

UTILITY ADVISORY BOARD MINUTES

Thursday, March 9, 2017 – 5:15 p.m.
Mendenhall Wastewater Treatment Plant
2009 Radcliffe Rd

Board Members Present: Leon Vance – Chair, Geoff Larson – Vice-Chair; Grant Ritter; David Hanna; Bryan Farrell; Andrew Campbell

Board Members Absent: Janet Hall Schempf

Staff Present: Roger Healy, Samantha Stoughtenger; Autumn Sapp; Marissa Capito; Holly Kveum

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 5:17p.m. by Chair Vance.

II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Agenda approved without amendment.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

December 8, 2016 Draft UAB Meeting Minutes- approved without amendment.

IV. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

None.

V. ACTION ITEMS

A. *UAB Annual Report to the Assembly*- Chair Vance provided a quick overview of the cover memorandum and report to the board, noting that some requested chart revisions had been incorporated. The board and staff continued discussion of the report and reviewed various project costs. The board requested that a disclaimer be added under “Major CIPS Under Construction” so as to note that the provided costs do not include design or administration costs. Vice-Chair Larson requested three minor edits to the cover report: change the

wording regarding fund balance from exhaustion to depletion, to update the fiscal years for the Wastewater Utility from 2020 to 2018 and the Water Utility from 2023 to 2022, and to add “the” in the sentence before the last two bullet points. Chair Vance made a motion to approve the FY16 UAB Annual Report with the requested edits and to forward to the Committee of the Whole. The board approved the motion.

VI. INFORMATION ITEMS

- A. *Review Resolution #2299 Establishing the UAB*- The resolution is to be reviewed each year by the board; Ms. Stoughtenger noted that staff would be asking the board to revisit one of their key objectives: reviewing utility rates. Staff and the board then discussed the competitiveness of funding, potential state sales tax and the overall palatability of increased taxes for the average rate payer.
- B. *Utilities Financial Update*- Staff provided a short presentation of the financial health of the Utilities including necessary infrastructure repairs/improvements and spending/funding scenarios. The board mentioned showing a list of needed projects to emphasize the actual need of the Utilities. The board and staff then discussed various funding scenarios and what is reasonable for the rate payers to expend.
- C. *PWF Committee Presentation*- The PWF Committee was presented an update of the biosolids dryer project by Ms. Stoughtenger. The goal of the presentation was to provide historical information for new Assembly Members and to bring the Committee back up to speed. Staff and the board then discussed site size constraints, potential pellet use, and smell containment.
- D. *Utilities Operational Update*- Mr. Farrell noted that the calculations for the Mendenhall Treatment Plant were off and for staff to review.
- E. *Biosolids Public Meeting*- Staff informed the board that there will be an informational session to inform interested parties on the progress of the biosolids update and is scheduled to be held at 6 p.m. in the Alaska Room of the Juneau International Airport.

VII. NON-AGENDA ITEMS

None.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Vance adjourned the meeting at 5:53 p.m.