MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE FORT PIERCE UTILITIES AUTHORITY, TUESDAY, JANUARY 19, 2021, 3:00PM, CITY COMMISSION CHAMBERS.

Members Present: Chairman Charlie Frank Matthews; Vice Chairman Frank H. Fee, IV; Secretary Glynda Cavalcanti; Deputy Secretary; Kristina Gibbons; and Mayor Linda Hudson.

Others present: John K. Tompeck, Director of Utilities; Barbara A. Mika, Director of Financial Services; Paul A. Jakubczak, Director of Electric & Gas Systems; and Bo Hutchinson, Director of Water/Wastewater Systems; Joshua P. Gang, Director of Regulatory Affairs, and Rupert N. Koblegard III, FPUA Attorney.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Charlie Frank Matthews.

Opening Prayer was by Jason Mittler, FPUA.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

The roll was called and a quorum declared.

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

A motion was made by Mayor Hudson, seconded by Mrs. Gibbons, and unanimously carried to approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of January 5, 2021.

Mr. Matthews said at this time we recognize any member of the public have any comments if you do come up, you have three minutes. Seeing no one, we close the time for public hearing.

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

1. Approve Post budget project and budget transfer request in the amount of $113,307.00 to complete the Fire Panel Replacement at the Energy Services Center, located at 1701 S. 37th Street.
2. (1) Approve Amendment 1 to the Emergency Catering Services Contracts with Good Eats, See Food, LLC (Good Eats), of Fort Pierce, Florida, for POA 15-48 and POA 18-39 to add FEMA required contract terms; and (2) Approval for the Director of Utilities to sign any future Amendments to add the FEMA required contract terms to existing agreements with vendors that may receive FEMA grant reimbursement.

Mr. Matthews said we have no Letters of Recognition or old business. Mr. Tompeck would you lead us into new business.

Mr. Tompeck said the first item up this afternoon is the Bill Comparisons for November. Michelle Harris will make the presentation. You should have a revised G-1 and G-2 in front of you.

Ms. Harris said thank you. I am presenting to you today the monthly update on the comparisons of Florida Municipal electric rates published by FMEA and the local Treasure Coast utility bills for November.

This first graph shows the comparison of residential electric bills for a thousand kilowatt hours of consumption for the month of November for the 13 municipal utilities which are members of the All Requirements Project. They are displayed and ranked based upon their base bill amount. Our November bill at $108.84 ranks FPUA the fourth lowest rate in this group. This graph displays a November comparison for the same level of consumption of a thousand kilowatt hours, but includes all the municipal utilities in the state of Florida. FPUA's bill at $108.84 ranks FPUA the 13th lowest rate in this comparison to the other 31 municipal utilities. We're trending a little bit towards the middle.

Effective November 1, FPUA increased the PCA by $3.00 and 12 of the other 31 municipal utilities implemented rate changes. The overall impact of these rate adjustments resulted in an increase of $0.97 of the ARP average, and an increase of $1.10 for the municipal average. This graph presents the similar comparison, but for 2500 kilowatt hours. FPUA's November bill, at $274.80, puts us right in the middle on this group. FPUA's rate for both 1000 and 2500 kilowatt hours fall below all three averages. We're still below the ARP average and about $.02 cents below the municipal average and still well below the IOU average.

This table displayed is a November comparison of the average residential utility bills on the Treasure Coast. FPUA's utility bill for all three services provided, which are inside the city limits, are shown in the first column and in blue. All other bills on this table have electric services provided by FP&L and water/wastewater services provided by the locality provider. The comparison includes the bills for the average consumption of electric, water and wastewater services. These totals include all the taxes and fees and have been verified by staff to actual historical bills. The only change to this table since October was the electric for FPUA which includes the increase to the PCA.

This item is for information only and requires no action, but I'll be glad to address any questions.

Ms. Cavalcanti asked where our price difference is or did we raise the amount? Is it 750 kilowatts or 1000 kilowatts? We changed the rate.

Mr. Tompeck said I have to go back to look at the rate resolutions. Somehow, I think it's 750.

Ms. Cavalcanti said okay. I was just wondering if you could do this using 750 kilowatt hours instead of a 1000. Because at a 1000 the rates go up to the 250 tier. So I am just curious. If it's going to be a bunch of work I think FP&L has a change in rate over so many kilowatt hours as well. So it's going to be their changing, we are changing..... I'm just curious. It doesn't have to be every month.

Ms. Harris said so you're just curious to see where it stands?

Ms. Cavalcanti said I would like to see that. I have one more question. Does anyone have any idea why Port St. Lucie water is so cheap compared to others?

Mr. Tompeck said, Bo would you try to answer that question?

Mr. Hutchinson said there is a significant portion of Port St. Lucie's utilities that were built using MSBUs. So the actual infrastructure was funded and put on their taxes. It was done on the water side and the wastewater side and that's one reason why Port St. Lucie grew so fast. The developers were able to get in there and build these developments with a lot less upfront costs, so it's a lot cheaper to go to that municipality. So the people are still paying for it, they are just paying for more of it on their tax bill.

Ms. Cavalcanti said okay thank you.

Mr. Tompeck said the next item is a status report on the power cost adjustment. Barbara Mika will make the presentation.

Mrs. Mika said I am here today to provide you information about the status of the November power cost adjustment and the updated projections through November of 2021.

FPUA recovers the cost of our purchased power through customer billings. Power costs recovered that are in excess of the $79.52 base power cost are accumulated and are credited back to the customer through the PCA adjustment. A negative PCA appears as a credit on the customer's bill.

The cost of power purchased from FMPA for the month of November was billed to FPUA at the rate of $69.60 for 1,000kWh, this was an increase of $10.06 as compared to the billing for October (your agenda memo has a typo, reads the incorrect amount of change in the cost). In November FPUA experienced an over-recovery of power costs from the customer of $380,236. The cumulative over-recovery as of November 30, 2020 was $3.8 million ($3,767,845).

This chart tracks cumulative monthly balance of the PCA over-recovery in relation to the approved Power Cost Adjustment levels back to November of 2018 and projecting forward for twelve months.

The PCA is represented by the darker blue line, with the approved increase implemented November 1st ($3), the PCA level is currently -$8 per 1,000kWh.

On the top of this chart, the blue bars represent the actual monthly amount of the over-recovery while the orange bars depict what the over-recovery would be if the projections are correct. These projections have been prepared by Raftelis Financial Consultants, and are based on data forecasts prepared by Florida Municipal Power Agency.

Since the October forecast, FMPA's estimate of the cost of purchased power for the upcoming 12 months has increased by 2.6 %.

This graph takes a look at the updated long-range projection of the PCA trending through September 2022. The projected Power Cost Adjustment appears to maintain a firm over-recovery safely through the end of this fiscal year. Projections indicate that the level of over-recovery will remain below the maximum threshold through the end of calendar year 2021 and will present opportunities for power cost adjustments in warmer summer months.

We will continue to evaluate the monthly updated projections from FMPA and report to the Board. This item provides you with the most updated information and analyses. Based upon these assessments it is the recommendation of staff to make no adjustments to the PCA at this time.

That is all that I have. I will address any questions or comments that you may have.

Mr. Tompeck said I think you can see from the last chart that when the time comes in May or June you want to lower it. What essentially you'll be doing is removing the second hump of the curve which is fine.

Ms. Cavalcanti said hopefully we'll have a nice big overage that we can eat right into.

Mr. Tompeck said the next item is approval of contract with Danella Construction for communications infrastructure, unit price contract and Jason Mittler will make the presentation.

Mr. Mittler said a very similar item presented last month with PCS. FPUAnet has significant plans on upgrading and expanding its network over the last five years. With three major projects that total around $1 million per year. These three major projects include system expansion, GPON services and system reliability. So I am requesting the approval of the piggyback with The City of Ormond Beach with Danella Construction for an amount not to exceed $500,000 annually. The initial terms of this contract will be from January 6, 2021 to February 18, 2023 with three one-year renewal options. Any questions?

Ms. Cavalcanti said I will move for approval.

Mayor Hudson said seconded.

Mr. Matthews said it's been moved and seconded that we approve the project. The Board approved the motion unanimously.

Mr. Tompeck said the next item requests approval of Resolution 2021-01, which establishes a financing program for low pressure sewer service. Bo Hutchinson will make the presentation.

Mr. Hutchinson said I'm going to take you through some details of the sewer expansion program and we will talk about those details.

First question is why low pressure sewer? Not much needs to be said about the removal of the septic tanks, lift stations and drain fields as to improve our environment and help our environmental health in the area. The other alternatives would be the conventional gravity sewer system and it's simply cost prohibitive to put that in an existing neighborhood and when you have to dig a 10 foot, 12 foot or 15 foot deep trench to install the pipes, you end up having to rebuild the road as well. Other utilities are in the way. It's very expensive. It also requires a master lift station. Those could be upwards of $300,000 by themselves and you have to have somewhere to put them and nobody wants a lift station in their front yard so that's very problematic as well.

The numbers we have seen doing some estimates for this over the years, you can end up well above $30,000 per home to be able to construct a gravity system. So it's simply not cost effective to do that. Also the construction of the low pressure sewer system uses much smaller pipes. Typically 2" up to 4" pipes that can be directionally bored as conventionally laid where you don't even dig a trench. So you will shoot the pipe underground from spot to spot and there is very little restoration costs by doing that and smaller pipes is less expensive. This program will increase our customer base and increase the opportunities to grow the City of Fort Pierce. So anyone who has been to our strategic planning meeting and has seen this map to the left, I've recycled it at least a dozen times. The dotted line is our service territory for both water and wastewater and all of the green on the screen is the areas where we currently have wastewater. There are actually two shades of green there, but it's difficult to see. Anywhere there is gravity now the folks would already have the sewer available; however, up until now with this low pressure sewer system, anyone that has force main a pressurized sewer main in front of their residence it would also be available. So that's going to open up its own market by itself. Our expansions going into existing neighborhoods with the low pressure system, what we're going to go into is the existing neighborhoods because that's where our customer base is, that's where the septic systems are so we are going to bring that to them.

The map on the right is our proposal for the bonded expansion that was discussed at the last meeting, and I'm sure we are going to have more discussion on that going forward. This is about

20 different areas, some of them are water and wastewater that's anything in purple. Anything in green is an area that already has water that we are proposing to put the sewer system in as well. There is a little area at the bottom infill for water as well. We will be talking about that more in the future.

Moving on to the actual components of the system, I think probably most everybody has seen one of these, but these are a little bit different. The wet well itself is about two feet in diameter and six feet deep and is made of HDPE and it will last forever literally, the wet well will anyway. The control panel that would be attached to the wall or a stand near the lift station. An interesting feature about this particular control panel is that it has a built-in automatic transfer switch, so you don't have an issue where you have someone who knows what they are doing safely connect the generator. You go up and plug it in and if it has power it won't take power through the ATS. If it needs power it will take it off the generator you're done and you move on from there. That was a safety issue that came up after 4 hurricanes. It's very significant down in Port St. Lucie where they have a lot of grinder pump stations. The heart of the system is the grinder pump itself. The E1 pump is much different than a typical centrifugal pump, grinder pump where they empower itself is actually the grinder and the mechanism to make the water flow. So immediately the efficiency of those start to degrade. It starts wearing and any solids that get in there and bind it up is working directly against the motor and has made them very maintenance intensive, that style.

The E1 system is different and has a positive displacement pump. I won't get too technical, but it's a different type of pump which is more efficient for what we're doing here and it has a completely separate grinder mechanism. So it grinds in one stage and then it pumps in the next. The maintenance intervals on these in Martin County is extending their maintenance interval after 3 years now. Unless there's some sort of issue that they have to come out. So these are very reliable.

Baker Underground is the contractor that would do the installations, the station itself and they would also disconnect the septic system and they would properly abandon that and then make the connection to the lift station. They would also connect the lift station to the service, and the main. There is another little check valve and a valve combination that comes in the package in the kit with the lift station and stainless steel that goes at the property line. So then from there, either our in-house crews or the contractor would make that last connection from the property line out to the mains in the road, whether it be new construction mains that we can put in upfront services, or whether it's existing mains and they have to go out and tap it and such.

So moving onto the cost of these, the grinder pump stations are a little less than $2800. The plumbing to install them, abandon the septic system and all the plumbing work together is less than $2000. The electrical service to power the station is $850 and that entails actually having to get the power from the panel wherever it is in the house out to the control panel for the lift station. I have an average wastewater service to main here because there's a broad spectrum

there. If it's a new service main on the new construction, they're around $500 each. If it's an existing main it could be up around $1500. For example, we chose to round that off to $1000. We will keep an eye on that as we go through the process and if it needs to be adjusted one way or the other we will do that along with these other fees. These fees are based on the contract from piggybacking, Martin County and one from Port St. Lucie. This team of contractor's work very well together it's very efficient. If the next go around, if the prices are higher or lower, we would also adjust the prices at that time. So you add the current capital improvement charge of $2850 into it and you add up with a total of a little less than $9500, which is right where Martin County is at as well. Our service territory is not financially fit as Martin County's, our folks can use a little more help. So staff is recommending to utilize the four year payback to try to get that cost a little bit lower. That's a program that we used for years and years. When it's specifically something like this, where it's not a developer, it wouldn't be used for a developer it would be used for something specifically to help homeowners or a specific neighborhood. Of course, that's up to the Board. If they don't feel that's appropriate you can let us know and we can revise the numbers without it. That would get our customer cost down to a little over $7000. Now that's an important number, because that's right at the price point for a replacement drain field. They're going to vary up and down depending on what you need to do. Sometimes you might get away a little cheaper if you're somewhere where it's a very sandy soil or other times you see the mountains in the yard. So, we are trying to match that price point. We'll talk about that again here in a little bit why that's important.

Our payment options:

1. You can pay in full. You're payed up front, it's installed and then you just pay your typical sewer bill of $49.66. We rounded it to $50 just to make it easier.

2. 20% down and zero interest for 12 months. With the down payment and the initiation and deposit you end up with a little over $1500 initially for the homeowner to put up. The monthly payment including the bill is $521 plus or minus.

3. 20% down. In this case, it would be a 6% interest rate and we carry that out for up to 10 years, unless the homeowner chooses to pay that off early. Your upfront costs are the same, a little over $1500, but that brings your monthly payment and bill down to around $113. It's becoming much more affordable for the homeowners.

   Something else to say when we are talking about these different durations for the payback periods and such that's always a phrase that we throw around. You have to keep in mind, once we have a customer connected, especially on the wastewater side, they're customers for life. That property will be connected to sewer indefinitely. So when we start to get those payback rates just keep that in mind even if they look like longer payback rates the reality is we are talking 100 years here.

4. This option would be attractive to someone where the most important thing to them is their monthly payment. Their upfront payments are a little bit higher here, where they would just pay the capital improvement charge and with the initiation and deposit it would be a little less than $3000 upfront to get them started. Then their lease payment is only $35 with their additional bill or $85 per month. So that's your lowest cost per month.

There's pros and cons to all of these. Our goal is trying to get a program that fits for everyone if we possibly can. Which is very difficult to do.

Moving onto the marketing side of this. We have been very successful with signs and mail outs in our MSBU areas. Also, our other expansion area with our pilot project on the waterside. We market it like you market anything else. We put it on the website and all of that. There's another part to it that's on the wastewater side it's even more important. That has to do with the St. Lucie County Health Department. If there is a sewer connection that's available they will not give out any permits to work on or to construct a septic system. For example, you have someone whose septic system is failing and they call their plumber and the plumber says yeah you need a drain field and he goes to the health department and asks for a permit and they look up on the wall, look on a map or they give us a call, and they are like hey, there's a force main here instead. FPUA has this brand-new program, you don't need a new septic system, and you need to call them up. So they call up FPUA, we walk them through it, we pick a financing plan that works for them. I don't know any plumbers who finance. Maybe they are out there I don't know, but they come to us now. They don't have a mound in the yard, they don't have the responsibility of it. We have the opportunity here to turn that from a negative into a positive thing. It increases the customer base and gets more people paddling the boat.

The final piece of this puzzle is Resolution 2021-01. This is for the low pressure sewer capital financing program and the other contracts with the vendors were signed at the last meeting so they are requesting approval.

That's the end of the presentation if anyone has any questions.

Mayor Hudson said I have a question. Would you mind going back to the map of where we are talking about? Those are specific areas we are going to target or areas you think are going to be interested, how did you choose those areas?

Mr. Hutchinson said there was a matrix that they put together in engineering and it's the same matrix that we used previously to select the pilot project area. We looked at things like number one for this type is your infrastructure costs versus how many connections that you could potentially have. That gets into something that if it's on the sand ridge most likely the septic systems will last longer. If you are in the lower areas or areas where they are known to have more mucky soils the septic systems don't last quite as long. So this is our proposal. There's

other areas as well. We had to stop at some point. This is a little over $10 million worth of expansions.

Mayor Hudson said and so I'm trying to figure out your map. Can you just name some of the neighborhoods that are potentially going to be involved. Can you tell that?

Mr. Hutchinson said yes. We have Jefferson Parkway, there's 36 potential customers. The St. Lucie area that's just south of airport road just east of 25th, 215 potential. North Avenue Q, on the north side of Avenue Q, 128 potential customers. Martin Circle, 133 and U Vista is a small one at 15. Dark Hammock, that's a good one as that place is underwater quite a bit, there's 50 potential customers there. Cure Royal Lot, that's down in Oleander south of Edwards area. Cortez a little bit north of Edwards off 25th. River Road Estates, 58. Fleetwood Acres of course. Vera Lake Drive, that's down south by Oleander, east of Oleander.

Mayor Hudson asked are you proposing Indian River Drive?

Mr. Hutchinson said not at this time. It's not out of the question. The difficulties with areas like that are the homes are so spread out your infrastructure costs is significantly more and south Indian River Drive is up on the sand ridge as well, so those systems work really good. The perk rates in that soil is just gone. It's not uncommon for them to get 30-40 years out of a system up there.

Mayor Hudson asked how about north? St. Lucie Village water and wastewater.

Mr. Hutchinson said St. Lucie Village does not have either service. We have taken a run at that three separate times. Mr. Thiess once and I did twice. Again, the homes are spread out so the infrastructure costs are significantly more expensive and the railroad. The railroad is very expensive to cross.

Mayor Hudson said that makes sense. I forgot about the railroad. You're saying that you can make this comparable to a price that they might have to buy a new subject tank or repair or take care of? So that would make it, and I'm not sure if it doesn't matter how much money you have or how little money you have, a lot of people don't want to do this. In communities that have a lot of discretionary income they still don't want to do this. I understand what you're saying. You have to work with the county and the health department and make it so they almost have to.

Mr. Hutchinson said at some point in time. FPUA is not an enforcement body. So we don't have a stick. We have to have a really good carrot. When the septic systems do fail, at some point in time they will all fail and at some point in time they are all going to connect. If we have a good easy program to make that happen we can turn it from a negative into a positive.

Mayor Hudson said and the state legislature will continue nudging communities with the carrot and the stick to say you have to do this, you have to do this.

Mr. Hutchinson said and hopefully they will keep giving us grants. In Fleetwood Acres there's a half million dollar grant to put sewer in there. There are other areas, when this money is available, we will have this program. With these turnkey projects, we can put it in front of them and that's what the state is really looking for is more turnkey projects.

Mayor Hudson asked have you talked to the health department to tell them this is in the works?

Mr. Hutchinson said yes, I spoke with them over there several months ago. Once this last piece is approved and we start rolling for this, we're going to make it as easy for them as possible, and hopefully get some flyers over there and do some marketing as well.

Mr. Matthews said I have a couple of questions. The one I'm concerned about now is that if someone is going to get the system and they move out, the property stays vacant for a year, do we have a tracking system so we know we have done improvements?

Mr. Hutchinson said yes sir. This would all be tied into our Cogsdale system. It would be just like all of our other billing records. It will be right there stored.

Mr. Matthews said I didn't notice if you did, but down around Indian River Estates, do we plan on going in there?

Mr. Hutchinson said we haven't as of yet. That's a complicated area because that's actually St. Lucie County service territory for water and I am not sure off the top of my head if that agreement addresses wastewater or not. That doesn't mean that's not an obstacle we couldn't overcome. Whether it's a bulk wastewater customer and we hand them over a good working model to do it themselves there. At the end of the day, we want to get people on sewer. We want customers as well, but we have a bit of responsibility to do this.

Mr. Matthew said so far you have taken Map #2 on the right and you combed the fine print some of the worst areas first.

Mr. Hutchinson said it's a combination of the worst areas and the ones that have the most economic opportunity for connection as well. We have to look at it again talking about the density, how many potential homes. If I have to spend a couple of hundred thousand dollars in infrastructure and I can potentially connect 500 homes I want to do that over a neighborhood for the same money I would only connect 100. I want to start with the low hanging fruit to try to get the program moving and to demonstrate the financial benefit to this and of course the environmental benefit as well.

Mrs. Gibbons said I think you mentioned the size coming from the house, 2" to 4" for the sewer main. What size is typical now if they were just going to connect a new home to our system?

Mr. Hutchinson said if it was a gravity main the most common size is an 8" pipe.

Mrs. Gibbons asked are they going to have any problems with this in the long run?

Mr. Hutchinson said I don't believe so. This is proven technology and we have the benefit of Martin County that started this program with this pump system a few years back. So we have had extensive meetings with folks from Martin County and they have gone through this learning curve for us. There are potential issues if you put these mains in and no one connects to them right away, but there is a technical solution for that. You basically have to flush the mains.

Mrs. Gibbons asked and this grinder would be one per house?

Mr. Hutchinson said that's correct.

Mrs. Gibbons asked so then it would be sunken in the ground at the mailbox area or whatever?

Mr. Hutchinson said the idea is to keep it closer to the house itself. We like to keep it as close to the house as we can to keep the run from the house, the sewer run, to the station as short as possible. It doesn't really matter how long you have to go to get to the street and that's better because the power is at the house. If the panel is outside they can run the service wire to the control panel, they can run it underground. If it's inside the garage they can run it up through the attic and right down to the wall. You connect the control panel to the wall and it's safe and protected and out of the way.

Mr. Matthews asked how large is the average pump?

Mr. Hutchinson said the pump itself or the actual station?

Mr. Matthews said the actual station.

Mr. Hutchinson said the actual station is about two feet in diameter and it's about 6 feet deep. Whenever you bury those you want them to be a few inches above ground. Not so it's an eyesore. You don't want to have a big mushroom in somebody's yard so you want it relatively low. You still want it high enough to where, if it is an area that floods, you're not going to be a flooding station.

Mr. Tompeck said it's got a cover over it. It almost looks like a sunken garbage can.

Mr. Hutchinson said that's exactly what it looks like.

Mayor Hudson asked do you have any here in our company now?

Mr. Hutchinson said not yet.

Mayor Hudson asked you don't have any experience with it personally, but you know about it?

Mr. Hutchinson said yes. We went down to Martin County and visited them and looked at their demo. We've had the manufacturer's rep here and he did a demo for us as well. We actually just ordered our first few of these to have them in stock. We have a few customers that are waiting on these right now. So at a later date if you are still interested we can certainly set up a demo.

Mr. Tompeck said the E1 pump is apparently the gold standard for the industry. It's a good pump.

Mrs. Gibbons asked the lift station, approximately how many homes can it support?

Mr. Hutchinson said each of these lift stations would be for one home.

Mrs. Gibbons said ok. That was for the comp station I thought, but the lift station.

Mr. Hutchinson said the grinder pump station.

Mrs. Gibbons said right, ok. So where all the water is going to flow from there it's going to go right into our main or are you going to now create your own lift station for that specific neighborhood right?

Mr. Hutchinson said with this pumping technology you don't have to. With the old centrifugal pumps you did. They would pump 30 pounds/40 pounds a head and that's all they can push. They couldn't push very far. You would correct that into a master lift station and then you would send it off to the plant. The E1 pumps will pump 100 psi. Anyone of these pumps anywhere in our service territory. If given a straight path, which we don't have too many of those, will pump all the way to the plant.

Mrs. Gibbons said wow.

Mr. Matthews said it doesn't matter whether the household is 4, 5 or 3 does that matter?

Mr. Hutchinson said no sir. The operating range on this system is very broad.

Mr. Fee asked what happens if the pump station does flood in heavy rains?

Mr. Hutchinson said it would just run and run and run and try to drain the yard.

Mr. Fee said if it burns out who's responsible for replacing.

Mr. Hutchinson said it would be our responsibility.

Mr. Matthews said as we get a whole system into the household, would the homeowner know that they need to make a call...how do you track it?

Mr. Hutchinson said yes sir, on the control panel itself it has its own red light and a very loud obnoxious siren. When that thing starts going off the homeowner is going to make that call very quickly, and to your point Mr. Fee, it would be on us and the plumber to make sure that the lift station is set high enough to where we aren't going to have that problem. If it's a yard that's prone to flooding we're going to set it up a little higher and if we have to build the grade up around it that's what we'll do.

Mr. Matthews asked how long in Martin County have they had this in existence?

Mr. Hutchinson said I think they have been using these pumps, correctly if I'm wrong, what was I saying four or five years now?

Mr. Tompeck said they're "connected to protect" program that has been very successful in Martin County.

Mayor Hudson said Chairman I move for approval.

Mr. Fee said seconded.

Mr. Tompeck said we have to read the Resolution.

Ms. Sabota said adopt Resolution No. UA 2021-01, establishing a financing program for Contribution in Aid of Construction for Low Pressure Sewer service furnished by the Wastewater System.

Mayor Hudson said and I move for approval.

Mr. Fee said seconded.

Mr. Matthew said it's been ruled and adopted the Resolution 2021-01 be approved. Any questions?

Mr. Tompeck said just a couple of quick items. The joint meeting with the City Commission, the County Commission and the FPUA Board on relocation of the WRF is scheduled for next Tuesday,

January 26 at 9:00am at the Fenn Center. Invitations went out on 7 January so if you haven't responded, please take a moment to do so. Based on the presentation to the Board on debt refinancing at our last meeting, the staff is preparing a list of priorities and projects to be reviewed by the Board. We will try to get that list you in February and Mayor that matches up with the questions you were asking Mr. Hutchinson on the specific areas.

Mayor Hudson said ok, thank you.

Mr. Tompeck said a quick update on service disconnections. As we mentioned at the last meeting, we returned to our normal routine on January 11. Last week we had 231 service disconnections and 224 reconnects. Only 7 people didn't reconnect and we had 661 customers that paid before they were disconnected. I think we are back into a more routine place than we were just before COVID. The same kind of numbers are popping up on a weekly basis. We started disconnecting commercial accounts today and approximately 40 commercial customers are scheduled to be disconnected this week out of 86 commercial customers that are behind on their bills. So even that's not a terrible number and I suspect that some will probably pay before they are disconnected. In terms of the additional financial support available to our customers, there's still about $20,000 left in the ALPI account for use so we are continuing to encourage them to step up, but we have not had much activity on that the last few weeks. Seems like people are back into the routine of paying their bills and everything seems to be fine. I just don't know what's going to happen, but I think it's going to remain the way it has been the last few weeks.

Mr. Matthew said Mr. Tompeck those are anonymous donations. We haven't been able to use them at all yet.

Mr. Tompeck said check?

Mr. Matthews said checks that somebody paid.

Mrs. Gibbons said I think they were used that same week.

Mr. Tompeck said they were used very quickly.

Mr. Tompeck said that's all I have.

Mr. Koblegard said sorry for the disconnect. I have nothing to report on.

Mr. Matthews said ok. Are you still going to give us information on the special joint meeting that's coming up?

Mr. Koblegard said I know I'm going to have it and the main presentation. I don't have the maps to show you.

Mr. Matthews said are there any other Board Members that have anything else to say? On behalf of the Board, we are glad to see those on the sick list because of the virus back to work.

Mr. Tompeck said we still have a few people out on quarantine, but they are making their way back slowly.

Mr. Matthews said our Board members say that's nothing to play with.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

ATTEST:

SECRETARY

CHAIRMAN