MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE FORT PIERCE UTILITIES AUTHORITY, TUESDAY, APRIL 18, 2023, 4:00 P.M., CITY COMMISSION CHAMBERS.

Members Present: Chairman Kristina Gibbons, Vice Chair Barbara Bennett; Secretary Larry Lammers; Deputy Secretary Frank H. Fee, IV; and Mayor Linda Hudson.

Others present: Javier Cisneros, Director of Utilities; Barbara Mika, Director of Finance and Administrative Services; Daniel Retherford, Director of Utility Support Services; Bo Hutchinson, Director of Water/Wastewater Systems, Craig Crawford, Director of Electric & Gas Systems, and Dan O'Hagan, Special Counsel to FPUA Board.

The meeting was called to order by Madam Chair Kristina Gibbons.

Opening Prayer was by DeVoshay Johnson, Information Technology Director, City of Fort Pierce.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

The roll was called and a quorum declared.

ITEM A: SET THE AGENDA

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

ITEM B: APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Mr. Fee, seconded by Mrs. Bennett, and unanimously carried to approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of April 4, 2023.

ITEM C: COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

ITEM D: CONSENT AGENDA

A motion was made by Mr. Fee, seconded by Mr. Lammers, and unanimously carried to approve the Consent Agenda.

ITEM E: RECOGNITION OF EXCELLENCE

ITEM F: OLD BUSINESS

ITEM G: NEW BUSINESS

1. Andrea Trasferini presented February 2023 Bill Comparison – For Information Only

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2. Michele Harris presented February 2023 Financial Operating Results – For Information Only

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3. Lugey Dawson presented RFQu No. 22-53A: Authorize staff to negotiate contracts for Continuing Professional Engineering and/or Design-Build Services related to Water/Wastewater Systems with selected firms for a three-year term with two one-year renewal options. Once finalized the agreements will be submitted to the Board for approval and signature.

A motion was made by Mayor Hudson, seconded by Mr. Fee, and unanimously carried to Authorize staff to negotiate contracts for Continuing Professional Engineering and/or Design-Build Services related to Water/Wastewater Systems with the selected firms.

ITEM H: AWARD OF BID

ITEM I: RESOLUTIONS

ITEM J: DIRECTOR

Mr. Cisneros said as required by Section 172 of the Charter, the Director of Utilities should have the authority to appoint Department Heads subject to the approval of the Board. Today on the Consent Agenda, the Board did approve eight Department Head Approvals and I'd like to recognize them. Congratulations to Jessica Barclay, Lugey Dawson, Jason Drost, Fred Gaddis, Michele Harris, Melissa Martin, Dino Nesselrode, and Rachel Tennant on their official appointments even though they have operated in that capacity for some time. I want to recognize them and let them know that they are truly a fantastic team. Second thing, the Strategic Planning Contract, we've provided a copy that will be signed after the Board meeting today, outlines the entire process that we will be going through, about a 12-week process. We will coordinate with the Board members to make sure we avoid any scheduling conflicts. Most likely, sessions through the month of May for the Board Member with the Strategic Planner. Also, some time with staff

to be able to identify items. We will have a wrap up session in August. It looks like it will be August 16th, will work with the members to modify that date to fit the schedule of the Board. The next important date on the calendar is May 31st. This will be the PFUA/City Budget Workshop at 10 o'clock originally scheduled for May 24th. We have a scheduling conflict, we had to push it out a week. Lunch is provided, typical process like we did last year. It will typically run until 1:30 pm. A little bit of a grant update, on April 6th the team submitted a grant proposal for the Federal Department of Energy requesting over $5.8 million toward electric grid resiliency projects. Looking forward to that one. None of this is received, just that we've applied. On April 10th we did receive notice that Congressman Mast's office officially submitted our Federal Appropriations request for $10 million toward the relocation of the wastewater plant project. It still needs to go the appropriations vetting process, it is not an approval, but it represents a large and important request sponsored by him. Thank you to him for sponsoring that request. A little update on gas prices. For the next 12 months, we are going to be around 2.83 which is good for our overall plan. Forward curve for gas is still around $3.65. That is about $0.65 per before we do any additional fixed volumes purchases. The threshold is $3.00. That is what has been approved by the FMPA Executive Committee. Residential and commercial consumption is down about 8.1 BCF compared to last year. That is due to the mild winter. This is by far the single biggest factor driving gas prices, consumption is down in surpluses and supply is up. Last thing, we recognized Jody at the last meeting, we would like to recognize Dan for all of his support for the last six months or so. They stepped in with very little notice, it was a phone call. They've done a fantastic job for us. Just like to recognize them for being here. Very important for staff and also for the Board. I'd like to thank them. We had a chance to meet today with Caroline, already talked about a punch list.

ITEM K: ATTORNEY

Dan O'Hagan said the only item I had is an update on the bills I've been talking about the last couple of meetings. These are the bills originally that would've regulated municipal electric utilities, PSE and then limit the transfer of revenue to the general fund. If you remember, they amended and dropped of the PSC jurisdiction portions, all that was left was a pretty restrictive ability to transfer money, revenue to general fund. The good news is that the latest version of those are stuck in committees. Instead what we have is a local bill for Gainesville, which is really for all this in the first place. There is a local bill being proposed for the City of Gainesville that would required the Governor to appoint the Gainesville GRU Commissioners, would require them to have a ratio of inside and outside the city customers as the city's actual customer base. It would restructure the Gainesville Regional Utilities a little bit but give the Governor Authority to appoint those out of Gainesville Regional Utility customers. This is good news for the rest of the municipalities in the state getting dragged into a local issue potentially regulated at the PSC and restrictions on general fund transfers. All of that has stopped movement currently. Legislative session goes until May 5th, so a little bit of time to get picked back up. But as far as we've seen there is no date set for further committee hearing on those two bills, strictly a local bill for Gainesville.

ITEM L: COMMENTS FROM BOARD MEMBERS

Mayor Hudson said thank you Dan for the time you spent with us. It has been a pleasure. It has been very helpful. Thank you.

Mrs. Gibbons said thank you, we also have Caroline here today. I'm sure you guys will be working closely after the meeting. Caroline called me and I am extremely excited for her to take the role. She expressed a deep interest in making sure that she communicates with all of us. That is very exciting. I would like to talk about the new agenda format, as well as discussing our job description, in essence, what is our roles as we assume different titles so that we have an idea of what we should be doing and grow with the positions.

Madam Chair Gibbons said meeting adjourned.

ITEM M: ADJOURN

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:30 pm.

ATTEST:

SECRETARY

CHAIRMAN

Note: These minutes are not verbatim, only important issues and motions are reproduced in writing for the benefit of the Fort Pierce Utilities Authority and Board Members. The recording itself is the official record for the meeting.