

**Colorado Springs Utilities Board  
Meeting Minutes  
Wednesday, December 16, 2009 - 1:00 p.m.  
Blue River Board Room  
5th Floor, Plaza of the Rockies South Tower  
121 S. Tejon**

Utilities Board Members Present: Chair Lionel Rivera, Vice Chair Larry Small, Board Members Randy Purvis, Darryl Glenn, Scott Hente, Jan Martin, Tom Gallagher, Bernie Herpin and Sean Paige.

Staff Members Present: Jerry Forte, Sherri Newell, Bill Cherrier, City Attorney Pat Kelly, City Attorney Ken Burgess, Tom Black, Bruce McCormick, Carl Cruz, Lisa Rosintoski, Monica Whiting and Bradley Stratton.

**I. Call to Order**

Chair Lionel Rivera called the Utilities Board meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

**II. Minutes**

The board approved the minutes of the November 18, 2009 Utilities Board meeting.

**III. Recognition/Customer Comment Period**

A. Customer Comment

Jim Ciletti stated that he would like to speak about his water bill and asked for relief from this bill. Mr. Ciletti stated that he was unaware of the 180 degree turn required for this valve and that each other valve he has requires a 90 degree turn. He stated that a water valve broke and he was unaware of the leak. He asked to pay only a portion of the bill. Chair Lionel Rivera asked the board to direct the Chief Executive Officer to work with Mr. Ciletti rather than disconnect his water service. Chief Executive Officer Jerry Forte stated that Mr. Ciletti's service had not been disconnected and would not be disconnected until after a thorough review. Chair Rivera stated that an employee from Utilities would help Mr. Ciletti with the appeal process. Board Member Bernie Herpin asked if the meter was automated and Customer and Corporate Services Officer Carl Cruz responded that he was unsure but that this summer meter data management would be implemented in order to alleviate this type of issue in the future.

**IV. Governance Monitoring Reports**

A. Annual Report on Executive Limitation (EL) 2  
Executive Limitation (EL) 2 – Emergency CEO Succession

There were no questions or comments.

B. Annual Report on Executive Limitation (EL) 12  
Executive Limitation (EL) 12 – Pricing of Products and Services

Board Member Tom Gallagher asked how streetlight charges were calculated and asked why these were charged at a peak demand rather than off-peak rate. Chief Planning and Finance Officer Bill Cherrier stated that a detailed memo would be provided to the board soon and that it would include studies from outside agencies.

**V. Discussion/Action Items**

A. Chief Executive Officer 2010 Performance Plans  
Board-CEO Linkage (BL) 6 – Annual Evaluation of the CEO

Lisa Rosintoski, Issues Management Department Manager, and Cindy Newsome, Strategic Planning Manager, presented the recommended changes to the annual and long-term 2010 CEO performance plans based on the December 3 Utilities Board annual planning meeting.

Board Member Gallagher asked about the Economic Development Price Competitiveness Indicator regarding the 21 city list and why Huntsville, Alabama was not included since Colorado Springs competes with that and other various cities for space related jobs. Mr. Forte responded that the EDC did not recommend that city be included but offered his willingness to include any additional cities the board would like. Board Member Jan Martin stated that she would like to see Huntsville added also. Board Member Herpin asked why only cities west of the Mississippi River were included and Ms. Newsome responded that these were the cities recommended by the Economic Development Corporation. The board asked that Huntsville be added and there were no objections. Board Member Gallagher moved for approval with the addition of Huntsville and Board Member Scott Hente seconded. The board approved the motion unanimously by voice vote.

B. 2010 Policy Governance Revisions  
Governance Process (GP) 3 – Agenda Planning

Ms. Rosintoski related the recommended changes and Chair Rivera asked that the enterprise risk management monitoring reporting be semi-annual rather than annual with the advent of the Southern Delivery System. Specifically the auditor's report should be given in February and August. Vice Chair Larry Small motioned for approval with that modification and Board Member Tom Gallagher seconded. The board approved the motion unanimously by voice vote.

C. Utilities Board 2010 Annual Planning Calendar  
Governance Process (GP) 3 – Agenda Planning

Ms. Rosintoski related the recommended changes including the opportunity to align discussion item presentations with monitoring reports as part of the agendas. Chair Rivera asked if the reports would be less detailed and Ms. Rosintoski affirmed and stated that the intention was for staff to provide detail of key upcoming events as part of the

presentations, thus providing Utilities Board the opportunity to completely understand the expectations based on the monitoring reports. Chief Public Affairs Officer Sherri Newell stated that the monitoring reports have included a lot of historical and contextual information and this information would be moved online and eliminated from the reports in order to simplify them. Mr. Forte stated that the idea was for the monitoring reports to become more exception based rather than repeating the same information through each report and stated that the reports would not change until after the discussion at a June work session involving a paperless agenda. Chair Rivera stated that he did not want to change anything until after the opportunities were presented. Board Member Gallagher stated the he preferred hard copy information and that high level information would need to be presented more frequently. Vice Chair Small stated that he wanted hard copy but that the information should also be on the web. Ms. Rosintoski responded that the information would still be provided but with more concise information with the addition of a staff briefing. Mr. Forte explained that what the board would vote on was to go forward with pursuing a paperless agenda with a presentation in June for decision.

Board Member Hente asked if the annual planning meeting could be combined with the December board meeting since each seemed to be brief. Board Member Hente moved for approval with the addition of the annual planning meeting to be moved to the Board meeting, Board Member Gallagher seconded. The board approved the motion unanimously by voice vote.

## **VI. General Board Discussion**

Board Member Herpin asked that no streetlights be turned off for the first three months of the year until the budget is completed because the cost of turning them off seemed to be higher than the savings. Chief Energy Services Officer Tom Black stated that one of the methods that would be implemented was to discontinue service on non-critical streetlights, letting them burn out and that analysis would continue. Vice Chair Small stated that the decision was for \$1.245 million dollars and that was the number that must be met. Board Member Sean Paige stated that exploring the option stated by Mr. Black had merit rather than paying to go out and disconnect streetlights. Chair Rivera stated that so long as the task force created was able to save the required \$1.245 million then he would support it. Vice Chair Small stated that this was his position as well. Board Member Gallagher concurred and further stated that dark sky communities should be disconnected first.

Board Member Hente asked for an update on the recent water main breaks due to cold weather. Distribution Collection and Treatment Manager Leah Ash stated that there have been around 20 breaks and that with the warm temperatures the week before and sub-zero temperatures right after there was ground movement which caused the breaks.

Board Member Randy Purvis stated that he was concerned about employee morale and would like the Board to reconsider an employee survey to verify if poor morale was caused by compensation or other issues that could be improved upon. Board Member Purvis stated that employee surveys had been performed in the past. Chair Rivera stated he understood an outside firm would be hired to perform the survey. Mr. Forte affirmed

that an outside firm would be hired to perform the survey. Chair Rivera polled the Board and all members agreed. He instructed Utilities to proceed.

Board Member Gallagher asked for a report on the impact of EPA rules and regulations concerning CO2 and other greenhouse gases. Mr. Forte stated that he had a report and would forward it to the board today.

Board Member Gallagher stated that he would like to see more information concerning water transfer legislation and Mr. McCormick responded that more detail could be provided.

Board Member Herpin stated his thanks to Colorado Springs Utilities for helping to provide water to Crowley County and Mr. Forte stated that water had been provided to seed the land and that other steps were also taken and would continue to be taken.

## **VII. Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 1:52 p.m.