

CITY OF LA JUNTA)
COUNTY OF OTERO) SS
STATE OF COLORADO)

A Regular Meeting of the Board of Utilities Commissioners of the City of La Junta, Colorado, was called to order by Chairman Frank McKenzie on Tuesday, July 18, 2023, at 4:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers of the Municipal Building.

Roll was called and the following Board Members were present:

Present Joe Ayala, Mayor
 Gary Cranson, Vice-Chairman
 Frank McKenzie, Chairman

Absent: Mike Bourget, Commissioner
 Paul Velasquez, Council Member

Also present: Rick Klein, City Manager
 Bill Jackson, Asst. City Manager
 Phil Malouff Jr., City Attorney
 Melanie Scofield, City Clerk
 Paula Mahoney, Admin. Asst.
 Martin Montoya, Director of Engineering
 Edward Vela, City Council
 Betty McFarren, RF Gazette

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

Chairman McKenzie asked if there were any corrections or additions to the minutes of the Regular Meeting of June 20, 2023. Hearing none, the chairman declared the June 20, 2023 minutes approved as published.

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION

1. There was no citizen participation.

REPORTS

A. ARPA Board. Gary Cranson gave the following report:

1. **Summary of May 2023 Financial and Operating Statements:** During the month of May, revenue from power sales was less than budget by \$49,325 (2.3%) and total revenue was less than budget by \$25,909. Total cost of goods sold was under budget by 8.1%. Purchased power costs were under budget by \$76,764 (9.7%). Transmission expenses were under budget by \$47,440. Net Revenue from Operations for the month was \$473,319.
2. **Year to Date Income Statement:** Revenue from power sales was less than budget by \$145,647 (1.4%). Total revenues were less than budget by \$42,907 YTD. Interest income was \$102,623 better than budget. Total cost of goods sold was less than budget by \$314,211 (4.4%). YTD purchased power costs were under budget by \$456,499 (3.7%). YTD Transmission expenses were under budget by \$184,261. Total YTD A & G expenses are under budget by \$44,060 (1.6%). YTD Net Revenue is \$1,205,582. Debt Service Coverage YTD is 1.25X.
3. **Operating Report:** Member Energy sales for May was 2.0% less than budget and 3.7% less than 2022. Member Energy Sales YTD was 0.8% less than budget and 0.47% less than 2022. All in cost of power to members YTD is \$0.0994 per kWh; 2.3% lower than 2020.
4. **Next Meeting** –August 31, 2023, 10:00 a.m. at Otero College in La Junta.

B. Water & Wastewater Treatment. Tom Seaba gave the following report:

1. R.O. Plant
 - Routine maintenance: Changed oil in chemical pumps, checked static levels, pH, conductivity, and hardness on all wells, checked HVAC belts and intake screens and exhaust fans on roof, mixed NaOCL drums for reserve and special use purposes.
 - Worked with Trane and Horizon Mechanical on issues with HVAC at south booster.
 - Flushed fire suppression system lines.
 - Replaced packing on wells #1 & #5.
 - Repaired ladder guard on south tank.
 - Assisted local greenhouse that suffered near catastrophic water loss and a product requirement of RO permeate until their system was replenished to ensure no loss of crop.
 - Meter reading and installation, building maintenance, and groundskeeping.
2. Distribution
 - Install water meters at three locations.
 - Replace leaking services at two locations.
 - Assist with project at 3rd & Hayes.
 - Assist street department.
 - Weed control, watering at farm.
 - Meter reading and utility billing office generated work orders, equipment maintenance.
3. Wastewater
 - Treated 35.280 million gallons. Removed 18.0 ft³ of screenings and 48.0 ft³ of grit.
 - RO concentrate discharge to plant was 35.07 million gallons.
 - Jetted 8,203 feet of line for emergency calls and monthly areas of concern. Four emergency calls and fifty-three manhole locate requests.
 - Monitoring excessive wear on north side gear reducer and paddles. Technician for Evoqua scheduled for on-site visit on July 13th.
 - New temperature monitoring device installed in Arkansas River.
 - Certificate of Excellence issued for pollution proficiency testing for lab work and accuracy of results.
 - Searching for areas of major inflow and infiltration into collection system.
 - Manhole installation at 3rd and Hayes completed. Roadway is scheduled for repair the week of July 10th, weather permitting.
 - Additional plant, collection system, grounds maintenance.
4. Other Notables:
 - Level 1 water restrictions began on May 1st and continue until October 15th. Any resident requiring additional watering time may request a 20-day exemption by calling the water department at 384-7358.
 - Monthly safety meeting on “Basic Safety Procedures.”

C. Electric Department. Bill Jackson gave the following report:

1. Line Crew
 - Daily reads, disconnects and maintenance.
 - The crew has been working on an underground project at La Junta Municipal Airport.
 - Three new services were added for new residential High Prairie Homes at 402 Hayes Avenue, 1518 Adams Avenue and 1318 Lewis Avenue.
 - A decorative light that was hit by a car at the Courthouse was replaced.
 - New positive disconnect meters were installed throughout the town.
 - Varmint guard coverups were added to the Light Plant Substation.
 - A lift pole was set for the new Valley Tire building.
 - Installed a new scoreboard for La Junta Parks and Recreation at the Veteran’s Field.

- Fault indicators were added on the west side of town.
2. **SOLAR Accounts**
 - The total kWh returned to the system was 9,956 from 18 customers. A total of \$507.76 was rebated at the avoided costs. There are currently 22 solar customers.
 3. **System Update**
 - There were two outages caused by failure from the Tri-State connection at their sub-station. Tri-State is upgrading the breakers so they have La Junta and SECPA on the same breaker on a mobile sub. When either entity has a problem, both systems go down.
 - They have reconfigured their system to eliminate any more shared outages.

D. Sanitation. Martin Montoya gave the following report:

1. The company being worked with on the rental of trash trucks is hesitant to give a yearly lease. Perhaps it could be more of a five-year lease and have the leases staggered.
2. Chairman McKenzie asked for Aliza to do a depreciation comparison on the trash trucks for the next meeting.
3. “City Clean-Up” will be in October again.
4. The State has a program where they will take tires and pay to dispose them. Each community may apply every three years. Will look into surrounding communities to see if we can get something going for residents of Otero County.
5. June 2023

Item	Year To Date Total				May			
	2022	2023	Diff	% Diff	2022	2023	Diff	% Diff
Otero County Landfill (tons)	2160.5	2539.2	378.74	14.92	663.18	713.81	50.63	7.09
Southeast & East Central Recycling (tons)	52.99	62.58	9.59	15.32	19.27	17.92	(1.35)	(7.01)
Clean Valley Recycling Curbside (tons)	14.06	20.46	6.40	31.28	5.44	4.87	(0.57)	(10.48)
Clean Valley Recycling Trailer (tons)	6.77	11.915	5.15	43.18	1.41	2.06	0.65	31.55
Clean Valley Recycling E-Waste (tons)	327.91	22.8	(305.11)	N/A	0	0	0.00	N/A

BOARD OF UTILITIES COMMISSIONERS – July 18, 2023

Item	Year to Date Total				June			
	2022	2023	Diff	% Diff	2022	2023	Diff	% Diff
Special Pick-Ups (Quantity)	35	29	(6.00)	(17.14)	10	6	(4.00)	(40.00)
40-yd Boxes (Rental & Service)	19	20	1.00	5.00	2	0	(2.00)	(100.00)
20-yd Boxes (Rental & Service)	19	39	20.00	51.28	4	0	(4.00)	(100.00)
40-yd Box (Service)	117	129	12.00	9.30	35	53	18.00	33.96
20-yd Box (Service)	67	75	8.00	10.67	11	31	20.00	64.52
Overage on Boxes (Days and/or Weight)	62	89	27.00	30.34	13	21	8.00	38.10
Compactor Box (Service)	22	26	4.00	15.38	3	4	1.00	25.00
Transfer Station Open Top (tons)	178.53	199.9	21.37	10.69	38.16	34.65	(3.51)	(9.20)
Transfer Station Compactor (tons)	66.77	81.5	14.73	18.07	13.26	20.62	7.36	35.69
Replaced Tote	95	39	(56.00)	(58.95)	1	9	8.00	88.89
Replaced Lid	31	33	2.00	6.06	6	3	(3.00)	(50.00)
Additional Tote	94	24	(70.00)	(74.47)	4	4	0.00	0.00
Repaired/Replaced Dumpsters (Quantity)	6	0	0.00	(100.00)	1	0	(1.00)	(100.00)

NEW BUSINESS

A. City Manager's Comments.

1. Starting the budget. It's going to be a hard year.

B. Governing Body's Comments.

1. There were no governing body comments.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 4:30 p.m.

ATTEST:

CITY OF LA JUNTA

Melanie R. Scofield, City Clerk

Frank McKenzie, Chairman