

**DRAFT MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING**  
**CITY OF ALAMEDA PUBLIC UTILITIES BOARD MEETING**

November 16, 2020

1. ROLL CALL

President McCormick called the meeting to order at 6 p.m. On roll call, the following commissioners were present: President McCormick, Commissioner Serventi, Commissioner Gould, Commissioner Giuntini and City Manager Levitt.

2. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS – NON-AGENDA (Public Comment)

None

3. SPECIAL PRESENTATION

None

4. CONSENT CALENDAR

A. Minutes–Regular Meeting–Oct. 19, 2020

B. Listing of Bills Paid–October 2020

C. Financial Report–September 2020

D. Treasurer’s Report for the Month Ending September 30, 2020

E. By Resolution, Commend Jim McRory for His Long and Distinguished Service to Alameda Municipal Power

F. By Motion, Approve the Public Utilities Board’s 2021 Regular Meeting Schedule

G. By Motion, Authorize the General Manager to Transfer Funds from Capital Improvement Budget Funds to Make Payment on the Previously Authorized Purchase Order to the County of Alameda in an Amount Not to Exceed \$166,500 for the Purchase of New Time Division Multiple Access Radios and Associated Equipment

H. By Motion, Authorize the General Manager to Issue a Purchase Order to Cooper Power Systems in an Amount Not to Exceed \$73,300 Per Material Specification No. MS 02-19-01

With a motion from Commissioner Serventi and a second from Commissioner Giuntini, the Board unanimously approved the consent calendar.

## 5. AGENDA ITEMS

A. By Motion, Approve Alameda Municipal Power's Revised Renewable Energy Resources Procurement Plan and Enforcement Program for the Renewable Energy Resources Procurement Plan

Following a staff presentation, President McCormick said she appreciates the good position that AMP is in, and the good value that Alameda's electric utility can pass on to its customers.

Commissioner Serventi asked a clarifying question about potential uses of AMP's renewable energy credits (RECs). Staff responded that if there is an event that makes AMP's generation unavailable, the utility can apply excess RECs.

Referring to slide 6, Commissioner Serventi asked for more information about cost limitations. General Manager Procos said the measures on the slide, including cost limitations and excess procurement, are standard provisions that POU's add to the plan. It is highly unlikely that they would be triggered, he said. Staff added that if any of the measures on the slide were triggered, AMP would bring the topic to the Board.

President McCormick noted that AMP had effectively leveraged its excess RECs over the years by selling some of them on a short-term basis and then using the funds for carbon-reducing projects.

Commissioner Gould asked for more about the mention of "cost-effective distributed energy resources" in exhibit B, page 11. Staff responded that the language in the exhibit refers to reasonable measures to evaluate before triggering the optional compliance measures.

With a motion from City Manager Levitt and a second from Commissioner Serventi, the Board unanimously approved the item.

B. By Resolution, Approve and Adopt Schedule EV-TOU, an Optional Time-of-Use Rate Schedule for Residential EV Customers

Following a staff presentation, President McCormick opened public comment. Sara Rafalson of Alameda said she was pleased that AMP was considering residential time-of-use TOU rates, and she recommended that the utility pursue commercial TOU rates as a next step.

President McCormick thanked staff for being responsive to the Board's previous comments and questions, and for providing education and outreach efforts to customers.

She said that AMP has taken a thoughtful and measured approach with residential TOU.

AMP's tiered rates are not intuitive to many people, she said, and there are many different use patterns that can make a big difference. There could be continued confusion moving forward but waiting longer does not make sense.

AMP can make changes to the TOU rate plan to address any unintended consequences or make improvements, she said. She requested that the Board receive regular updates on TOU data in the General Manager's report.

City Manager Levitt said he concurred with President McCormick's statements. The outreach and research created a better product, he said.

Commissioner Gould expressed the view that the proposed TOU rate would not promote EV adoption and would not compare favorably with TOU rates offered by PG&E and community choice electricity providers.

Citing additional reasons for opposing the item, Commissioner Gould said that AMP's TOU rate does not have seasonal adjustments, and the monthly EV discount program will end. Further, Commissioner Gould disagreed with the proposal to make net energy metering (NEM) customers ineligible for the TOU rate plan.

President McCormick asked staff to confirm that AMP anticipates that it will keep the average rate differential (lower prices than surrounding areas) for customers who select this rate. Staff confirmed.

On the topic of PG&E TOU rates, staff said that PG&E has two different rate designs for EV customers: the whole house rate, and the EV-only rate.

Commissioner Serventi asked how many EV households are tapping into tier 2 and 3. Staff responded that the figure was 70-80%.

General Manager Procos said he thinks AMP will see positive results from the TOU rate plan. At the same time, AMP will monitor the data from the implementation of the program and can come back to the Board and make adjustments as needed, he said.

The TOU rate will help promote EVs, General Manager Procos said, and EV promotion is one of the key elements of AMP's strategic plan and the city's Climate Action and Resiliency Plan.

With a motion from City Manager Levitt and a second from Commissioner Giuntini, the Board approved the item in a 4-1 vote, with Commissioner Gould dissenting.

## **6. GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT**

### **A. General Manager's Report–October 2020**

General Manager Procos updated the Board that Fitch Ratings decided to maintain AMP's AA-rating outlook. He also noted that customer signups for AMP's customer portal and e-billing option have increased 98% and 425% since a year ago.

7. COUNCIL COMMUNICATIONS

City Manager Levitt provided updates on COVID-19 and the city's work on policing.

8. BOARD COMMUNICATIONS

Commissioner Serventi updated the Board on the Northern California Power Agency (NCPA)'s modification of the Lodi Energy Center's turbines, which allows them to burn 45% hydrogen. NCPA recently received a grant to work with the city of Lodi's water treatment plant to develop hydrogen. NCPA's work to use hydrogen in Lodi may be applicable to discussions on the future of Alameda's combustion turbines.

9. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS – NON-AGENDA (PUBLIC COMMENT)

Ruth Abbe of Community Action for a Sustainable Alameda (CASA) said five interns at her organization will present their research on Dec. 9. The interns' research covered topics including electrification communication, electrification policy and resilience hubs.

10. ADJOURNMENT

President McCormick adjourned the meeting at 7:18 p.m.