

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).

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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.

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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 quests Ms. Knoblock and Ms. Jennings briefed the Board on the Biological and Cultural Reports. The 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

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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