

**REGULAR SESSION –WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 1, 2021**

STATE OF KANSAS        )  
  ) SS  
CITY OF KANSAS CITY)

The Board of Public Utilities of Kansas City, Kansas (aka BPU, We, Us, Our) met remotely in Regular Session on Wednesday, September 1, 2021 at 6:00 P.M. The following Board Members were on the teleconference: Robert L. Milan, President; Mary Gonzales, Vice President; Rose Mulvany Henry, Secretary; Thomas Groneman, and Ryan Eidson. Jeff Bryant was absent.

Also on teleconference: William Johnson, General Manager; Angela Lawson, Deputy Chief Counsel; Lori Austin, Chief Financial Officer/Chief Administrative Officer; Jeremy Ash, Executive Director Electric Operations; Johnetta Hinson, Executive Director Customer Service; Steve Green, Executive Director Water Operations; Jerry Ohmes, Executive Director Electric Supply; Dong Quach, Executive Director Electric Production; Jerin Purtee, Director Electric System Control; Jerry Sullivan, Chief Information Officer; David Mehlhaff, Chief Communications Officer; Dennis Dumovich, Director of Human Resources; Robert Kamp, IT Project Manager; and Patrice Townsend, Director Utility Services.

A tape of this meeting is on file at the Board of Public Utilities.

Mr. Milan called the Board Meeting to order at 6:00 P.M. He welcomed all that were listening or viewing the meeting. He stated that the Board felt it was necessary to offer the use of technology for staff as well as for the general public. Those wishing to offer comments during the Public Comments section could click on the raised hand feature at the bottom of the application or window or press Star 9 and be connected by phone. As always, the public could email or call the BPU with any concerns. The agenda could be found on the BPU website. If they were using Zoom, it would appear on their screen. Mr. Milan introduced himself and the other Board Members along with the General Manager, and Legal Counsel.

Roll call was taken and all Board Members were present via teleconference, except Jeff Bryant.

**Item #3 – Approval of Agenda**

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

**Item #4 – Approval of Regular Session Minutes of August 4, 2021**

A motion was made to approve the minutes of the Regular Session of August 4, 2021 by Ms. Mulvany Henry, seconded by Mr. Groneman, and unanimously carried.

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**Item #5 – Approval of Work Session Minutes of August 18, 2021**

A motion was made to approve the minutes of the Work Session of August 18, 2021 by Ms. Gonzales, seconded by Mr. Eidson, and unanimously carried.

**Item #6 – Approval of Regular Session Minutes of August 18, 2021**

A motion was made to approve the minutes of the Regular Session of August 18, 2021 by Ms. Mulvany Henry, seconded by Ms. Gonzales, and unanimously carried.

**Item #7 – Approval of Special Session Minutes of August 23, 2021**

A motion was made to approve the minutes of the Special Session of August 23, 2021 by Ms. Gonzales, seconded by Mr. Eidson, and unanimously carried.

**Item #8 – Public Comments**

Mr. William Johnson, General Manager, asked Mr. Robert Kamp, IT Project Manager, if there were any visitors wishing to speak.

Mr. Kamp said that no one had their hand raised via teleconference.

**Item #9 – General Manager / Staff Reports**

- i. *COVID-19 Update:* Mr. Johnson gave an update on company COVID-19 matters.

He also informed the Board that per their discussion and recommendation, a KERA application assistance service line was being implemented. Ms. Patrice Townsend, Director Utility Services, would be the administrator and customer advocate of this new program.

He also reported that he had learned that the Unified Government (UG) had been allocated 1.85 million dollars through the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA). A portion of that money would go towards housing and a portion would go towards utility assistance. He would inform the Board when he found out how much would be allocated towards utility assistance.

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- ii. *July 2021 Financials:* Lori Austin, Chief Financial Officer/Chief Administrative Officer, presented the July 2021 Financials with a PowerPoint presentation (see attached).

Ms. Austin answered questions from the Board.

A motion was made to approve the July 2021 Financials as presented, by Ms. Gonzales, seconded by Mr. Eidson and carried unanimously.

- iii. *Customer Service Quarterly Report:* Ms. Johnetta Hinson, Executive Director Customer Service, gave a PowerPoint presentation to talk to the Board about the Customer Service division. She also announced the retirement of Ms. Alfredia Douglas, Supervisor of Cash Operations, and thanked her for her 33 years of dedicated service to the utility (see attached).

Ms. Hinson addressed question and comments from the Board.

- iv. *Miscellaneous Comments:* Mr. Johnson thanked Ms. Hinson and Ms. Austin for their presentations.

He also wished Ms. Gonzales an upcoming happy birthday.

**Item #10 – Board Comments**

Mr. Eidson spoke about the KERA project and thanked Ms. Townsend for taking it on. He also asked about the dollars being spent on Quindaro salaries.

Mr. Johnson would follow up.

Mr. Groneman thanked Ms. Douglas for her years of service. He also thanked Ms. Townsend for taking on the KERA task. He also hoped we could coordinate with other utility assistance programs.

Ms. Gonzales also congratulated Ms. Douglas on her retirement and thanked Ms. Hinson for her presentation and for acknowledging her employees. She thanked the crews who were out there after the recent storm. She also thanked Ms. Townsend for stepping forward on the KERA program. She also wanted Mr. Johnson to pass on any ideas in regards to the Board advocating for the utility to receive funds coming into the UG.

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Ms. Mulvany Henry wished Ms. Gonzales a happy birthday and Mr. Milan a happy anniversary.

Mr. Milan thanked everyone for their comments. He spoke about the value of the Work Sessions in terms of bringing things forward for the Board to discuss.

**Item #11 – Adjourn**

A motion was made to adjourn the Regular Session at 7:04 P.M. by Ms. Mulvany Henry, seconded by Ms. Gonzales, and unanimously carried.

ATTEST:

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*Rose Mulvany Henry*

Secretary

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APPROVED:

*Robert Milan*

President