expenditures into additional solar arrays and batteries would be required.
- From an aesthetic point-of-view, beauty is in the eye of the beholder. Mitigation of the visual impact will add costs. Significant costs will occur as the solar field is placed further from existing mini-grid. Some solar power plant owners chose to showcase the solar plant to the public emphasizing the nature of the green energy produced.
- The proposed solar plants could be expanded relatively easily to accommodate future loads however significant capital costs will be required to accommodate any significant load growth.

Hualapai Tribal Utility Authority Board Meeting Minutes
Special Meeting- Solar RFP Review
September 10, 2019 @ 9:00AM
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- All but Solon thought fixed solar was the appropriate design instead of a tracking array
- The solar system will be most efficient in the winter months which are co-incident with the peak loads at GCW.
- All indicated that local tribal staff could be trained to operate and maintain the system with occasional third-party help for any major technical issues
- The system will have a 25 year life and will require several battery change outs.
- Solar output from the array at the end of 25 years should be around 80% of the initial energy output capabilities.

5– Other

None

Item 6- Adjourn

The meeting concluded at approximately 2:15 PM.

Hualapai Tribal Utility Authority Board Meeting Minutes
September 25, 2019 @ 9:00AM
Hualapai Health and Wellness Center



1. Call to order

The Meeting was called to order at 9:15 AM.

2. Roll Call

Board Members

Charlie Vaughn, Chairman -- Present

Joe Montana, Vice Chairman -- Present

Lana Keller Robinett, Secretary --Present via phone

Jason Davis, Treasurer -- Present

Rory Majenty -- present Via Phone

Support Personnel and Guest(s)

Bill Cyr, General Manager -- Present

Kevin Davidson, Planning Director --Present

3. Review and Approve Minutes

a. Revised July 24, 2019

Motion to approve minutes By Mr. Montana second by Mr. Davis vote (4-0-1).

b. August 28, 2019 --Regular August Board Meeting

Motion to approve minutes By Mr. Davis second by Mr. Vaughn vote (4-0-1).

c. Special Board Meeting- Solar RFP Review

Motion to approve minutes By Mr. Montana second by Ms. Keller Robinett vote (4-0-1).

4. Approval of Invoices

a. BBC Consulting --General Manager Services-

Motion to approve BBC Consulting/General Manager services invoice of \$8,098.7 By Mr. Montana second by Mr. Davis vote (5-0).

Hualapai Tribal Utility Authority Board Meeting Minutes
September 25, 2019 @ 9:00AM
Hualapai Health and Wellness Center



b. Tierra Right Of Way -Environmental Assessment

Motion to approve Tierra Right of Way Environmental services invoice of \$5,806.88 By Mr. Montana second by Ms. Keller Robinett vote (5-0).

5. Manager's Report

Mr. Cyr then presented the Managers Report and discussed the following items.

➤ **Solar Option for GCW Power Supply**

Work related to the Solar RFP was front and center again this this month. The following activities surrounding this power supply option included.

- RFP Special Board meeting
- Special Board Meeting with Individual Presentations

➤ **Environmental Assessment for Power Line to Grand Canyon West**

- Multiple calls emails with Tierra to accelerate draft EA
- Meeting with BLM Staff in Field to review mining claims and other alignment issues
- Meet with BLM in Kingman office to discuss status and completion date for BLM / environmental work

➤ **High Speed Wireless Internet Deployment –Peach Spring**

- No Activity this month

➤ **2019 Budget Expenditures to Date ---2020 Budget continued discussion**

- 2019 Budget expenditures to date including September invoices will be presented to the Board at the September meeting.
- 2020 Draft Budget—2 versions, one for solar option and one for power line option

➤ **Hualapai Council / HTUA Joint Meeting Presentation**

Hualapai Tribal Utility Authority Board Meeting Minutes
September 25, 2019 @ 9:00AM
Hualapai Health and Wellness Center



6. Hualapai Council/HTUA Joint Meeting

- a. Letter requesting joint meeting
- b. Draft joint meeting presentation

The Board reviewed the request letter and proposed Agenda for a joint meeting with the Hualapai Council. The purpose of the meeting is to obtain direction from the Council on how they would like to proceed with power supply options for GCW. With additional direction from the Council, HTUA will be able to prepare a 2020 budget proposal that is consistent with Hualapai Council direction.

The joint meeting will occur immediately after this meeting at 1:00 PM in Council Chambers.

7. Solar RFP-General Update

Mr. Cyr and Mr. Davidson informed the Board that no further activity had taken place with the Solar RFP. Depending on Council direction the solar option RFP may have to be revised.

8. Proposed Power Line to Grand Canyon West

- a. BLM Related
 - i. BLM Related Activities Update

Board was briefed on BLM related activity related to approving the Power Line ROW. During the last month emails and phone calls were exchanged with the BLM. In addition, Mr. Cyr and Mr. Davidson traveled to the BLM office and met directly with the BLM lead Andy Whitefield. BLM provided a loose commitment to have their work done by the middle of December 2019.

Additionally Mr. Cyr and Mr. Davidson met with BLM staff in the field to resolve transmission routing issues around the recently discovered mining claims and to resolve other issues regarding the location of the proposed right of way in relation to existing roads. The visual impact of tall structures in Hells Canyon was also addressed.

Hualapai Tribal Utility Authority Board Meeting Minutes
September 25, 2019 @ 9:00AM
Hualapai Health and Wellness Center



b. NEPA/ Environmental/Cultural/Biological

- i. General Update
- ii. Tierra ROW Change Order---Mining Claims/ROW Alignment

As a result of requested changes to the ROW route additional survey Tierra will need to do additional ROW surveying. The additional survey work will focus on routes that will by-pass recently identified mining claims and to more closely align ROW with existing roads.

Motion to approve change order of \$29,434 minutes By Mr. Vaughn second by Mr. Majenty vote (5-0).

iii. Draft EA?

A working draft EA was provided in the Board package. The EA will be revised as necessary with an expected completion date of late December or early first quarter 2020.

c. Tucson Electric Power System Impact Study Dolan Springs to Grand Canyon West
i. Facility Study

Awaiting study funding of \$1,000,000.

d. Financing—Letter requesting extension for USDA \$1.9 million grant

The Board reviewed a letter from Mr. Davidson to the USDA requesting an extension for the \$1.9 million grant. In support of that request Tierra provided an EA time line for review by the USDA.

9. Budget

a. Year to Date

The Board reviewed budget expenditures to date.

b. Finance Director Budget Request

The Board reviewed a letter from the Hualapai Finance Director that provides direction for submitting the 2020 budget proposals.

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c. Draft 2020 Budget Request

- i. Power Line**
- ii. Solar**

The Board reviewed two competing budget proposals ---one with a solar option and one with a power line option. The joint meeting scheduled with the Hualapai Council should provide the necessary direction to complete the final 2020 budget proposal.

10. Federal Hydro Power/ WAPA/Other Power related

a. Federal Register Notice; Power Repayment Study, 2020 Final Billing Summary

The Board reviewed the Federal register notice. This notice has no significant impact to HTUA.

11. Arizona Tribal Energy Association (ATEA) Quarterly Call

- a. Southwest Power Pool**
- b. Generation and Transmission Resource Cost Update -2019**

The Board was briefed on the ATEA quarterly call. The two handouts described in a and b above were also provided to the Board for their review.

*** Mr. Vaughn left the meeting at this point due to the unexpected passing of a family member. Knowing the recently deceased member, Mr. Majenty spoke of the outstanding character and offered his condolences to Mr. Vaughn and his family.

12. Other Matters

a. Update on tribal council actions – Kevin

Mr. Davidson informed the Board that the playground had been approved by the Council

b. AT&T fiber optic easement and status of negotiation – update – Kevin

Mr. Davidson informed the Board that a NDA had yet to be executed but that a firm had been retained to perform an appraisal of value on the subject ROW.

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c. Announcements

13. Set time and location for next meeting

Next meeting was scheduled for October 23rd at 9 AM at the Health and Wellness center.

14. Adjourn

Motion to adjourn at 11:25 AM By Mr. Montana second by Mr. Davis vote (4-0).

Hualapai Tribal Utility Authority Board Meeting Minutes
October 23, 2019 @ 9:00AM
Hualapai Health and Wellness Center



1. Call to Order

The Board meeting was called to order by Vice Chair Mr. Montana at 9:10 AM.

2. Roll Call

Board Members

Charlie Vaughn, Chairman -- excused

Joe Montana, Vice Chairman -- present

Lana Keller Robinett, Secretary --present

Jason Davis, Treasurer -- present

Rory Majenty -- present Via Phone

Support Personnel and Guest(s)

Bill Cyr, General Manager -- present

Kevin Davidson, Planning Director --present

3. Review and Approve Minutes

a. September 25, 2019

Motion to approve minutes By Mr. Montana and second by Mr. Davis vote (3-0-2).

4. Approval of Invoices

a. BBC Consulting --General Manager Service-

Motion to approve BBC Consulting/General Manager services invoice of \$5,888.9 by Mr. Davis and second By Mr. Montana. vote (4-0-1).

b. Tierra Right Of Way -Environmental Assessment

Motion to approve Tierra Right of Way Environmental services invoice of \$4,116.16 by Mr. Montana and second by Ms. Keller Robinett vote (4-0-1)

**Hualapai Tribal Utility Authority Board Meeting Minutes
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c. IMEG Change Order

Motion to approve IMEG change order invoice of \$1,753.82 by Mr. Montana and second by Ms. Keller Robinett vote (4-0-1)

5. Manager's Report

Tabled

6. Summary of Meeting with Hualapai Council September 25, 2019

Mr. Cyr briefed the Board on the meeting with the Hualapai Council. The Hualapai would like HTUA to submit a budget that is supportive of:

- Building a solar power plant at GCW that can supply 50 percent of the energy requirements at GCW.
- Completes the permitting and engineering for the proposed power line. Additionally, the power line construction should be completed over a 3 – 4 year build out.

7. Solar RFP-General Update

Tabled

- a. RFP Addendum
- b. Revised Proposals
 - a. Indian Energy
 - b. Solon
 - c. AGM
 - d. Stockbridge

8. Proposed Power Line to Grand Canyon West

Tabled

- a. BLM Related
 - a. POD Update

Hualapai Tribal Utility Authority Board Meeting Minutes
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- b. NEPA/ Environmental/Cultural/Biological**
 - a. Three month extension request**
- c. Tucson Electric Power System Impact Study Dolan Springs to Grand Canyon West**
 - a. Facility Study**
- d. 2020 Power Line Final Design Proposals**
 - a. IMEG**
 - b. Salient**
 - c. T&D/QSpec**

9. Budget

Tabled

- a. Budget Request**
- b. Energy Infrastructure Development Grant Notice**

10. Deployment of fixed-wireless 4G LTE network in Peach Springs

- a. MOU with MuralNet**

Mr. Davidson went over the Memorandum of understanding between the Hualapai Tribe and MuralNet. The agreement has been duly executed by the Hualapai Tribal Chair.

- b. Installation timeline**

Mr. Davidson went over the grant time line with the Board. The time line is short and requires that the system be installed and up and running by December 20 2019. Mr. Davidson also had samples of the customer premise equipment that will be installed in the customers' homes for Board member review. Major milestones are; installation of a broadcast antenna, obtain back haul bandwidth and obtaining of the necessary wireless spectrum from the FCC.

- c. Advertisement and selection of households**

Mr. Davidson then reviewed an applicant notification letter to solicit customers for the trial program. The notification letter informs potential candidates of the free program with a focus on educational internet requirements. Motion to approve notification application letter By Mr. Montana and second by Mr. Davis vote (4-0-1).

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11. Federal Hydro Power/ WAPA/Other Power related

Tabled

- a. BCP 10 Year Plan Technical Review

12. Other Matters

Tabled

- a. Update on tribal council actions – Kevin
- b. Tribal Energy Innovation Fellowship
- c. AT&T fiber optic easement and status of negotiation – update – Kevin
- d. Announcements

13. Set time and location for next meeting

Next Board meeting date will be November 20th at the Health and Wellness Center

14. Adjourn

Meeting was adjourned at 9:55 AM motion by Mr. Montana and second by Mr. Davis vote (4-0-1).



Hualapai Tribal Utility Authority Board Meeting Minutes

November 20, 2019

Held on November 25, 2019

Hualapai Health and Wellness Center

9:00 AM

Hualapai Tribal Utility Authority Board Meeting Minutes
November 20, 2019 @ 9:00AM
Held on November 25, 2019
Hualapai Health and Wellness Center



1) Call to Order

Meeting was called to order by Vice Chair Joe Montana at 9:13am.

2) Roll Call

Board Members

Charlie Vaughn, Chairman -- present

Joe Montana, Vice Chairman -- present

Lana Keller Robinett, Secretary -- present

Jason Davis, Treasurer -- present

Rory Majenty -- excused

Support Personnel and Guest(s)

Bill Cyr, General Manager -- present

Kevin Davidson, Planning Director -- present

3) Review and Approve Minutes

a) October 23, 2019

Motion to approve minutes by Ms. Lana Keller Robinett, and second by Mr. Davis vote (3-0-2).

4) Approval of Invoices

a) BBC Consulting – General Manager Services-

Motion to approve invoice of \$5,978.40 by Mr. Davis second by Ms. Lana Keller Robinett, vote (3-0-2).

b) Tierra Right Of Way - Environmental Assessment

Motion to approve invoice of \$2,702 by Mr. Davis and second by Ms. Lana Keller Robinett vote (3-0-2).

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5) Manager's Report

a) October 2019 - (previously tabled)

Being initially delayed for the start of the meeting Mr. Vaughn joined the meeting at this point

The General Manager reviewed the following report with the Board

Areas of Primary Focus

➤ Solar Option for GCW Power Supply

Work related to the Solar RFP was front and center again this this month. The following activities surrounding this power supply option included.

- Revised Solar RFP to solicit smaller system to provide 50 % of GCW power supply requirements
- Review New Solar RFP proposals
- More detailed discussion at Board meeting

➤ Environmental Assessment for Power Line to Grand Canyon West

- Work with Kevin and Tierra on revision to POD---has been submitted to BLM however no response as of yet
- Preliminary review of possible vegetation management plan for power line

➤ Review of Power Line Route Through Hells Canyon

Mr. Davidson and Mr. Cyr met with Jack Linley for a field visit of the power line right of way in the Tenney Ranch/Hells Canyon area. Mr. Linley is an experienced line worker with over 30 years of constructing 69 KV power lines in and around the Southwest Desert. The take aways from this meeting were as follows

- There should be no problem with construction of the line within the proposed ROW
- The project can be easily completed in a multiyear stage in approach
- The multiyear staged in approach lends its self to
 - constructing the line with Hualapai employees thus lowering the overall cost for construction
 - One to three experienced line workers along with 4 or 5 hardworking Hualapai members (who would be trained by experienced line workers - on the job training) could construct the line over a three year period or quicker depending on the availability of budget

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dollars. At the end of the construction period staff would be reduced to match operation and maintenance workload.

- The 90 foot single metal poles proposed for the Hells Canyon area could be replaced with 55-60 foot 3 pole structures that could be installed and maintained without helicopters thus reducing initial costs and continuing maintenance costs.

➤ High Speed Wireless Internet Deployment –Peach Spring

- MuralNet is looking to move forward and a letter has been generated seeking participants. To be discussed with Board at Board meeting.

➤ Hualapai Council / HTUA Joint Meeting Presentation

- Board member Joe Montana , Mr. Davidson and Mr. Cyr met with the Hualapai Council immediately after the September HTUA Board Meeting.
- The meeting request letter, meeting agenda and meeting material are included in this Board package -Section Item Number 6 “Summary of Meeting with Hualapai Council on September 26, 2019”.
- After the presentation and subsequent discussions the Council directed HTUA to prepare the 2020 budget proposal in the following manner;
 - Provide a budget that allows the Hualapai Tribe to move forward on both fronts
 - Reduce the size of the Solar project so that it supplies 50% of the GCW energy requirements
 - Provide a budget proposal for the power line that
 - Allows for obtaining ROW from BLM-complete environmental assessment work
 - Preserves the \$1.9 million grant
 - Provides for completing the engineering of the power line
 - Development of an implementation plan that allows for the construction of the power line over a 3 or 4 year period.

➤ 2020 Budget

- Budget has been revised to reflect direction received from Council during September 25, 2019 HTUA/Hualapai Council joint meeting.
- Budget includes monies for a smaller solar project and to continue developing power line option
- Budget request letter completed and sent on to Wanda Easter

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b) November 2019

The General Manager reviewed the following report with the Board

➤ Solar Option for GCW Power Supply

No significant progress on this item in October or November; however, I did attend a webinar on battery safety. The battery seminar was very informative and discussed the fire that occurred in Phoenix earlier this year, in summary here are the primary take aways from this seminar

- Primary problem is called “Thermal Run Away”
- Thermal Runaway occurs most often in a valve regulated acid (VRLA) battery when the rate of internal heat generation exceeds the rate at which the heat can be expelled. ... If your VRLA battery experiences thermal runaway, the heat it generates will destroy it. The battery can eventually hit temperatures of more than 1,000° F. At that point the flammable electrolyte can ignite or even explode when exposed to the oxygen in the air.
- Thermal runaway happens usually during charging. The temperature quickly rises to the melting point of the metallic lithium and causes a violent reaction. ... During a thermal runaway, the high heat of the failing cell can propagate to the next cell, causing it to become thermally unstable as well
- Battery manufacturers are working on different systems to prevent this occurrence
- Battery manufacturers are also working on ways to detect the start of thermal runaway and then take measures to mitigate the situation causing the thermal runaway condition.
- The best example out there is the exploding cell phone batteries a few years ago. ---If you remember they were banned from airplanes.
- The actual fires seem to occur due to the high buildup of pressures in the battery buildings or trailers. The pressures get so high that the building itself explodes and it is that explosion that causes the fires.
- If we obtain a system with battery storage we will have to review very closely that battery manufacturers system very carefully. Some are building trailers that will fail in strategic points so as not to cause a complete catastrophic explosion.

➤ Environmental Assessment for Power Line to Grand Canyon West

Work in this area continues with a primary focus this month on a vegetative management plan. The vegetative management plan is included for Board review in the Board package

➤ High Speed Wireless Internet Deployment –Peach Spring

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- Over the last month there were several conference calls/meetings with MuralNert, Hualapai IT, and a meeting with the Tribal Chair.
 - IT department will assist with getting antenna installed
 - Permit has been obtained
 - HTUA will need to manage day to day
 - Bill Cyr to perform this function initially
 - Customer database
 - Cost for the back haul bandwidth at \$1,395 a month for 50 MB
 - Planning Department will pay for the month of December however an additional \$16,470 will need to be budgeted for 2020 (Planning, HTUA, IT?)
 - HTUA is working on obtaining frequency spectrum from FCC
 - We have obtained detailed equipment specifications
 - Customer devices will not be the ones presented to the Board last month
 - Only one device will be required that combines both antenna and router
 - Device does not need to be placed in window unless signal strength is weak
 - MuralNet will assist with actual install
 - They have provided propagation map
 - Antenna will be 120 or 90 or 60 degrees
 - Approximate 4 mile propagation range
 - Our service area is about 1.5 miles
 - Overall backhaul bandwidth may become an issue—may limit initial deployment to 25 homes
- WECOM to Provide Additional Bandwidth to Peach Springs

In a related item to MuralNet, we learned that the IT Department/Tribe is moving forward with bringing in a fiber(s) optic line from Kingman that will improve the bandwidth available in Peach Springs. The Tribe sent a letter of support to a project by WECOM to bring a fiber optic line to Peach Springs sometime next year. WECOM obtained a grant of \$1.8 million from the USDA. The grant has a match requirement of 25%, so the total project cost is approximately 2.4 million. They will be providing 10 Giga-bytes total with 100 MB to each home. WECOM intends to run a fiber to each home/business on Mohave Electric existing poles. As of yet they have not provided a projected cost for the service.

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Kevin and I met with the Tribal chair and Mikel Allen and Ben Roberts of the IT Department. The intent of the meeting was to obtain a better understanding of the project. In the end all parties agreed that any service provided by WECOM should not be exclusive or handcuff the Hualapai Tribe from offering an alternative service.

This project should be considered as the negotiations regarding the ATT fiber ROW lease move forward. If the Tribe wishes to continue developing its independence/sovereignty it must proceed with cation with third-party communications suppliers if it does not want to have an outside entity create a monopoly on this service similar to the one Mohave Electric has in Peach Springs today.

HTUA has registered for the necessary bandwidth.

➤ 2020 Budget

- Waiting to hear back from council on 2020 Budget proposal

6) Solar RFP-General Update

a) RFP Addendum - (previously tabled)

The RFP addendum was reviewed with the Board. The primary change in the RFP was directed by Hualapai Council to "provide 50% of the electric energy requirements presently consumed at GCW".

b) Revised Proposals - (previously tabled)

Updated Solar proposals reflecting the RFP addendum were reviewed with the Board

- i) Indian Energy
- ii) Solon
- iii) AGM
- iv) Stockbridge

c) Battery storage webinar (new)

Mr. Cyr discussed the technical details of the safety concerns surrounding batteries used to store solar energy. Specifically; (may refer to previous discussion under 6.b and delete this section)

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7) Proposed Power Line to Grand Canyon West

a) BLM Related

i) POD Update - (previously tabled)

The Board was provided with an updated POD. The updates reflected minor changes as a result of BLM review

b) NEPA/ Environmental/Cultural/Biological - (previously tabled)

i) Three month extension request (now 4 month extension)

The Board reviewed a request from Tierra Right of Way for a time extension to complete the EA work. The need for the time extension is primarily due to BLM concerns regarding going around recently discovered mine sites on the proposed ROW and the BLMS request to have the proposed ROW hug more closely existing dirt roads in the area.

Motion to approve 5 month time extension until the end of May 2019 by Mr. Montana second by ?? (4-0-1).

c) Tucson Electric Power System Impact Study Dolan Springs to Grand Canyon West - (previously tabled)

i) Facility Study

Project continues to wait for funding

d) 2020 Power Line Final Design Proposals - (previously tabled)

The final design specifications for the GCW line were provided to the Board

i) IMEG

ii) Salient

iii) T&D/QSpec

e) Vegetation Management Plan

The BLM is now requiring that a vegetative management plan for maintaining the ROW underneath the power line be prepared and submitted as part of the environmental review process. The proposed vegetative management plan was prepared and submitted to BLM. The Board was provided with a copy for their review.

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8) Budget

i) Budget Request - (previously tabled)

The 2020 budget request was provided to and reviewed by the Board.

ii) Energy Infrastructure Development Grant Notice - (previously tabled)

A notice of grant for Tribal Emery Infrastructure was provided to and reviewed by the Board.

9) Deployment of fixed-wireless 4G LTE network in Peach Springs

- a) Correspondence / project update (new)**
- b) Bandwidth/back haul (new)**
- c) Permit/Equipment (new)**

The Board was updated on items a, b and c. The board was informed that Mr. Davidson and Mr. Cyr had been working on ensuring the system gets installed before the end of December. Coordination has been taking place with IT staff for antenna placement on the structure used by the Grand Canyon Corporation. The board was also informed that the "free demonstration" will actually cost some monies for the back haul from Peach Springs to Kingman. IT is working with HTUA to solicit a quote for the services from WECOM. The board was also updated on the efforts to date to acquire the necessary temporary license from the FCC. The acquisition of that FCC temporary license is on track for a December 9 in service/issuance date. The FCC license will be good for 30 days. HTUA will have to apply for a permanent license as soon as the temporary license is received. The Board was also presented with technical information of the various components of the system including antenna, computer to manage system and customer end use equipment. All of this equipment is being provided at no cost from MuralNet.

d) Review of Applications (new)

The board was presented with and reviewed the 24 applicants for the program. Mr. Davidson provided a detailed list along with a map detailing applicant information and the location of their home.

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Motion to approve applicants by Mr. Vaughn and a second by Ms. Lana Keller Robinett, Vote (4-0-1)

10) Federal Hydro Power/ WAPA/Other Power related

The Board was provided with and reviewed the items in a, b, c below.

- a) BCP 10 Year Plan Technical Review - (previously tabled)
- b) BLM - Hoover Engineering and Operations Committee (new)
- c) Palo Verde Market Prices (new)

11) Other Matters

- a) Update on tribal council actions – Kevin

The Board discussed the Council's recent opposition to the White Hills Wind farm. The Board felt the Council should be informed that the White Hills wind farm project may present a good path for a power line to serve CCW. Could be used as a bargaining point.

- b) Tribal Energy Innovation Fellowship - (previously tabled)

The Board reviewed the information on the Tribal Innovation Fellowship

- c) AT&T fiber optic easement and status of negotiation – update

Mr. Davidson informed the Board that a Non-Disclosure Agreement (NDA) had been signed with AT&T and that they were expecting the results of the appraisal later this week. In addition, AT&T is asking for some direction on the disposal or leave in place an old coaxial cable that is in the existing ROW.

- d) Honoring Nations Application

The Board reviewed the information on the Honoring Nations Application. Mr. Davidson informed that he and Mr. Cyr will begin work on filing out an application.

- e) Announcements

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None

12) Set time and location for next meeting

December 19th, 9:30 AM Health and Wellness Center

13) Adjourn

Motion to adjourn by Mr. Davis second by Mr. Vaughn, Vote (4-0-1)



Hualapai Tribal Utility Authority Board Meeting Minutes

December 19, 2019

Hualapai Health and Wellness Center

9:30 AM

Hualapai Tribal Utility Authority Board Meeting Minutes
December 19, 2019 @ 9:30AM
Hualapai Health and Wellness Center



1) Call to Order

Meeting was called to order by Chair Mr. Vaughn at 9:45am.

2) Roll Call

Board Members

Charlie Vaughn, Chairman -- present

Joe Montana, Vice Chairman -- present

Lana Keller Robinett, Secretary --present via phone

Jason Davis, Treasurer --Excused

Rory Majenty -- Present via phone

Support Personnel and Guest(s)

Bill Cyr, General Manager -- present

Kevin Davidson, Planning Director --excused

3) Review and Approve Minutes

a) November 25, 2019 (originally scheduled for November 20th)

Motion to approve minutes by Mr. Vaughn, and second by Mr. Montana vote (4-0-0).

Mr. Majenty did not vote as he was excused from last meeting

4) Approval of Invoices

a) BBC Consulting – General Manager Services-

Motion to approve invoice of \$7,081.80 by Mr. Majenty, second Mr. Montana, vote (4-0).

b) Tierra Right Of Way - Environmental Assessment

Motion to approve invoice of \$8,377 by Mr. Majenty and second by Ms. Lana Keller Robinett vote (4-0).

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5) Manager's Report

The Board reviewed and discussed the following items; (Note: most of the Board agenda items were discussed during the Manager's Report and a recorded in this section of the minutes)

- Budget Presentation to Council
 - Council took no action on budget proposal and has not taken any action as of today's meeting date. (Council approved the 2020 budget on December 17th; however, results have not been given the departments as of the 19th)
 - Wanda has indicated that final budgets will be issued in the near future.
 - Council was interested in installing some solar at GCW to reduce ongoing fuel costs. .
 - Council also asked about how difficult it would be to bring a new line directly into Peach Springs.
 - It was explained to council that a new line from Round Valley Substation or Peacock had been looked at and are considered viable options to serving Peach Springs. Both of these options should be considered as the next phase after the Dolan Springs to Grand Canyon West Power line is constructed. The final phase would be to create a loop by connecting the line from Peach Springs to the Dolan Springs line thus providing a level of reliability never achieved before on the entire Hualapai Reservation. This connector line would be built along Buck and Doe Road and be ready to serve any future water pumping Road.
 - Council requested that HTUA organize a presentation from WAPA to discuss power line routing options and how WAPA might play a larger role in establishing new power lines to the Hualapai Reservation.
- Tierra ROW contract Modifications Presentation to Council
 - At its December 7th meeting, the Council approved the increase amount to the Tierra Right Of Way contract and extended the completion time to the end of May 2020.
 - The increase in time and increase in contract amount is to facilitate the completion of additional work due to BLM's request and the recent discovery of two mining claims along the proposed power line right-of-way.
- Educational Network MuraNet
 - Temporary FCC approval for bandwidth
 - Acquisition of backhaul from Wecom for approximately \$1,395 per month for 50 MB. Purchase order submitted to accounting for processing
 - MuralNet equipment received and review of manuals in process

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- Installation—traveled to Peach Springs to assist ---first install attempt difficulties
 - The installation of the necessary equipment is going slower than anticipated and may not be completed until early January 2020.
- The Board requested that internal labor services (electrical and mounting of MuralNet equipment) be utilized prior to contracting with third-party contractors from Kingman. The Board was informed that MuralNet has offered to fund any third-party installer fees.
- Power Line EA

The board was informed that progress continues and will hopefully accelerate to completion in the first quarter of 2020

 - Vegetation Management Plan
 - Biological Report
 - Cultural Report
- Solar GCW
 - Call to Solan
 - The Board was informed that Solan has agreed to assist in the grant preparation process by assisting in providing the technical submission requirements
 - Review grant notice with focus on eligibility
 - Discuss with Richard
 - Discuss with Stockbridge
 - Discuss with DOE program director
 - Discuss with AMPS on their grant
 - The grant has seven different areas that a request for funding can be classified under. As of this date the final submission topic area has been narrowed to one or two possibilities. One possibility would result in a partial match while the other submission area may result in a greater match. Kevin, Richard and the General Manager will make the final decision on which area to file the grant under.
 - It is the intent to have the final grant submission packet available for review and approval by the HTUA Board at the January meeting. Grant Submission deadline is February 6, 2020.
 - The Board discussed the possible locations for the solar field at GCW. No decision was made on a recommended site. Aesthetics and costs will be the deciding factors. Costs will be less the closer the array is placed to the existing micro grid; however the solar field will be more visible.
 - The Board made it clear that grant applications should focus on utility-scale solar at GCW and not smaller distributed applications at other areas on the reservation.

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- Prepared November Minutes
- Prepared December Agenda
- Assembled / Issue Board Package
- Call with Mohave Electric Regarding Outage
 - An extended power outage in excess of 13 hours occurred in Peach Spring over the Thanksgiving weekend.
 - Spoke with Rick Campos regarding the outage on 12/1/2019
 - Rick indicated
 - it was a widespread outage impacting all four distributions circuits emanating from Nelson Substation
 - Transmission line from Round Valley did not experience an outage
 - The distribution circuit outage was caused by snow and ice accumulations on the power lines and tree branches
 - The length of the outage was due to the vast number of repairs to be made
 - They did not bring in additional crews from neighboring utilities
 - Rick did not indicate this, but I suspect that the circuit serving the Tribe may have been one of the last ones to receive attention
 - HTUA with its own staff could have reduced the duration of the outage as the Tribal load restoration would be prioritized as number 1. This is one of the reasons why the Tribe should be strongly considering taking over MEC's Peach Springs assets.
 - MEC sent out a poorly scripted outage notice for a scheduled outage on Thursday the 12th. I have no knowledge that MEC consulted with the Hualapai Tribe to schedule a mutually acceptable time.
 - Recommendations
 - Send Board letter to MEC for a meeting. (To better understand MEC's possible position, Kevin and Bill will initiate a call prior to next meeting and prior to sending formal letter from the Board.)
 - Emphasize Hualapai concern regarding reliability
 - Express concern about lack of communications about follow-up outage that occurred on the 12th.
 - Ask them to provide written reply that will outline steps they will take to minimize future outages

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- Ask them if they would be interested in:
 - Possibility of MEC divestiture of Electrical assets serving Peach Springs that serves Hualapai, how much?
 - Determine if they would consider allowing HTUA to wheel power over their transmission line
 - Indicate we would consider taking over Supai line?
 - Ask about Nelson substation rebuild process ---any assets that HTUA could acquire to facilitate above

The Board agreed with the recommendations listed above. Mr. Davidson and Mr. Cyr will reach out to MEC and schedule a meeting to discuss the listed items. They will also reach out to the council for their participation and/or the assignment of a Council member to participate. In addition, they will plan an upcoming WAPA meeting with HTUA and Council. If possible, the meeting with WAPA should occur after the meeting with MEC.

- Reviewed AT&T Fiber Lease Documents
 - Original and amended lease documents
 - Appraisal Report
 - Mr. Davidson joined the meeting via phone at approximately 11:30 am. He reported on the progress being made with the ROW lease review including the preliminary results of the appraisal. He had discovered that the capacity of the existing fiber may exceed the capacity that the appraiser used in determining the fair market value of the lease. The appraiser has been given that information and will be updating the estimated value of the ROW lease accordingly. At present the value of the ROW lease has been calculated to be approximately \$1,000,000 per mile for a 10 year period.
- Arizona Tribal Energy Association(ATEA)
 - New Midwest Tribal Energy Association has been established with 13 participating Tribes
 - Two additional tribes have established electric utilities with real assets
 - Saginaw Chippewa Tribe
 - Acoma Pueblo of New Mexico
 - WAPA has not selected a new Desert Southwest Region Manager
 - Tracey LeBeau is acting director
 - Tracey is a Native American from the Blackfeet Tribe in Montana. She has served as the director of Indian Energy and is currently a senior Vice President of WAPA
 - WAPA is considering offering Broadband

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6) Solar RFP-General Update

- a) General Update
Discussed under the Manager's Report above
- b) Grant Notice and Eligibility
Discussed under the Manager's Report above
- c) Vendor Selection
Discussed under the Manager's Report above
- d) Site Selection
Discussed under the Manager's Report above

7) Proposed Power Line to Grand Canyon West

- a) BLM Related
No new action by the BLM—they have the POD, Vegetative Management plan, Biological Assessment and Cultural Assessment. Will be contacting before end of year to determine timeline/status
- b) NEPA/ Environmental/Cultural/Biological –
 - i) Cultural Report---under review by BLM
 - ii) Biological Report—under review by BLM
 - iii) Visual Impact Assessment –Tierra has started this process
- c) Tucson Electric Power System Impact Study Dolan Springs to Grand Canyon West - (previously tabled)

Project continues to wait for funding

8) Budget

- i) Council Action on 2020 Budget Proposal
No decision as of this date
- ii) 2019 Budget Expenditures to date
The Board reviewed 2019 Budget expenditures to date.

Hualapai Tribal Utility Authority Board Meeting Minutes
December 19, 2019 @ 9:30AM
Hualapai Health and Wellness Center



9) Deployment of fixed-wireless 4G LTE network in Peach Springs

a) Deployment Status

Discussed under the Manager's Report above

b) Bandwidth/back haul Contract

Discussed under the Manager's Report above

10) Federal Hydro Power/ WAPA/Other Power related

a) Request to WAPA for Meeting with HTUA and Tribal Council

See manager's report minutes

110 Other Matters

a. Update on tribal council actions – Kevin

Kevin joined the meeting at approximately 11:30 am and updated the Board on the new playground construction project

b. AT&T fiber optic easement and status of negotiation – update

Discussed under the Manager's Report above

c. Mohave Electric Outage

Discussed under the Manager's Report above

d. Announcements

12) Set time and location for next meeting

January 21, 2020 9:00 am -- Health and Wellness Center

13) Adjourn

Motion to adjourn by Mr. Montana second by Mr. Majenty, Vote (4-0-0)