MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE FORT PIERCE UTILITIES AUTHORITY, TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 1, 2020, 4:00 P.M., CITY COMMISSION CHAMBERS.

Members Present: Chairman Glynda Cavalcanti; Vice Chairman Charlie Frank Matthews; Secretary Darryl Thomas-Bey; Deputy Secretary Frank H. Fee, IV; Mayor Linda Hudson; and Rupert N. Koblegard III, FPUA Attorney.

Others present: John K. Tompeck, Director of Utilities; Barbara A. Mika, Director of Financial Services; Bo Hutchinson, Director of Water/Wastewater System; Paul A. Jakubczak, Director of Electric & Gas Systems; and Javier Cisneros, Director of Utility Support Services; and Joshua P. Gang, Director of Regulatory Affairs.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Cavalcanti.

Opening Prayer was by Carol Wilson of Human Resources.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

The roll was called and a quorum declared.

A motion was made by Mayor Hudson, seconded by Mr. Matthews, and unanimously carried to approve the set agenda.

A motion was made by Mr. Matthews, seconded by Mr. Bey, and unanimously carried to approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of August 18, 2020.

Ms. Cavalcanti said we will have to go back on the agenda because Barbara Mika has a presentation.

Barbara Mika, Director of Financial Services said it is her pleasure to present the Board the Government Finance Officers Association Distinguished Budget Presentation Award for FY 2020 for FPUA' Annual Budget. This award represents a significant achievement and reflects the commitment of the Board and Staff to meeting the highest principles of government and budgeting. This is the 24th consecutive year FPUA received this award. In order to receive the award the budget document has to satisfy nationally recognized guidelines and be ranked proficient in all four of the following categories: as a policy document, financial plan, operations guide, and a communication's device. Mrs. Mika thanked management for their input and review essential to creating this document and special thanks to the Finance Department staff for taking the lead role in the compilation of the document. She showed what the award looks like and said it is in the new budget book that we just approved.

Ms. Cavalcanti said thank you.

Mayor Hudson and other Board Members said congratulations. Mayor Hudson said she bets there are a bunch of those hanging on the wall.

Mrs. Mika said they give you a plaque and every year they give a medallion to go on the plaque.

Ms. Cavalcanti apologized for skipping Mrs. Mika on the agenda.

A motion was made by Mayor Hudson, seconded by Mr. Mathews, and unanimously carried to approve the Consent Agenda.

1. Approve the Budget Transfer Request for departmental expenses in the amount of $226,760 from Department 14, Regulatory Affairs, to Department 18, Safety. This budget transfer will cover the period beginning October 1, 2020 and ending September 30, 2021.

2. POA 14-68: Approve the purchase of 20 laptop computers in an amount not to exceed $23,338, from Dell Marketing L.P. of Round Rock, Texas under Florida State Contract Number 43211500-WSCA-15-ACS and WSCA-NASPO Master Agreement MNWNC-101, for purchases through July 31, 2021.
3. Approve Budget Transfer Request in the amount of $199,999 to fund FPUA's Wastewater Gravity Collection System Rehabilitation Program.

4. RFQu 14-53: Approve Specific Authorization No. 66-HCE-20-04 with Holtz Consulting Engineers, Inc. of Jupiter, Florida, in the amount of $103,946 to provide Construction Engineering and Inspection Services for the Department of Economic Opportunity Grant Agreement No. G0057. This Specific Authorization shall commence upon written Notice to Proceed and end approximately eight months from the date of the Notice to Proceed.

5. POA No. 14-56: Approve the Amendment to Specific Authorization No. 56-20-01, with Leidos Engineering, LLC, of Reston, Virginia, for Design Services for Savannah Transformer No. 2 (Part 1), to modify the scope of work and increase the not to exceed contract amount by $13,707, from $118,059 to $131,766.

Mr. Tompeck said based on a request from Mr. Matthews at the last meeting, he asked that we bring in some of the folks we are recognizing and we do have two of them in the audience today and hopefully, they will come forward, Martha Kerr and Samantha Roland. Florinda will read the letters of appreciation and the Board can put a face to the name.

Ms. Cavalcanti said good idea and thanked Mr. Matthews.

Mayor Hudson said we cannot yet because of the mask, but that is ok.

Marth Kerr said she works in the Water/Wastewater Engineering Department and Samantha Roland said she works in the Water Reclamation.

Mrs. Mazzarella said a letter was received from Hyatt Construction thanking Tom Daroza, Martha Kerr, Samantha Rowland, and Harry Sherva for helping them complete their remodeling of the McDonalds' Restaurants in the City of Fort Pierce, the latter half of 2019. They were thankful for their professional cooperation and sincere efforts to work with them during the duration of the projects.

The Board thanked them for being here.

Mr. Tompeck said the first item this afternoon is a COVID-19 update by Javy Cisneros.

Javy Cisneros, Director of Utility Support Services, said he will provide a September 1, 2020 COVID-19 update for the Board. He said he will give quick refresher and important refresher on FPUA's internal protocols for COVID-19 that remain in place. We have strict control room isolation of those employees that work in those areas, only those employees that work in those areas are allowed in those control rooms. As mentioned at the last Board meeting, we have four control rooms, the Water Treatment Plant, Water Reclamation Facility, Treasure Coast Energy Center, and the Electric Dispatch at the Energy Services Center. We continue to take daily temperatures of our employees prior to entering the building and if they pass the temperature test, they are allowed to go to work. Out-of-state travel has been suspended, but because of education requirements, in-state travel is limited for those employees. We continue to use masks in areas that are common to employees, break rooms, bathrooms, and anywhere you are generally going to be crossing another employee, you are required to wear a mask. Mr. Cisneros said he had a virtual meeting today and it was very painful, but we do continue to hold meetings virtually, if possible. He said social distancing guidelines, if you are within six feet you do have to wear a mask, but we are asking employees that work with each other in the general public to maintain social distancing of six feet or more. The majority of the staff continue to work from home, about 60 percent, and the Customer Service lobby continues to remain closed to the public, but those employees in the Customer Service lobby are freed up to take calls from customers.

Mr. Cisneros said a quick update from our disconnect status from the last Board meeting and said the number he would like to focus on is August 31st. We have 1,059 customers that are on the disconnect list and he hopes by September 15th, the next time he comes to the Board, the number will be zero. August 31st yesterday, as you can see, there is 1,363 residential accounts that have been placed on a payment plan for a total of $817,000. If you compare that to August 18th, we

had 757 residential accounts, accounting for $474,000, so a big change there with getting people on the payment plan. If you take the August 31st, 1,363 plus the 65 commercial accounts, plus the August 31st number that still need to be put on a payment plan, that adds up to 2,487 accounts that will eventually be on a payment plan. The total number of accounts financially is $1.45 million that will be spread over the next 6 to 12 months depending on if it is commercial or residential. The last time he was here, he mentioned we would send letters out in the first or second week of September and we were able to streamline the process internally and as of last Friday we sent out 629 letters. We expect by the end of this week and in the middle of next week all the customers on the disconnect list will get a letter in the mail announcing the payment plan for their specific account. This means we will still be on schedule for October 5th for the first disconnect potentially, if they don't pay, then they would get on the list. Mr. Cisneros said he talked to our Customer Service Call Center Team Lead this morning and since the letters went out last week, we got quite a few calls to verify the letter is true and so we have actually had quite a bit of calls. We had over 300 calls yesterday so a lot of the feedback has been very positive thanking us for putting it together, it is a blessing, and he could keep going. He wanted to provide that feedback to the Board that it was positive, very positive.

Mr. Cisneros said he will talk about relief efforts. He said during the last Board meeting we had $349,000 total for waived penalty and late fees and as of yesterday that total is $383,000. If you take a look at that number and compare it to the FPUA sponsorship for financial assistance, it's almost double. It is important to highlight we are trying hard to help our customers. It's likely we will reinstate the late and penalty fees on or after October 1st, just so the Board is aware we will have to reinstate those fees at some point. October 1st is the current timeframe we are looking at. The FPUA sponsorship of $200,000 of a onetime assistance of up to $400 is obviously very active. He would like to highlight the fact that Mustard Seed has almost exhausted the initial $50,000 we have given them, they are at just over $45,000. We have allocated another $50,000 toward Mustard Seed so that is a big highlight for today. ALPI is still trailing behind with their numbers. We are not going to allocate funding toward their program until they have exhausted their number a little bit more. Going back to Mustard Seed, you can see from August 18th they had 117 vouchers that were issued for $36,000. As of yesterday, they had 140 vouchers worth $43,000 with just under $2,600 pending, so they are over $45,000. They have a very good verification process and both organizations have a very good verification process. We talked at the last Board meeting whether FPUA would dedicate staff to doing income verification or doing a process where we could start distributing the money. Mr. Cisneros said he thinks FPUA is better suited to provide assistance to Mustard Seed and ALPI because the processes is very involved. They go through calling the owner or the employer, calling the landlord, whatever it is, they go through a process, FPUA is not designed for that. Where we can help is to provide staff to answer the questions when it comes to utility bills. That does seem to take up quite a bit of time to get the information to the people evaluating the applications. We already have an employee working with ALPI and we are going to dedicate an employee working with Mustard Seed so they will have a direct line to those employees and that will work better for speeding up the application process.

Mr. Cisneros said in reference to FPUA contact information, he is highlighting those who are watching on TV and online, for the Board, and the audience, Mustard Seed has increased from $50,000 to $100,000 sponsorship by FPUA. That is a one-time assistance of up to $400 and their phone number to call is 772-465-6021. For ALPI we are going to keep it $50,000 and it is a one-time assistance of up to $400 and their phone number is 844-356-8138. The St. Lucie County Cares Act provides a one-time assistance of up to $4,000 and their assistance includes car payments, mortgage payments, and utility bills. Their phone number is 772-462-1705 and if you do not have a computer you can call them and they will work with you over the phone to fill out the application process. He would like to highlight something that we have talked about a couple of times. We don't advertise the address to Mustard Seed or ALPI, we advertise the phone number because when you contact them to make an appointment they provide you the requirements you need to bring for the application. You must call for an appointment and it is very important not just to set up the appointment, but also to understand the requirements for the application. Again, please call for an appointment for those that are watching on line, it is really important. He would like to take a little bit of time to give Mustard Seed a thank you. He said they really have done an excellent job, not only are they involved in WEOP, but they have done a really good job and have not charged us any administrative fees. We probably should address that, but as of right now, they have not charged us any administrative fees to handle the $50,000 they have dispersed to FPUA customers. They are really staying on top of it, a really great organization.

Mr. Cisneros said we continue to provide outreach for the COVID-19 Payment Program. He said all of our communication out to the public includes ALPI and Mustard Seed sponsorship, the Cares Act, and the COVID-19 Payment Program. We are very active on TC Palm, Facebook on our website, the City's website and the County's website, you name it, we are out there. The last presentation he mentioned we were going to be on seven radio stations, but we are going to be on six because the last radio station listed is no longer in business. We will advertise twice a day through the end of September and that information will include what we talked about here today. This is an information only item and he would be happy to answer any questions the Board may have.

Mr. Matthews said he has a small concern more of me being nosy and the report about employees, he asked if we have an employee that may have a health problem and are they still doing okay?

Mr. Cisneros said yes and that they are no longer working in the ALPI office, they are working in our offices or from home working with ALPI and Mustard Seed.

Mr. Matthews asked what it costs on the one mail out, the regular postage price.

Mr. Cisneros said he thinks it's 50 cent and then some administrative costs for paper and envelopes. He does not know the exact cost.

Mr. Matthews said yesterday he stumbled upon a paper and he sees on the front cover saying time is going to run out on disconnects. He said it was good because at least they know we are trying to help.

Mr. Cisneros said yes sir. He said we are not disconnecting anybody until after October 5th so there is plenty of time that people can reach out to the organizations to get assistance.

Mr. Bey said he wants to thank Javy and his Department and the Board. He said he thinks this was a very out-of-the-box thinking method to solve a problem. He wants to thank the ratepayers for taking advantage of it, this makes our work easier and one person shut off is too many so that is good. Going forward, he thinks using this method of pairing our employees with Mustard Seed and ALPI could help us in the future. In the last couple of years we have had problems connecting with people with our Weatherization Program. Going forward, we might want to use this method as a means of working with ALPI or Mustard Seed or Mustard Seed in particular to get people. He thinks there are some underlying issues that might be causing the problem of why people are not signing up for the Weatherization Program. So as a suggestion or recommendation to the Board that we might want to consider always keeping a couple of employees like we have available to do that sort of thing so we can get our programs out there.

Mr. Cisneros said he agrees with Mr. Bey. He said a strong relationship with Mustard Seed and ALPI, but specifically Mustard Seed is important for FPUA and the community and completely agree with him.

Mr. Fee said the disconnects, we had 1,059 that are still not on a payment plan.

Mr. Cisneros said yes sir.

Mr. Fee said he thought we were putting everybody on a payment plan to take people off the disconnect list.

Mr. Cisneros said there will be those 1,059 on a payment plan, but we are trying to get them through the billing cycle so their most current bill is current plus the payment plan. He said rather than trying to put them on a payment plan afterwards, we are trying to get them as close as possible to October 5th.

Mr. Tompeck said we have two or three more weeks of that before everyone gets on a plan.

Mr. Cisneros said it is September 1st and we have read through this cycle, but we did not approve the payment plan until August 4th so through the end of the week we will have the billing cycle completed and then we will have everyone on the payment plan.

Mr. Fee asked when will be the first payment cycle that we have everybody performing because naturally, we have about half the group it looks like about 1,363 on the payment plan. He asked when will their bills come due to see if it is being received acceptably.

Mr. Cisneros said it would be October, most likely October 10th, between the 5th and the 10th.

Mr. Fee said right around October is when we will start to feel if this is successful.

Mayor Hudson asked if Javy said FPUA has 60 percent of the staff working from home.

Mr. Tompeck said it might be a little bit less because we have brought some people back but it's pretty close, at least 50 percent for sure.

Mayor Hudson asked if the fees are going to be reinstated October 1st so it will be reinstated for cost incurred beginning and not back.

Mr. Cisneros said no.

Mayor Hudson said it will start then.

Mr. Cisneros said right, it will not be for anything prior to October 5th.

Mayor Hudson said the disconnects will start and they will be as result of somebody who is on the payment plan who has not paid.

Mr. Cisneros said that is correct.

Mr. Tompeck said that won't happen until at least 30 days afterward, after their first bill is due.

Mayor Hudson said so 30 days after October 5th.

Mr. Tompeck said 30 days after the payment plan letter date.

Mayor Hudson said we have really done a lot for our customers in the way that she looks at it in terms of trying not only to assist them with financing, but also get them to a place where they can manage their money. She feels very good about it and appreciates everybody's efforts in doing this.

Mr. Cisneros said he has talked to John about this and he does not know of any other utility in Florida that is doing it and there may be one other utility in the country that is doing it. He said this is definitely a good thing for sure.

Mayor Hudson said it is a good thing for sure and she thinks he should share it with the FMPA. She said we should be on the cover of their magazine if they have one.

Mr. Cisneros said we will put John on the cover.

Ms. Cavalcanti said she may have misunderstood, but she thought today she heard on the news that Lake Worth is starting disconnects right now.

Mr. Tompeck said yes, they originally were supposed to start them the second week of August and then their City Commission held off for another month.

Mr. Tompeck said the next item is a Manatee Center update by Rachel Tennant.

Rachel Tennant, MOEC Manager thanked the Board for having her again to represent the Manatee Center. She said this is always one of her favorite things to do, to brag on their Department and the amazing work the team is doing. She is going to talk today about the Manatee Center in fiscal year 2020, it is a very unique fiscal year for them because of COVID as you can imagine. We are currently closed and have been closed for quite some time now, but we are still hosting select education programs. A big part of the reason for us closing originally and for staying closed is a lot of our visitors are international and even when we opened for three weeks during when we first thought COVID was slowing down, we were getting international visitors. In addition to that most of our volunteers are the vulnerable population, it is a high-risk kind of all around. However, because we are closed and while we are closed, we are making progress on some important grants and projects we have been wanting to work on anyway. During this presentation, Ms. Tennant said she is going to do a quick overview of our pre-COVID numbers at a glance, give you a little bit of an idea of where we are, and where we were. She will talk about grants in fiscal year 2020, how we've adapted to COVID, and what is coming next. In 2020 through July, we saw a little over 37,000 visitors and this is compared to over 54,000 visitors in 2019, the same time period. It is down because we are closed, but she would like to highlight that as of February, we were at a 12 percent increase over fiscal year 2019 numbers. So we were doing very well before COVID and we are riding this upward trajectory and keeping a lot of hope that when we do we reopen, we will be okay.

Ms. Tennant said they have seen so far 460 manatees in the creek and we designed and printed our first ever joint Annual Report alongside the Manatee Foundation. She believes each of the Board Members received a copy of that when it was first printed. This was a very big deal for us and was something that took about six months to pull together. We also redesigned our 800 gallon aquarium, which is our largest tank inside the exhibit hall. Displayed is the tank beforehand and on the left-hand side it was a community species and on the right-hand side predator species, which just environmentally, is not an intuitive kind comparison. We wanted to change the educational content and we can see the design here, it is a lot of live rock which is

interesting, but we wanted something that was a little bit catchier. Displayed is the new exhibit that was completed in February. On the left-hand side we featured native species and on the right-hand side we feature none native species and we put educational signage all along the bottom of the tank. We also had a fundraiser for installing the retractable clear walls and outdoor classrooms. That is our pavilion area where the generator is placed and we see this as more important now that COVID has hit and are going through a permitting process with the City and the contractor. This is something we did along with the Manatee Foundation.

Ms. Tennant said grants in 2020, this was a big year for us as far as grants. She said the Florida Department of State Division Cultural Affairs, we have gotten one every year for five years now. We just got our biggest grant ever with them for a little over $22,000. Last week she was on the grant panel for next year's grant where they judge the application we submitted for next year's money. We are eligible for up to $70,000 next year as a comparison this year, we were eligible for $69,000 and are receiving $22,000 that is just how their budget works. So for next year's grant on the panel last week, we got the highest score we have ever received and the second highest of the 32 grants that were being judged and this is very good for us. Depending on how the budget goes for the State of Florida next year, it means potentially another $20,000. This is a general operating grant so it just helps us exist. We also have the FWC Grant for about $2,500 and that is what enabled us to do the 800-gallon tank redesign. This was matched by a $3,000 donation from the Manatee Foundation. That whole project was funded by FWC and by the Treasure Coast Manatee Foundation. We also received two grants from the Florida Humanities Council, $1000 for lunch and learn honoraria so we could pay some of our speakers and another $5,000 for exhibit updates which is in progress. A VisitFlorida Grant is what funded the annual report that we did with the Treasure Coast Manatee Foundation. This was wonderful to receive this many grants and it was a lot of grants to run for a small team, but they have all been very successful.

Ms. Tennant said she is going to switch gears and talk about COVID and how they have adapted and for her this was the exciting stuff. She said COVID posed some very interesting challenges for all environmental facilities everywhere in every way. That included especially when they first closed and everyone dispersed and worked from home, we had to find a way to reach our students, audience, and everybody virtually essentially. We started out releasing something we called the Daily Manatee and this was early on in COVID when people were having to keep their children home from spring break and still had no idea what to do. So every single day in March and through June, we released a packet of kid activities, coloring sheets, puzzles, and other activities that kids can do with their families at home. It could be done either virtually, on an iPad, or they could print them, for 27 days we did this. After that, it looked like we were going to reopen soon and we wanted to switch gears and April, our Education Coordinator, was producing one of these every single day so we needed to find something more sustainable. We switched to the Manatee Weekly and corresponding by live videos. For seven weeks we released a manatee weekly packet similar to the daily packet but there were more hands-on activities, games to play with your family and kids, and twice a week, April would go on Facebook live and

do about a 15 to 30 minutes live education program. She would talk about crawly creatures in your backyard because she was working from home so she just went into her backyard and caught some creatures. There was a reptile encounter with Diego which is super popular, this made a big difference. We did get a lot of attention for it and reached the audience we wanted to reach. Summer camp was normally a travel camp where we take 25 kids per week on a bus to field trips all throughout the Treasure Coast, primarily St. Lucie County. We were at a time when we were not sure and no one was sure whether it would be possible to host camps at all. We held off for a while thinking maybe, but we could not primarily because of the buses also because a lot of the places we travel to were closed. We changed it completely and set up to do three weeks of half-day camps of 12 children only per camp based at the Community Center, which was closed so there was no problem. They would do walking field trips every single day, walk over to Veterans Park, go to the water where there is a little beach, and do a little bit of fishing. It was so popular that we had to add a fourth quarter week. In the end, we reached this year 87 campers and we received very heartwarming thank you letters from the parents who were grateful to have something for their kids, they were happy. The kids every year get a camper shirt and this year we also gave them manatee masks that look like manatee snout faces so they could wear masks anytime they had to be within six feet or indoors. Displayed are a couple of photos and those boys sitting and painting were actually featured this month on the Focus cover with a beautiful cover and it says "it was a fun filled summer after all at the Manatee Observation and Education Center". We really love this cover and we loved the article on the inside. As far as the fish fence this is something we have been active in since the beginning and 184 campers this year and last year painted fish to go on the fish fence.

Ms. Tenant said another thing they are doing which is a boost for them and is saving them as far as the education programming goes is the kayak tours. She said they have partnered with Lisa's Kayaks based out of Fort Pierce Inlet State Park and we are running guided kayak tours every Saturday through August and September and will see if we do it more in October. The price is $30 per person and it is a 90-minute paddle being run by our Education Coordinator, April. Folks are learning a lot about mangroves and the ecosystem in Fort Pierce. We've done seven kayak trips so far, reached 107 kayakers, and we are full this Saturday with 21 kayakers registered. We are also adapting our volunteer program and our volunteers are the foundation of everything we do at the center. We could not do everything we do without them and there is a high risk of depression and disconnect with the isolation because of COVID. So we have spent a lot of intentional time thinking about what we can do to stay involved with our volunteers to make sure everyone here or if they have left are still connected to us and none of them are totally isolated in any way. The first thing we did was our volunteer appreciation dinner, which is a banquet we offer every March. It's a big deal for the volunteers and is done here in downtown in Fort Pierce at the Elks Lodge. It's a big dinner, we had our date set, sent out our invitations, and had to cancel because of COVID. So what we did instead was Trish, the volunteer coordinator, presented awards to all of the volunteers who would have received awards at the event on Facebook live and it was watched a lot by the volunteers. She set up this whole beautiful design in her living room and we mailed out the gifts, pins, certificates, and everything to all of

our volunteers. So everyone receives something at home and this was something that was very important for us to do to stay active with our volunteers and engaged.

Ms. Tennant said they also work with Grace Education and Business Community Center's camp this year, which was something we started last year. She said they are based out of downtown Fort Pierce and for this summer camp, at the end of camp, campers are given gift certificates to pay for school clothes and school supplies based on a merit system. So Grace will review them based on their work ethics throughout the summer and they partner with different groups like us to give the campers volunteer positions from which to be trained. We did work with them, even though we were closed this year and we set them up outside in tents and were able to talk to folks that were walking by. This was very important for the continuity of the Grace Education camp as well. This program runs through our volunteer program because they are volunteers, essentially. We also continue having roving naturalists, which is something we started a month ago in our third quarter. Roving naturalists count the manatees outside and we figured if they're interested and able to stay at distancing and have their mask, we did not see a high enough risk to keep them away, if they wanted to come. There is one at a time on a set schedule throughout the week and they're just walking back and forth looking for manatees and talking to people when they come by. This allows us to keep counting as well so we don't have a sudden disruption as far as counting manatees over the year. Janet, our lovely gardener, continues to come in to garden too and is doing a wonderful job. We started a birthday club for the volunteers, there are 16 volunteers and staff members that are in the birthday club. We have shared our physical addresses and our dates of birth with each other so we can mail each other birthday cards. We are looking for ways to stay connected while we are separated.

Ms. Tennant said on our "what's next" agenda is the big thing is exhibit updates and this is the Florida Humanities Council $5,000 grant. She said one of the things is introducing Fort Pierce history and is something we saw in the Fort Pierce Strategic Plan maybe last year trying to get more history into the local museums. We saw an opportunity and have the theater room that just has the TV so we have space. We are doing a lot of work now to make that room into a history room using the Humanities Council funding. We are going to have some information about the Power Plant that used to be there, about the manatees, why they used to come, and why the Manatee Center is here. We will have a pin board, "where in the world are you from" so folks can show each other where they are from and we can see visually we are an international place to visit. We are also working on outdoor signage including some signage about the storm water, the breakwater islands outside that you can see from the tower, and some other signage about the volunteer butterfly wall so folks know what they're looking at. We've also brought ORCA indoors so there is the curator that tracks the water quality data real-time and now we set up a computer indoors with internet so you can see what the data is showing. At any given moment you can see what they're reading in Moore's creek. We are also working with the University of Florida Aquaculture teams in Fort Pierce and completely redesigned our freshwater tank and have a UV tank now that is exhibiting fish that have never before been raised or bred in captivity, they are being brought in Fort Pierce for the first time in the world. We are working

with UF to keep them alive. We are doing an overhaul of all the indoor educational signage so it will include human impacts, opportunities, and manatee connections, which keeps us very busy with the updates as you can imagine.

Ms. Tennant said displayed is something we are doing as a team so every single one of us has a different project that we are working on and is brought into this. She said the volunteer program is doing quite a bit and we have completely redesigned our volunteer training manuals so we can share them with volunteers and make onboarding easier for us and we're in the process of developing a "Train the Trainer" program which helps us to delegate out a little bit to season volunteers, the active training newer volunteers, and it can potentially free up some of the volunteer coordinators time for other projects and programs. That is everything she has right now and this is for information only and she will be happy to answer questions if you have.

Mayor Hudson asked the status of the oyster shells and what they are doing in Moore's Creek and what's happening on that.

Ms. Tennant said it is paused because the school we are working with, Florida Tech, is not doing outreach programs right now and they are the ones who will guide us to install them on pilings when it's time. She said they have not attached all of the oysters to the nets, we have paused them to be thinking maybe there is a fundraising community outreach opportunity there. We are not sure what it is yet.

Mr. Matthews said he would like to see them get in contact with two agencies to see if we can get funds from them. He said one is Allegheny and the other is the Tourist Development Board.

Ms. Tennant said she has not reached out to Allegheny, but she has been to the Tourism Development Council meetings a little while back and they were not providing funds for these kinds of things at that time, but they may be now. She will be happy to look into it.

Mr. Bey said very good job, Rachel. He said he thinks activity has doubled there in the time that he has been around and that is a good job and it's a great picture of your volunteers. He thanked her and said to keep up the good work.

Ms. Tennant said thank you and that she has to give credit to the team and this a very fantastic team to lead. She said it has been really incredible to lead these women during COVID and sees us stay strong even from home. We were in four different places in making all these changes and it is very encouraging.

Ms. Cavalcanti said she has a question about the thing you said the kids could print out or do it on their iPad. She asked how they get on that, did they go to FPUA or how did the parents know where to get them on.

Ms. Tennant said they email them daily and also posted them to our website daily and Facebook daily. She said now they are permanently on the website so they can be accessed any time.

Ms. Cavalcanti thanked Rachel and said it was a great job.

Mayor Hudson said very innovative.

Mr. Tompeck said the next item requests approval for the purchase of transformers for inventory and Javy Cisneros will make the presentation.

Javy Cisneros, Director of Utility Support Services, said he is here to request the approval to purchase three phase padmounted transformers for inventory in the amount not to exceed $700,000 annually from WEG Transformers USA of Washington, Missouri through the Florida Municipal Power Agency Joint Purchasing Project (FMPA JPP). FMPA JPP provides purchasing services for the purchase of electrical equipment for members at no cost which provides us with the economies of scale. FMPA awarded the padmounted transformer bid 2019-001 on August 22, 2019 for a period of five years with an option to extend at the end of the term. Mr. Cisneros said we have 55 three-phase transformers in stock from October 1, 2019 to August 27, 2020. He said we issued 29 transformers in the field and we purchased 29 transformer for approximate $353,000, the average cost is around $12,000. This is a very expensive piece of equipment and is not a storm stock, which means they are issued for construction. He said he would be happy to answer any questions you may have.

A motion was made by Mr. Matthews, seconded by Mayor Hudson, and unanimously carried to approve POA 20-56: The purchase of three-phase padmounted transformers for inventory in an amount not to exceed $700,000 annually, from WEG Transformers USA Inc. of Washington, Missouri, through the Florida Municipal Power Agency Joint Purchasing Project.

Mr. Tompeck said the next item is a request for approval of a Specific Authorization for engineering services related to the MWRF monitoring well and James Carnes will make the presentation.

James Carnes, W/WW Engineering Supervising Engineer, said Fort Pierce Utilities operates and owns the deep injection well system at the Mainland Water Reclamation Facility (MWRF) site. He said today and presently it receives cooling water blowdown from the TCEC power generation site as well as leachate from the St. Lucie County landfill. It exists of essentially three wells, two of which are used for injecting solutions into the ground and one is used to monitor and that is the monitoring well that is presently dysfunctional. Back in 2018 in the summer, the upper well which normally fed sampling by artesian flow, the natural flow from that area failed. We were not able to take our mandated monthly samples. We had to work with staff to take care of some

in-house remediation efforts and also contracted with Youngquist to do some air purging of the line, none of which were successful. Mr. Carnes said as a part of our re-permitting of the well, DEP is requiring us to reconstruct a monitoring well to make up for the upper zone that is not working.

Mr. Carnes said staff is requesting approval for the post budget amount of $44,679 to support the Specific Authorization we are also requesting approval for McNabb Hydrogeologic Consulting to provide engineering services relating to the MWRF Single-Zone monitoring well-2 design and construction administration in an amount not to exceed $244,166. He said that concludes his presentation and will be happy to answer any questions.

Mr. Matthews asked if both are being purchased from the same company.

Mr. Carnes apologized and said he did not understand the question.

Mr. Matthews asked if both amounts are being spent to the same company, the $44,000.

Mr. Carnes said McNabb Hydrogeologic is for the two services combined in the one Authorization, one is design and one is going to be construction engineering services once we put the project out to bid. He said the $44,000 will cover the design portion of it for this year and the remaining funds will cover the bidding administration as well as construction services for next year. We have funding in existing projects for that.

A motion was made by Mayor Hudson, seconded by Mr. Bey, and unanimously carried to approve RFQu 14-53: a) Post Budget Project/Budgeted Request in the amount of $44,679 and b) Specific Authorization 66-MHC-20-03 with McNabb Hydrogeologic Consulting. Inc. of Jupiter, Florida to provide engineering services relating to the Mainland Water Reclamation Facility Single-Zone Monitoring Well (MW-2) design and construction administration in an amount not to exceed $244,166. This Specific Authorization shall commence upon written Notice to Proceed.

Mr. Tompeck said the next item is a request for approval for easement subordination agreements for the North Causeway bridge replacement and Mr. Carnes will also make this presentation.

Mr. Carnes presented the FDOT Easement Subordination Agreements for the North Causeway Bridge Replacement. He said FPUA currently owns eight easements within the project limits for the North Causeway Bridge Replacement. The limits of the project from US 1 and extended down to Juanita down to Old Dixie from Juanita all the way to Taylor Creek and US 1 to the east side of the North Bridge replacement. There are about eight easements of varying degrees mostly on Old Dixie Highway and a couple on North Causeway Bridge. Essentially, these are in lands that the DOT needs to facilitate the overall improvements because of very complex right-of-ways. FPUA retains all the rights of the easements, in fact he thinks it is a little bit better during this

project if any of the improvements affect utility placement, elevation use, manholes or valve boxes, they pay to adjust those accordingly. Anytime in the future they have another project or there is a drainage issue, they pay for those as well. It's a win-win for FPUA, we still retain all the benefit just not without the title. Mr. Carnes said that concludes his presentation and he would be happy to answer any questions.

Mayor Hudson said the FDOT made a presentation to the City Commission on the new North Bridge at a recent meeting and it is going to be 85 feet high and the current south bridge is 65 feet high. She said it will go over the railroad tracks and there is quite a bit of improvement going to be done on Juanita as well as Sunny Lane. This is going to be a big project in the next five to six years and she moves for approval.

Ms. Cavalcanti asked if they are going to keep the underneath bridge like they did in Stuart.

Mayor Hudson said she thinks they are going to keep part of it for an observation deck.

Ms. Cavalcanti said so you are not going to be able to drive across like they did in Stuart in case it falls in like it did in Stuart.

Mayor Hudson said no, they are hoping that FDOT learned a lesson.

A motion was made by Mayor Hudson, seconded by Mr. Mathews, and unanimously carried to approve Easement Subordination Agreements for the upcoming Florida Department of Transportation North Causeway Bridge Replacement and recommend the Fort Pierce City Commission also execute these agreements at their subsequent meeting.

Mr. Tompeck said the next item is an update on the PCA with request to 2000 kilowatt hours on October 1 and Barbara Mika will make the presentation.

Barbara Mika, Director of Financial Services presented the update of the Power Cost Adjustment (PCA). She said she will provide the Board information about July's power costs and the updated projections through July 2021. The Power Cost Adjustment or PCA is the mechanism by which FPUA recovers power costs that are in excess of the $79.52 base power cost which is included in our base rate. The cost of purchased power from FMPA for the month of July was billed to FPUA at the rate of $64.64 for 1,000 kilowatt hours. This was a decrease of $3.96 as compared to the billing for June. In July, FPUA experienced an under-recovery of just over $26,000 with the cumulative over-recovery as of July 2020 was just under $3 million, $3.29 million. Displayed in this chart the monthly cumulative balance of PCA over-recover, which is represented by the dark blue line and has been at a -$13 per kilowatt hour since May. The blue bars represent an actual amount of over-recovery and the orange bars depict what the over-recovery would be if the projections are correct.

Mrs. Mika said these projections have been prepared by Raftelis Financial Consultants, which in turn were based on the forecast prepared by Florida Municipal Power Agency. She said since June's forecast, FPUA's estimate of the cost of purchased power for the upcoming 12 months has increased by 2.4 percent. The graph displayed takes a look at the PCA recovery trending through July 2021, the comparison of the trend where the PCA would be with and without the October 1st change in the PCA. Based upon current projections, the gray line shows the trend with the PCA remaining at -$13 to bring the PCA below the $1 million rate stabilization in February. The two other scenarios both a $2 and a $3 increase in the PCA appears to flatten the recovery each by an additional month in 2021. Since the PCA decreased to -$13 in May, we have under recoveries of almost $2.2 million in three months. This item provides you with the most updated information and analyses. Based upon the increased projected cost in the current PCA, it is the recommendation of Staff the PCA revert back to the -$11 PCA level that we experienced in March and April of this year, increasing the PCA by $2, effective October 1, 2020. We will continue to evaluate and update the projections from FMPA and report to the Board. Mrs. Mika said she will address any questions the Board may have.

Mayor Hudson asked if there was any discussion to at least postpone this until the end of this year.

Mrs. Mika said no, we are looking at them on a month by month basis, but if we do no change now according to this, by the end of calendar year, by the end of December that will put us right at just under the $2 million.

Ms. Cavalcanti asked if it would be better, she would think, that in October we are starting to cool off and to her it is always better to put the PCA a little higher through the winter where people do not have such a drastic effect. She said their bill will probably go down anyway, but it will go down a little less because they're using less air conditioning, but it still will go down. They do not feel it, there are more people here normally starting October and November and to her, it spares people who are here year-round to have that drastic increase in PCA that we seem to always have except this year, in the summer months. So actually Ms. Cavalcanti said she likes it that we are going up because people go from using 2,000 kilowatt hours to a thousand or less. They are already cut in half on the amount of utilities being used so if they see an increase in the PCA, to her, it's not noticeable.

Mrs. Mika said this year is an anomaly because of COVID and we did not know what to expect. She said you think they were going to use air-conditioning less, but with children being home for school and people being in her homes more in the day, they may use more.

Ms. Cavalcanti said she bets a lot of people are here from New York and New Jersey and all those places since New York has not been able to even open a restaurant yet. She said that is just her feeling on it.

Mayor Hudson said she can see that, but she was on the trajectory of thinking we were going to keep the -$13 until the end of this year, she was kind of there.

Mr. Tompeck said obviously when we lowered it $2 in May that was in response to COVID. He said we wanted to be sure we could maintain that as long as possible and was hoping it would be a little bit longer than it is. The other thing that concerns him just a little bit is the price of natural gas has moved from about $1.70 to today which was about $2.60. The price of gas is going up and it normally goes up a little bit during the shoulder months and then more in the winter. He thinks we are fairly well protected in terms of our pre-purchase gas agreements that FMPA has entered into and we have done some physical hedging at FMPA which he thinks is going to be very productive for FPUA. Mr. Tompeck believes the price of gas is going to go up a little bit more so we need to be mindful of that when we look at this.

Ms. Cavalcanti said she personally thinks if we could even, starting in November, December or January through maybe April, make the PCA -$9 or -$7 or something like that. She does not think people will feel it so that starting in June, we can again have a -$13 or whatever high number, if natural gas prices hold. It benefits mainly year-round residents, but also year-round residents in the past have been carrying it for the people who only come her in the winter because it was typically that in the summer we were raising the PCA and in the winter we were lowering it again.

Mr. Tompeck said we are working on one other item on restructuring our rates a little bit and what we are trying to do is put more of the rate in the fixed category. That will raise the rate slightly in the fall and the winter, but it will make it less variable so it will be lower in the spring and summer and that will be helpful as well to what you are addressing.

Mr. Fee asked if the Ms. Cavalcanti was suggesting to keep the PCA where it is now until January and make a larger increase.

Ms. Cavalcanti said no, she is suggesting to do just what they are saying, to lower it to the -$11 and maybe lower it to -$9 or -$7 in the winter months and then next summer, in June, back up to -$13 if natural gas prices allow us to do that and if we do not have something else worked out with the rates.

Mr. Tompeck said we will continue to look at that and maybe we can make a recommendation in a future board meeting for the Board to consider.

Ms. Cavalcanti said just as an example, most people's rates are drastically higher in the summer, you look at how many kilowatt hours you are using, probably a minimum of 2,000 is normal. She said then in the winter though, she knows one year she had 497 kilowatts one month so it goes way down. Guess who gets the benefit of that, all the northern people who come here and are renting a house in the winter months, not the year-round residents.

Mr. Fee said he gathers that we are looking at least two increases.

Ms. Cavalcanti said yes, in her opinion.

Mr. Fee said just looking at it, it looks like we have to make a second increase sometime around February or earlier maybe January.

Mrs. Mika said as projections change, we will reevaluate.

Mr. Fee asked if she anticipates one.

Mrs. Mika said that right now they are projecting for the cost to go up, so we will see as it progresses, the projections vary each month slightly.

Mayor Hudson said if we do that, we have got to make sure we do that. She said sometimes you say we will just do this and then in the summer months that may never come, you know what I am saying?

Ms. Cavalcanti said if natural gas prices go way up in the summer, then we have got a problem, we will not be able to.

Mayor Hudson said she wants us to remember that we said this was our plan.

Ms. Cavalcanti said imagine how much worse it would be if we if we make our PCA go to -$7 all through the winter months, let's say, and then we don't get to do anything in the summer, guess what it would have been otherwise. It would have been terrible.

A motion was made by Mr. Matthews, seconded by Mr. Fee, and unanimously carried to approve an increase to the Power Cost Adjustment of $2 per $1,000kWh from -$13 to $-11 per 1,000kWh, effective October 1, 2020.

Mr. Tompeck said over the last year, we have been working on a new FPUA website and it is coming to completion and we are hoping to roll it out in the next two weeks. He said we are thinking the new site will be more user-friendly and easier for our customers to navigate. A presentation on the new website will be given at the September 15th Board meeting.

Mr. Tompeck said FPUA is expecting delivery in September for two solar charging poles for phones and tablets which will be located at the Marina and MOEC. We are also expecting delivery for two EV charging stations which will be located at the City garage and will be able to service four vehicles. The current station in the City garage will be relocated to MOEC. FPUA is working

with Mike Reals to see where they are going to place those in the City garage because they are thinking about not on the first floor, but on the second or third level.

Mr. Tompeck said FMPA developed a year-end presentation on the accomplishments for 2020 that was delivered to our Members last week. He said the video has been uploaded to Facebook and a link will be on FPUA.com as well. The presentation contains information on rates, reliability, and environmental issues and he strongly urges the Board Members and customers to view this important presentation. It is about 23 or 24 minutes long.

Mayor Hudson asked if it is on the FMPA Facebook.

Mr. Tompeck said no, it is on FPUA's Facebook page.

Attorney Koblegard said he is working on contracts and everything else is quiet for FPUA.

Mr. Matthews said he strongly suggests the staff look at our losses and we are hoping in trying to help the ratepayers with the COVID situation. He said somewhere along the line we might have to make a chart in case we do not recover the losses and so we can keep up seven months, 10 months, a year from now, that should be homework to try to do that.

Mr. Matthews said we will never get credit for what we actually do as an Authority and he is looking at the 17th Street project. He said maybe it is time to put a sign up to say we appreciate serving our ratepayers, something simple. They do not know who is doing the work on 17th and Orange.

Mr. Tompeck asked if a little PR sign is what Mr. Matthews is talking about.

Mr. Matthews said yes.

Mayor Hudson said that is a good idea.

Mr. Matthews said he sees something along the road and says tax dollars at work, we are doing utility work here.

Ms. Cavalcanti said she thinks she saw one 7th Street one time for St. Lucie County or something like that.

Mayor Hudson said she would like say that she thinks the Facebook post about Linemen going to Louisiana has been a real big hit. She thinks FMPA has done some pictures and maybe FPUA has done it too. She really enjoyed seeing those and thinks it is good for the company.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

ATTEST:

SECRETARY

CHAIRMAN