MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE FORT PIERCE UTILITIES AUTHORITY, TUESDAY, APRIL 20, 2021, 4:00 P.M., CITY COMMISSION CHAMBERS.

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

Excused: Deputy Secretary, Kristina Gibbons

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

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

Opening Prayer was by Jason Mittler of FPUA, ITS.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

The roll was called and a quorum declared.

A motion was made by Ms. Cavalcanti and seconded by Mr. Fee to excuse Ms. Gibbons from the meeting today.

Mr. Matthews said Madam Secretary would you tell us what's next on the agenda please.

Ms. Sabota said Rachel Tennant is here to present the Proclamation for the Conservation of rare Florida Atala Butterflies.

Ms. Tennant said hello Mayor Hudson, Chairman Matthews and FPUA Board Members, thank you for having me. I will read the proclamation first:

Whereas, the Manatee Observation and Education Center in Ft. Pierce, Florida has made the following determinations:

Whereas, the natural beauty of Florida atala butterflies in the Manatee Observation Butterfly Garden can be enjoyed by everyone, can attract guests, and can enhance the beauty of the grounds; and

Whereas, the Florida atala butterfly was thought to be extinct from 1927 until 1959 and was rediscovered and thriving at the Manatee Observation and Education Center; and

Whereas, the Florida atala butterfly host plant, Zamia integrifolia (a.k.a. coontie) is the only cycad native to Florida and is the primary host plant for the Florida atala butterfly; and

Whereas, Zamia integrifolia is featured in the landscape at the Manatee Observation and Education Center; and

Whereas, the presence of native wildflowers is essential to the well-being of native pollinator species such as the Florida atala butterfly and necessary for productive and profitable farms and forests.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Manatee Observation and Education Center of Ft. Pierce, Florida does hereby commit and encourage others to commit to the conservation of the Florida atala butterfly in its host range and implement practices that will protect these butterflies for the enjoyment of visitors to the Manatee Observation and Education Center.

We will make this commitment as part of a partnership with the University of Florida, IFAS program. I'm here also to introduce Ken Gioeli who will talk more about the atala butterfly and its conservation now. Thank you very much.

Mr. Gioeli said thank you Board. I'm the University of Florida's natural resources extension agent for St. Lucie County and joined here today by our new Extension Director for the University of Florida, Grantly Ricketts. He's been with us for two weeks now and he is very knowledgeable about horticultural practices. It's been an honor and privilege to work with the Manatee Center since before it opened. I remember opening the Manatee Center doors with Liberta Scotto doing summer camps and sea turtle outreach and all sorts of work. We worked together in partnership all the way up until Rachel, the Director, and now manager of the site. It's very reassuring knowing we have leadership that carries forward good management skills and commitment to conservation.

About the atala butterfly. It was thought to be extinct. We have found some pockets of it thriving on the Treasure Coast. We only had maybe a handful of three or four locations that we're finding. We think they are hugging a climate zone around the Indian River lagoon, Ft. Pierce inlet and the state recreation area. They seem to be seasonable. They come and we have lots of them then they disappear. Then they come back the next season. It's been an interesting chance to learn about conservation and teaching others, such as the Manatee Center, how to identify them and how to conserve them.

One thing that we do at the Manatee Center is we don't reach for insecticides right away. As soon as you see those atala butterfly caterpillars, I'm not sure if you have the Proclamation in front of you, but if you have it in color the caterpillars are bright red and yellow will little yellow dots on it. They will strip those Coontie plants there.

It really does cause consternation with landscapers. Because they don't like plants to be eaten in the landscape. So the nice thing about working with the Ft. Pierce Utilities Authority and with Rachel at the Manatee Center is we can actually teach them not to reach for those insecticides right away and help conserve a once thought to be extinct butterfly.

At this time I would like to have Grantly step up and say a quick word.

Mr. Ricketts said thank you for having me in St. Lucie County. I am from Osceola County. I'm here to serve the people of Ft. Pierce and the people of St. Lucie overall. I'm looking forward to our partnership with each and every organization that relates to whatever we do in terms of agriculture, home economics, now a days they call it family and consumer sciences. We're here to educate the people and I look forward to working with every one of you. Thank you.

Mayor Hudson said thank you.

Mr. Gioeli said does the Board have any questions about this particular butterfly or the University of Florida extension here in St. Lucie County?

Mr. Matthews said on behalf of the Board, thank you.

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 Ms. Cavalcanti, and unanimously carried to approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of April 6, 2021.

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

1. POA 21-47: Approve the emergency purchase of 138kV Insulators from Anixter Inc. of Glenview, Illinois, in an amount not to exceed $80,445. This purchase will be made as an exception to our purchasing policy based on spot pricing through AURSI instead of going out to formal bid due to the urgent need to replace the insulators on the Garden Substation to Julia Substation 138kV transmission line.

Mr. Matthews said please bring us into new business Mr. Tompeck.

Mr. Tompeck said thank you Mr. Chairman. The first item we have this afternoon is the business development update by Ana Johnson.

Ms. Johnson said good afternoon Mr. Tompeck. Thank you for having me. Mayor, good to see you and thank you Board for having me. It's been a while since we've been up here. I want to give you some interesting updates on what's happening in Ft. Pierce. There are many, but I felt prudent to touch on some of the larger ones that are making a significant impact in our community. So the targeted project highway will include Contender Boats, Maverick Boats, Pierce Ciderworks, Hilton Hotel and Newbury Fields at Jenkins and Okeechobee.

Beginning with Contender, 5701 Environment Drive off of Midway. Contender is now owned by Malibu Boats. It will include gas, water, and wastewater for this particular project already serving the site. Any adjustments that are made will be based upon any planned submissions that take place with the engineering team. There's going to be an increase in gas service confirmed and there's a significant need for it during their manufacturing processes as they are using paint booths in removing moisture. The building did remain vacant after citrus use for some time. So it's nice to see it gain some occupancy. It's easily accessible near the highway as you can see in the image here from Midway Road. That will be a really nice option for moving the boats.

Maverick Boats is also now owned by Malibu, so Malibu kind of has a nice little targeted area in our community. They are located at 4551 St. Lucie. You can see this was one of the original site plans used during initial discussion and development in phase 1 has been used for the last year or so maybe a little bit longer and phase 2 was in discussion even at that time. The land has now been cleared. The gas service to the site has been outside. It is a water, gas, wastewater and electric project and it may also include fiber and that is an exciting thing for us. The service from phase 1 to phase 2 on the gas will tie the meters together. There is going to be a phase 3 and 4 concept. It is new, the idea, but now under new ownership and solid funding they are excited about that opportunity. They are looking at other site improvements also.

Pierce Ciderworks, John and I had an opportunity to talk to the owner of Pierce. He is targeting Orange and 17th. There's some open green space and there's also a preexisting structure and he has been able to successfully sustain during the quarantine and is also recovering now. There's going to be a major increase in electric service anticipated for the site because its production process is actually going to probably increase times 12. That's pretty significant, yes. His manufacturing is going up. It's for distribution purposes. It's a perfect corridor near Kings Highway. He can move trucks in and out. Hopefully, the discussions with planning in the city will involve a lot of that traffic study information.

Hilton Hotels is now moving forward at Reynolds and Crossroads near the turnpike. We're finally seeing some movement. They are working to gain traction on this project. It was discussed over a year ago and kind of lost steam with everything that happened. I'm really excited to hear from them, because given what we've all been through and what we experienced in the community

as far as loss it's nice to see the larger organizations moving forward. This owner actually, the investor behind this, already served FPUA during recovery. Our mutual aid crews occupied some of the hotels in the community as needed. He's already onboard to allow us space in this nice new hotel. It's an all utility project. It will include a heated pool and modern facade and easy access. Hopefully encouraging the flow of visitors coming through the area. I'm sure you've seen Homewood Suites hotels in the community. They have an art deco appearance that has been well received in the community. They are really nice on the inside too. That doesn't hurt.

Newbury Fields, Jenkins and Okeechobee, we've been staring at this overgrown site for a really, really long time. It was nice to get this call. Model 45, that's the standard Publix that we see in the community. Taylor Creek is actually Model 45. This will look exactly like that. It will have a drive-through pharmacy, liquor store just to the right of the store when you are facing it and it will have a retail plaza. This one will allow further trucks to move through the back if we get those approvals and deliver the product in that way. The front, the out parcels, will include restaurants, retail and additional stores. So there is also additional development beyond this. We don't have site planning on that yet. This is going to encourage so much on the Jenkins corridor. As if we haven't seen enough. We've got lots happening. This will mean that we will see from interstate 95 people coming through the area will get off of the highway and come into our community and hopefully encourage additional use for other amenities.

A project worth mentioning going forward, but before I talk about that, I want to touch on one more thing. We were talking about Contender and Maverick Boats. You didn't hear me talk about Pursuit. There's some exciting things happening, Pursuit is also owned by Malibu. That's our little triangle, trifecta. The EDC of St. Lucie is now offering a ready to work boot camp for graduating students from every local high school in our territory. They will receive training if interested. It's giving them something to do on a technical level if they are not college bound or have no interest. It will create so much opportunity and on top of that, Pursuit Boats was just nominated by the National Association for Industrial and Office Parks for the economic impact deal of the year award. Having been in our territory for 38 years, and now continuing this partnership with other larger boat manufactures and now partnering with the college, the utility organization and the EDC. It's a really big deal.

Finally, a few projects worth mentioning include Interstate Crossroads. We have a huge business and industrial park near the Hilton Hotel at Okeechobee and the turnpike. Phase 1 will include a 500,000 square foot manufacturing and industrial space. This is one of those field of dreams projects. We don't have any letters of interest at this time for occupancy, but the hope and the belief is that as this develops, they will be able to anchor a large organization to occupy the space and hopefully turn it into something amazing.

Indian River Select at Farmers Market is expanding. They will make some internal improvements for expansion of administrative and operations.

Crossroads RV Park which again is actually right near the existing area that we've been discussing at interstate. That's near the Comcast Plaza that looks like it's kind of a ghost town right now. That will be similar to the preexisting one and hopefully again encourage movement with travelers coming through our area. It will have a clubhouse, pool and 85 stalls and it's very attractive. It's very clean site.

At this point I just want to remind everyone how incredibly amazing it is that development is so broad in our territory. Indrio, Midway, Kings Highway and all the way to the islands we're seeing movement in Ft. Pierce and we're blossoming. The level of attention we're seeing on a positive level is significant. It's always on the news. I get excited. I see it on other organizations (i.e. LinkedIn pages). With our population having increased by about 11.65% since 2010 and our household incomes going up and property values going up we hope it will continue and we'll see a lot more of this. I would like to present again soon with additional material.

Thank you. If you have any questions. I'm available and ready.

Mr. Matthews said any questions from the Board? Thank you.

Mr. Tompeck said the next item requests your approval of a budget transfer, Interlocal agreement for the MURA/MSBU. James Carnes will make the presentation.

Mr. Carnes said thank you Mr. Tompeck, Chairman, and Members of the Board.

The Municipal Service Benefit Unit, also known as MSBU, process is a very efficient method to obtain new customers with minimal expense to FPUA. Petitions have been mailed to the property owners and the level of support necessary to move forward with the MSBU process was obtained.

The Interlocal Agreement is in the standard form developed to cover MSBU projects. The Mura MSBU includes 82 parcels, 67 of which are presently developed and are a mix of single family and multi-family dwellings.

FPUA typically contributes the value of the project's Capital Improvement Charges (CIC), in-house design, permitting, certification and administrative costs. These contributions offset the project costs that will be assessed to each property owner, thereby making the project more favorable for the final property-owner approval. When the MSBU CIC contribution amount of $186,665 are added to the estimated construction costs of $489,916, the total project costs for this MSBU is estimated at $676,581.

This MSBU is included in the FY 2019 Capital Budget, however the monies allocated to this project were based on early project estimates and fall short of the required funding. Therefore, the Budget Transfer Request in the amount of $204,715 from the project codes listed herein, (CIC

amount of $148,916: $65,000 from Project 609 – Misc MSBU and $83,916 from Project 616 – Water Main Looping with a CIA amount of $55,799 from Project 609 – Misc MSBU) is required to correct this deficit.

Therefore, staff recommends approval of the Budget Transfer Request in the amount of $204,715 and approve the Mura potable water Municipal Service Benefit Unit (MSBU) Interlocal Agreement between St. Lucie County, Fort Pierce Utilities Authority (FPUA) and the City of Fort Pierce.

Thank you, I'm happy to answer any questions.

Mr. Matthews said any questions?

A motion was made by Ms. Cavalcanti, seconded by Mr. Fee, and unanimously carried to Approve Budget Transfer Request in the amount of $204,715, approve the Mura potable water Municipal Service Benefit Unit (MSBU) Interlocal Agreement between St. Lucie County, Fort Pierce Utilities Authority (FPUA) and the City of Fort Pierce, and approve an FPUA contribution in an amount not to exceed $186,665.

Mr. Tompeck said the next item requests your approval for post budgeted project request and approval of the interlocal agreement for the downtown smart city initiative. Jason Mittler will make the presentation.

Mr. Mittler said good afternoon Mr. Tompeck, Mr. Chairman and members of the Board. I will give you a quick update of the downtown initiative as well, with 3-d models and all this stuff. In 2018, the FPUA board approved the smart city initiative or the idea of us becoming a smart city. Over the last few months we've been working with the city staff and our vendor Ardent to develop an MOU and find the best locations for the kiosks in the downtown area.

I showed this slide to you a while ago. I really wanted to reiterate it. Many people don't understand smart city. It's very simple. It talks about a city that is connected and the city that's connected could be done through many ways. The overall goal is to provide improved infrastructure, helping to operate our utilities more efficiently, improving transportation, offering services to make the community safer. Allowing us to engage the community, allows us to gather data to make more effective decisions, and increase the digital equity locally. This slide shows how FPUA and FPUAnet could be the hub that helps Ft. Pierce become a smart city.

The smart city downtown initiative will serve as a great project to bring this vision to fruition. The project plants to install four kiosks and deploy smart poles or lights in the downtown area.

You also have seen this slide. But just a real quick overview of the kiosks itself and how they bring value to the downtown area. A few are by offering the community public wifi for free, helping the city of Ft. Pierce and FPUA with public engagement. Pointing our customers and visitors to local businesses. We've been working with a team of people from the city, St. Lucie County and FPUA to develop the look, feel and content for the devices.

The smart kiosk locations are shown on this map. We have a total of four that are proposed. Two three sided kiosks. I'm excited to say that this is the first time Argent has created a kiosk. I was in a conversation today that we could possibly have the most advance kiosk in the nation coming to Ft. Pierce. These two three sided kiosks one will be at the Manatee Center next to the seven gables house, the other one will be on Avenue A and Melody Lane. They are marked by the red star. There will also be two, two-sided kiosks one at Orange Avenue and Second St. and Indian River Drive and Avenue A. We also have access to a mobile kiosk, where we will be able to use for various venues and various events that FPUA needs.

Here's a rendition of the three-sided kiosk and the general placement of where it would sit in the Manatee Center. We would build brick pavers so people could walk and make sure they are ADA compliant and various things. It stands about 7-foot tall. There's three screens, 55" led monitors. You can do various things with them. This gives you a picture of where it would be and kind of what it could look and feel like. The skin or the outside look of the kiosk can be changed in any various way since it's close to the Manatee Center. Maybe we put Moe the manatee on it or whatever we decide to make the skin look like.

The second location on Melody Lane and Avenue A where you hold Friday Fest and many large events. This is a three-sided kiosk. It's exactly the same, but the outside skin could look different based on what we decide for it to look like.

Another double screen kiosk will be placed right next to the PP Cobb building on Avenue A and north Indian River Drive.

Lastly, a two-screen kiosk on the corner of Orange Avenue and Second Street. These kiosk locations are being strategically placed to help move individuals that come and visit to be able to go from kiosk to kiosk to make sure they see all the shops and restaurants and activities that the city of Ft. Pierce and the downtown area has.

Here's an example of a mobile kiosk and maybe what it could look like and where we would use it. The location would be Marina Square. We don't have to store it. We just call Argent to come and drop it off if we needed it for large events.

Smart poles and smart technology is always evolving and there's many ways to deploy it. Here are three different options:

- The bottom location is a wireless router mounted on a street light pole. This is how most cities deploy public wifi.

- Above is the UV hub which the technology is continually evolving. It plugs right into the 7-pin photo cell on the led street lights. Hats off to Mr. Jakubczak and his team when they worked with the led replacements. This is something they specified and it allows us to deploy smart city services very, very simply.

- To your right is a smart pole.

Because there's so many options and different looks and different technologies, we're suggesting working with the city to develop an RFP. To find out which technology works best and how they can integrate with street lights. What we set aside is $75,000 to deploy additional wifi or smart city services in the downtown area.

Here's a summary of the five phases of the project. We're on the completion of the signing and budget creation today. If it's approved, we would begin our design and engineering of creating the path for fiber and electric to the kiosks. We hope to be completed by May and the cost could be about $10,000. Then we would begin to move into installation of the conduit infrastructure and electric and fiber to be completed in August '21 with a cost of $80,000. Then the insulation and configuration of the smart kiosks themselves will be working concurrently as soon as we sign the contract with Argent. I hope to bring that back to Board at the May 4th meeting and that cost is $65,000. Then again we've set aside this $75,000 for the street lights and $20,000 for electrical cost and bandwidth and maintenance cost associated with the lights.

The overall goal of it is to improve the quality of life, cut costs and spur economic development.

Do you have any questions I could answer about the downtown smart city project?

Ms. Cavalcanti said I'm not too smart with this kind of stuff, I'm going to trust you.

Mr. Tompeck said I don't know if you mentioned it, but this did get approved by the FPRA last Tuesday.

Mr. Matthews said I have one question. You have four now?

Mr. Mittler said yes, four kiosks are planned.

Mr. Matthews said about a year from now do you estimate to add a couple more?

Mr. Mittler said there's a great possibility for that. We've been working with St. Lucie County as well as with Charlotte, she's the Director of Tourism. This will be the pilot area for the entire

county. It would be great to be able to start deploying these in let's say Tradition. If Tradition has them now we can cross pollinate and start bringing visitors that come into Tradition into the Ft. Pierce area and people that are in Ft. Pierce going to other areas. So I think there's a lot of value in that. Obviously there's great opportunity such as the beach or various areas as the Peacock Arts District becomes developed. There could be a significant revenue stream associated with the kiosks. When this pilot project becomes successful and there's positive revenue to do that, I think an additional kiosk could come into fruition.

Mayor Hudson said Commissioner, Curtis Johnson promoted Lincoln Park. If that's what is in your mind.

Mr. Matthews said yeah.

Mr. Mittler said that would be a great place to be able to place one. We could talk with Argent and see what it looks like. The kiosks are anywhere between $60,000 to $100,000 a piece. We don't have to pay for that because we're doing the revenue share model. It's all based on different data as far as how many people visit. The downtown area is a very busy area compared maybe Lincoln Park. That's something we can look at.

Mayor Hudson said certainly for the future.

Mr. Mittler said absolutely. Because Means Court is right there, it's going to be this smart city hub. I know the city has great plans. I'm excited about that.

Mr. Matthews said if nothing else, thank you.

Mr. Mittler said I'm just asking for your approval of the post budget project creation and transfer of $250,000. It's all CIA, which is great and then also the signing of the interlocal agreement with the city of Ft. Pierce.

A motion was made by Mayor Hudson, seconded by Ms. Cavalcanti, and unanimously carried to Approve the Post Budgeted Project in the amount of $250,000; and the Interlocal Agreement for the Downtown Smart City Initiative between FPUA, the City of Fort Pierce, and the Fort Pierce Redevelopment Agency. The term of the agreement is five years beginning on the date of final approval and signature by the parties.

Mr. Tompeck said the next item is the February 2021 Financial Operating Results and Barbara Mika will make the presentation.

Ms. Mika said thank you Mr. Tompeck. Good afternoon Chairman Matthews, Mayor Hudson and Board Members.

I will present to you today the financial operating results for February 2021. Some of highlights for fiscal year 2021 are year to date operating income of $3,841,000 brought increase $537,000 over the first five months of fiscal year 2020. Our capital contributions for the first five months of fiscal year '21 was greater than the prior year and came in the water and wastewater capital improvement charges from developers and movement in the housing and construction.

After the adjustment for the distribution to the city, our February year to date increase in net position was $883,000. The driving factors were the increases in residential and general services revenue. The combined operating revenue reported for the month of February were greater than they were for the same month last year by $1.4 million. This large increase relates to the timing delay that was created in the building glitch back in January which put an additional $723,000 of revenue into February. This timing issue aside, we experienced year over year increases for the month of February for residential and general service sales of $694,000.

This three-year comparison of year to date electric revenue less the cost of power and consumption for fiscal year 2020 brought in a 4% decrease in the adjusted operating revenue which was consistent with the 4% decrease in consumption for 2019. For the current year to date the consumption was up slightly by 2% when compared to the same period in 2020, with revenues higher in comparison by 5%.

The cost for our purchase power for fiscal year for 2020 was $1.2 million in savings over the previous year in 2019 and the cost comparison for the electric purchases for the current year is flat with last year.

The fiscal year 2020 water operator revenues and consumption were comparably flat in fiscal year '20 as compared to '19. In 2021, year to date operating revenue and consumption both trended upward 8% when compared to fiscal year '20. The increase was a greater sale and resale of water sales in 2021 over, '20.

Taking a look at wastewater operating revenues, while gallons billed are getting flat in fiscal year '20, the revenues fell short from the year before year over year comparison due to the capacity reductions that we experienced in 2019. The current year five months to day gallons billed increased by 10% with operating revenues greater in this comparison by 10% also over the fiscal year '20.

Fiscal year '20 natural gas operating revenues less the cost of gas purchased along with the consumption showed 2% overall increase in revenues and a 4% increase in consumption from the prior year and mostly general service sales. In the current fiscal year revenues and consumption both rose again over the prior year and adjusted gas revenues increased 3% and consumption increased 6%.

Regarding the cost of gas for five months for a period reporting we experience an 8% savings in the cost of purchase gas and this last fiscal year over the previous year in '19. The cost of gas purchased for the first five months of this year is inching back upward toward fiscal '19 with an increase $146,000 or 9% in comparison to 2020.

Its service coverage ratio for a 12-month average of net available income to our current debt service for the 12 months ending February 28th of 2021 our debt service ratio is 3.217. The ratio for the 12 month ended September 3. Our bond covenence required the ratio of 1.25 times. So we are well within the comfort zone for our debt service.

This item was for your information. If you have questions I would be happy to address them.

Mr. Matthews said Board do you have any questions? Thank you, ma'am.

Mr. Tompeck said the next item is the Bill Comparison for the Month of February 2021, Michele Harris will make the presentation.

Thank you, Mr. Tompeck, Chairman Matthews, Mayor Hudson and Board Members. 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 February.

This first graph shows the comparison of Residential Electric Rates for 1,000 kWh of consumption for the 13 municipal utilities, which are members of the "All Requirements Project". As members of the All Requirements Project, these municipalities benefit through economies of scale to experience lower operating costs and lower risk with more units and more cities working together. They are displayed and ranked based upon their base bill amount. Our February rates at $108.84, shown with the yellow bar, ranks FPUA with the 4th lowest rate of this group.

This graph displays the comparison for that same level of consumption of 1,000 kWh, but includes all of the municipal utilities in the state. FPUA's February bill at $108.84 ranks FPUA the 13th lowest when compared to the other 31 municipal utilities. In January, FPUA was ranked 17th. In February, while FPUA maintained our rates for another month, 12 of the other 31 municipal utilities implemented rate changes. The overall impact of these rate adjustments resulted in an increase of $1.22 for the ARP average and an increase of $0.19 for the Municipal average. FPUA's rates for 1,000 kWh falls below the ARP, Municipal and IOU averages.

This graph presents a similar comparison for the consumption of 2,500 kWh. FPUA's February bill, at $274.80, puts us in the middle among this group. Our rates for 2,500 kWh fall below the ARP and IOU averages and just cents above the Municipal average.

The table displayed is the February comparison of the average residential utility bills on the Treasure Coast. FPUAs utility bill for all three services provided, inside city limits, is shown in the first column (blue). All other bills in this table have electric services by FP&L and Water and Wastewater services by the locality's provider. The comparison reflects the bills for the average consumption of Electric, Water and Wastewater services. This Utility Bill Comparison includes recent Water and Wastewater rate increases for St Lucie County that went into effect on February 1.

This item has been presented for your information only and requires no action. However, if you have any questions, I would be happy to address them.

Mr. Matthews said any questions from the Board?

Ms. Cavalcanti said thank you. I will say I am very happy to see that we are so much below Port St. Lucie and St. Lucie County. We seem to be closing the gap on Martin County a little bit. When I first came on here we were at $30 usually per month difference and now we're at $25. That's a good thing.

Mr. Matthews said Mr. Tompeck do you have any reports?

Mr. Tompeck said just a couple of quick items Mr. Chairman.

Our new drive-thru kiosk will be open for service tomorrow. It can be accessed from 5th street just north of Boston Avenue adjacent to our parking lot. This kiosk will provide our customers another convenient way to pay their bills. It should be open about 10:00.

Mr. Matthews said I have a question. I got a call...must have been on Saturday. He was talking about the people that wrote their checks from home and dropped them in the drop box. Have we taken up that box?

Mr. Tompeck said I don't believe the drop box has been taken out. No it's still open and we're planning on removing the drop box because its right across from the kiosk and people can now use the kiosk.

Ms. Cavalcanti said the drop box that you go put your check inside with the yellow envelope. That's a key, we've got to have that.

Mr. Matthews said that's what the call was about, but I didn't know and told him I would check into it.

Mr. Tompeck said it's still open. We'll take a closer look at that.

Ms. Cavalcanti said please.

Mr. Tompeck said we're planning on closing it.

Ms. Cavalcanti said for old people who like that envelope in their check and it really works nicely.

Mr. Tompeck said okay. Fair enough.

The only other item I have is that FPUA received notification of an appropriations approval for a grant for a sewer line project on Hutchinson Island. It's for about $425,000. We had originally asked for $850,000. I guess they cut all approved grants in half. But we'll take $425,000 as well. That's all I have Mr. Chairman.

Mr. Matthews said Mr. Koblegard I see you got a seat promotion. Do you have any concerns?

Mr. Koblegard said I have nothing to report on at this time.

Mr. Matthews said does any Members of the Board have any concerns? If not, we declare this meeting adjourned.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:43pm.

ATTEST:

SECRETARY

CHAIRMAN