

WORK SESSION MINUTES – WEDNESDAY, MARCH 15, 2023

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CITY OF KANSAS CITY)

The Board of Public Utilities of Kansas City, Kansas (aka BPU, We, Us, Our) met in Work Session on Wednesday, March 15, 2023 at 5:00 P.M. The following Board Members were present: Rose Mulvany Henry, President; Thomas Groneman, Vice President; Robert L. Milan, Secretary; Jeff Bryant, Mary Gonzales. David Haley attended via Zoom.

Also present: William Johnson, General Manager; Angela Lawson, Deputy Chief Counsel; Lori Austin, Chief Financial Officer/Chief Administrative Officer; Jeremy Ash, Interim Chief Operating Officer; Jerin Purtee, Executive Director Electric Supply; Glen Brendel, Executive Director Electric Production; Darrin McNew, Acting Executive Director Electric Operations; Andrew Ferris, Director Financial Planning; Dennis Dumovich, Director of Human Resources; Chris Stewart, Director Civil Engineering; Dustin Miller, Director of Applications; Patrice Townsend, Director Utility Services; Al Garcia, Key Account Utility Specialist; Carlos Quijas, Development Coordinator; and Robert Kamp, IT Project Manager.

A video of this meeting is on file at the Board of Public Utilities and can be found on the BPU website, www.bpu.com.

Ms. Mulvany Henry called the meeting to order at 5:00 P.M.

Roll call was taken, all Board Members were present, Mr. Haley via Zoom.

Item #3 –Approval of Agenda

A motion was made to approve the Agenda by Mr. Bryant, seconded by Ms. Gonzales, and unanimously carried.

Item #4 –Board Update/GM Update

Mr. Johnson reported on his attendance at the American Public Power Association (APPA) CEO Roundtable conference. Topics of discussion at the conference included, the state of US Foreign Affairs, cybersecurity and updates coming in the future, fuel cost concerns and supply chain issues. Supply chain is not only affecting stock for maintenance, but also new development.

Item #5 –2023 Energy Efficiency Program

Ms. Patrice Townsend, Director Utility Services, reviewed the objectives of the Weatherization Program her and Mr. Carlos Quijas, Development Coordinator, as well as

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Mr. Andrew Ferris, Director Financial Planning, was working on. (See attached PowerPoint.)

Some items discussed during the presentation included:

- Clarifying that BPU would not assist in replacements.
- The low to medium income range would be from \$43,500 - \$82,000.
- The consideration of, at the onset, only making low income households eligible for the grants, considering the fact that, initially, there would only be monies to cover approximately 60 homes.
- Regarding other upcoming grants for weatherization; as the State worked on determining who received funds, it was important that funds were assigned by need, not population.
 - The Kansas Corporation Commission (KCC) would be distributing the upcoming funds.
- The Unified Government (UG) could play a role in this. When making future applications for block grants, the UG needed to make sure that there were portions included for utility customers. It was important to remember that customers utility bills included UG charges as well, and it was necessary for the UG to partner with BPU in these efforts.
- BPU would be meeting with the UG to discuss a joint venture on an upcoming grant opportunity that the UG could apply for. A proposal would be going before the Commission on March 27.

Ms. Townsend would present numbers from the previous energy audit program that showed what the average amount that was given to those who participated and did the recommended work on their home.

Ms. Townsend would focus on other areas, not just weatherization. They would be looking at other ways to help our community.

Item #7 – Adjourn

A motion was made to adjourn the Work Session at 5:58 P.M. by Mr. Bryant, seconded by Mr. Groneman and unanimously carried.

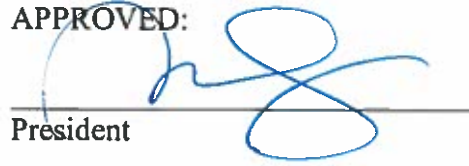
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ATTEST:


Secretary

APPROVED:


President



KCBPU Weatherization Program

March 15, 2023

Program Objective

- The KCBPU Weatherization Program will provide energy audits and improved efficiency measures at no charge to low to medium income BPU customers.
- The objective is to improve energy efficiency and lower utility bills by ensuring that the homes will hold in heat and air conditioning while keeping hot and cold air out.
- Examples of weatherization are; insulating the walls and attic, tuning and repairing heating systems, caulking and weather-stripping doors and windows, wrapping hot water tanks with insulation, replacing broken window glass, installing energy-efficient light bulbs and installing low-flow shower heads and faucet aerators.

Program Funding

- KCBPU will fund this program through 2023 budgeted dollars and a portion of the loan program grant awarded from MARC and the Unified Government from ARRA and EECBG funds in 2012.
- We plan on using \$120,000 for this program.

Program Goals

Goals of the Program:

- Provide one-time grant to low to medium income homes in the BPU service area for weatherization.
- Grant amounts will be up to \$2,000/home, (estimate of 60-homes), and based on the Energy Audit needs assessment.
- Provide Energy Audit/Blower Door detailed analysis performed by certified energy auditors.

Program Goals Cont.

Program Goals Continued

- Weatherization improvements must achieve an average energy cost savings of 10%
- Grants may be awarded on low-medium income and high usage patterns over a 12-month period
- Customers will work with our partner organization to complete required upgrades.
- BPU will disburse funds to the auditor and contractor upon the completion of work and verification of upgrades.

Program Scope of Work

- BPU will sign an agreement with a partner organization such as, Habitat of Humanity KC, (HHKC), CHWC, Shepherd's Center
- Partner agency will conduct the energy audits and complete the upgrades.
- BPU will refer the customers to partner agency for the weatherization upgrades.
- Agency will provide a detailed invoice on the scope of work and costs for each home to KCBPU.

Program Scope of Work Cont.

- Once the work has been completed and inspected, BPU will pay the agency.
- BPU is not liable for any of the upgrades.
- BPU will monitor the customer usage patterns on a 3-6-9-month basis to monitor savings.
- Start-up approximately 6-8 weeks.

Participation Selection Process

BPU will approve the customers who wish to participate in this program based on the following:

- Customer high-bill consumption over a 12-month period.
- Low - medium income and Senior fixed income, (will follow KERA income guidelines for Wyandotte County)
- Age of the home
- Single-family housing
- Must have a current BPU account minimum of 12-months.
- First-come-first serve basis

Other Weatherization Programs

- ECKAN provides free weatherization services to low-income individuals - with priority given to people over 60, individuals with disabilities, and families with children - in all service counties.
- For more information or to enroll, go to www.ECKAN.org/services/weatherization/ or call **785-242-6413**.

Federal Grants for Weatherization

- Although there have been federal grants for weatherization set aside for States, the distribution of these funds have not been clearly identified at the State level.
- The State of Kansas is meeting to determine the terms of the weatherization program
- The State's timeline is sometime in the 4th Quarter 2023 or 1st Quarter 2024.
- We will provide more information when available.

Summary

The overall program objective is to begin providing energy efficiency upgrades to low-medium income customers, who struggle with high energy bills until we know how federal dollars will be distributed.

Through the use of energy/blower door audits we can achieve an average of 10% savings when energy measures are applied. These savings will have a direct impact on less usage, resulting in lower energy bills. The home audit will also provide healthy home guidelines.

If this program is successful we can leverage for additional federal funding and widen the parameters to include more customers.

Questions & Answers

