

# Hualapai Tribal Utility Authority (HTUA) Meeting Minute

July 5, 2018 Hualapai Health Department Conference Room

## 1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Vaughn at approximately 9:24am.

## 2. Roll Call

### Board Members

Charles Vaughn, Chairman- present  
Joe Montana, Vice Chairman- present  
Jamie Navenma, Secretary- present  
Treasurer- Vacant  
Rory Majenty- via telephone

### Support Personnel and Guest

Bill Cyr, General Manager present  
Kevin Davidson, Planning Director present  
Peter Bungart, Cultural Resources Director  
Patrick Bowman Intergroup - via telephone  
Bob Becherer IMEG - via telephone

## 3. Review and Approve Minutes from May 23, 2018

Mr. Vaughn made a motion to approve May 23, 2018 Board meeting minutes with a second by Mr.

Montana—board approved 3-0

## 4. HTUA Meeting with tribal council

Mr. Cyr briefed the HTUA board members of his efforts to secure a meeting with the tribal council.

Mr. Cyr and Mr. Davidson will work together to schedule a meeting with the tribal council as soon as possible. Key items for discussion with the Hualapai council:

### 1. Revenue and expense forecast

- Acquisition of MEC assets for Peach Springs
- Impact of serving GCW load
- Required additional load to break even
- Impact of Colorado River water pumping load
- Other planned future developments by tribe- housing, casino, hotel...

## 2. Update on GCW transmission line

- General routing discussions
  - Right of way work to date
  - Environmental work (cultural/ BLM)
- Estimated cost
- How to pay for the line
  - Hualapai pay 100% cash
  - GCW pay 100% cash
  - Financing line- note covenants

## 3. HTUA Governance Structure

- Day to day operational financial decisions will be substantial
- The ability to make quick decisions to maintain reliability
- Models of other successful Arizona tribal utilities- Gila River, Aha Macav Power, Navajo Tribal Utility Authority or Tohono O'odham.
- Ramifications of governance's structure to the Hualapai Constitution.

## 5. **Review HTUA simplified Expense/ Revenue Model**

Mr. Cyr presented to the board for the second time a simplified expense revenue model for HTUA. Mr. Cyr indicated that he would present with the board assistant the same simplified/ revenue model to the Hualapai council when they meet.

Mr. Cyr also informed the board that the day to day operation of the electric utility will require that HTUA have the flexibility to make financial decisions that may exceed limitations imposed by the current HTUA board structure. The HTUA board and the council may want to consider changing the structure to be more aligned with other successful tribal utilities in the states such as, Gila River, Aha Macav Power, Navajo tribal utility authority or Tohono O'odham.

Mr. Vaughn and Mr. Davidson indicated that such a structure may require changes to the Hualapai Constitution. The board instructed Mr. Cyr to obtain the most recent Hualapai constitution for discussion at the next board meeting.

## 6. **Project Update**

- a. **Proposed Power Line to Grand Canyon West**
  1. **Status of power line survey- Bobs Report**

- Mr. Becherer provided an update on the right of way work that has been performed to date. In summary the right of way consultants have laid out staking for the proposed transmission line routing. Kevin Davidson indicated that he is still waiting for some data from the right-of-way consultant that he can use to develop a more robust, dynamic map linked to google earth (GIS).

## 2. Status of NEPA/ Environmental

- BLM field trip (Kevin)
  - Mr. Davidson had reported to the board the results from a recent field trip that included BLM, as well as cultural representative from the Hualapai's Cultural Resources Department. Mr. Davidson reported about half a dozen sensitive areas associated with the current routing, and provided detailed maps that depicted minor adjustments to the original proposed routing that could be used to avoid the sensitive areas. Additionally, Mr. Davidson indicated that the BLM was asking if the Diamond Bar Road Route offered an alternative route of consideration. Mr. Davidson explained to the board that the route had been considered and ultimately rejected due to cost, and a high incidence of private land requiring right-of-way. Mr. Peter Bungart, Cultural Resources Director, related to the board that even though the Diamond Bar route presents additional cost and private right away concerns, that the board may want to reconsider this route to avoided environment issues and cultural issues that were discovered during the field trip. Mr. Cyr and Mr. Davidson reminded Mr. Bungart and the board that the alternative paths for proposed routing on Tenney Ranch Road Route, should be sufficient to avoid the environmental and cultural sensitive areas identified during the recent field trip.

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

- Mr. Cyr updated the board on the status of the study. We are still waiting to hear back about the final study parameters.

- Other discussions with WAPA
    - Mr. Cyr informed the board that he has had an initial discussion with WAPA regarding a new transmission line for the Hualapai Peach Springs customers that would originate from Round Valley substation. (see item 4 below) WAPA also indicated that there may be a possibility of grant money to pay for a system study associated with a Round Valley to Peach Springs transmission lines. Mr. Cyr will work with Mr. Davidson to research said grant money.
4. Round Valley to Peach Springs Transmission Line?
- b. Community- Scale Solar Array (Kevin)
- Mr. Davidson reported to the board that based on the PPA proposed by MEC that the proposed solar project is essentially not economically feasible or desirable for the Hualapai tribe to pursue.
- c. Mohave Electric Cooperative discussions—Update
1. Discussions with MEC
- Mr. Cyr reported that no additional discussions have accrued with MEC
7. Other matters
- a. Update on tribal council actions (Kevin)
- Mr. Davidson updated the board on his recent interactions at tribal council meetings.
- b. Cell tower AT&T (Kevin)
- Mr. Davidson updated the board on a proposed AT&T wireless project that is under consideration by the Hualapai Council.
- c. New Board Member
- Mr. Davidson updated the board that we have not received any applications for the open board seat on the HTUA board.
- d. Southwest Power Conference
- Mr. Cyr informed the board about an upcoming southwest conference, after discussion Mr. Cyr and board member's will not be attending.
- e. Announcements
8. Set time and location for next meeting
- Next meeting scheduled for August 14, 2018 at Hualapai Health, Education and Wellness Department.
9. Adjourn

Adjourned at approximately 11:00am.