

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

July 19, 2021

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 Giuntini, Commissioner Gould and City Manager Levitt.

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

None.

3. SPECIAL PRESENTATION

None.

4. CONSENT CALENDAR

A. Minutes–Regular Meeting–June 21, 2021

B. Listing of Bills Paid–June 2021

C. Financial Report–May 2021

D. Treasurer’s Report for the Month Ending May 31, 2021

E. By Resolution, Authorize the General Manager to Award a Labor, Materials, and Equipment Contract to National High Voltage Services, Inc., for the Installation of Two Units of Sulfur Hexafluoride Circuit Breakers at the NCPA-CT1 Substation in an Amount Not to Exceed \$278,875 per Construction Specification No. CS 01-21-02

F. By Motion, Accept the 2020 Power Source Disclosure Program Annual Report and Power Content Label for Alameda Municipal Power Product 1 and Product 2 to the California Energy Commission

G. By Motion, Delegate Authority to Award and Authorize the General Manager to Issue a One-Time Purchase Order to the Lowest Responsive and Responsible Bidder for 5,000 Feet of 500 MCM, CU 600V XLPE Cable at a Cost Not-to Exceed \$102,100

H. By Motion, Authorize the General Manager to Pay Additional \$4,900 for Sales Tax Increase for Previously Approved Purchases by Public Utilities Board

I. By Motion, Authorize the General Manager to Make the FY 2022 Annual Maintenance Payments for the Harris NorthStar Customer Information System for a Total Not to Exceed of \$102,000 and the Harris Cayenta Financials and Operations System for a Total Not to Exceed \$85,000

President McCormick and Commissioner Gould each pulled items from the consent calendar so the Board could discuss them further. The Board unanimously approved the balance of the consent calendar.

Commissioner Gould pulled Item E on new breakers for the Northern California Power Agency (NCPA) combustion turbines substation in Alameda. He raised concerns about greenhouse gas emissions from the turbines, and asked questions about the funding sources for the breakers.

General Manager Procos said the prior item to purchase the breakers came before the PUB in February 2020. The current Item E is the installation contract, he said. The purpose of the contract is to protect Alameda's electric system, he said, and AMP has the cost burden for it.

The use of cap-and-trade funds is an allowed use of these funds for a project of this nature, General Manager Procos said. There is a climate benefit because the replacement breakers will have fewer SF6 emissions.

The Board approved Item A in a 4-1 vote, with Commissioner Gould dissenting.

President McCormick pulled Item F, pointing out AMP's achievement in reaching a 100% clean energy mix. Commissioner Gould said the NCPA combustion turbines are located in Alameda, and they produce emissions. President McCormick said the rules of the PCL are extremely strict and determined by the California Energy Commission. In addition, the combustion turbines are owned by NCPA, she said.

The Board unanimously approved Item F.

5. AGENDA ITEMS

A. By Motion, Requiring Four-Fifths Vote, Authorize the General Manager to Sole Source Award and Negotiate and Execute the 5-Year Services Agreements with NorthStar Utilities Solutions for a Not-to-Exceed Amount of \$427,090 and Paymentus Corporation for a Not-to-Exceed Amount of \$1,077,498 for Customer Web Portal Implementation and Services and Associated Payment Processing Services

President McCormick asked about the company's penetration with electric utilities. Sean Sykes, a vice president of NorthStar, said that 65-70% of NorthStar's customer base is an exclusively electric producer or a multi-service producer. The company has significant penetration rate into the electric market.

President McCormick asked which of NorthStar's customers is the most like AMP. Energy+ and Entegris, two public power utilities in Ontario, Canada, are similar to AMP, Mr. Sykes said.

President McCormick mentioned AMP's new time-of-use rate for EV owners. She asked whether web portal SilverBlaze could use AMP's baseline tiers and show a tier to TOU comparison. A NorthStar representative confirmed.

President McCormick said that solar customers in Alameda have a separate meter. In addition, some of AMP's solar customers are net energy-metered, while others are on a different solar plan.

The NorthStar representative said that the solar customers would be able to see a dropdown menu of all of their meters.

Referring to net energy metering (NEM) customers, Commissioner Serventi asked if they view their hourly profile. The NorthStar representative confirmed.

Commissioner Serventi asked if NEM customers can make automatic payments with a fixed amount per month. The NorthStar representative confirmed.

Commissioner Gould asked about the company's plans regarding bidirectional charging for EVs. Mr. Sykes said bidirectional charging is on NorthStar's radar and the company is evaluating what the workflow would look like.

Mr. Sykes said the portal would go live in the next several months. General Manager Procos said that AMP's established relationship with NorthStar will help the team hit the ground running.

Assistant City Attorney Alan Cohen said there are no issues with the sole source agreement if the Board approves it in a 4-5 vote. Given AMP's long-standing relationship with NorthStar, it would be difficult to find another company with that level of integration.

With a motion from Commissioner Serventi and a second from Commissioner Giuntini, the Board voted unanimously to approve the item.

B. By Motion, Approve a Confirmation and Task Order Under the Northern California Power Agency Support Services Program Agreement for eCommerce Marketplace and Rebate Processing Services Provided by The Energy Federation, Inc. Through March 17, 2024, for a Not-to-Exceed Amount of \$270,000

President McCormick asked for confirmation that the platform was scalable for AMP's programs. Staff confirmed.

President McCormick asked staffers for their thoughts on whether AMP should recommend contractors to customers. AMP does not currently have a pre-approved contractor list, but staff is discussing the idea, staff said.

President McCormick said AMP should consider moving into this area in coordination with Assistant City Attorney Alan Cohen.

Commissioner Gould asked whether there would be solar or battery storage products on the marketplace. Staff said those items are not currently on the product list, but Energy Federation Inc. is working toward continual expansion of products.

Commissioner Serventi said that AMP will need to be able to add new items and rebates on the platform.

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

6. GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

A. General Manager's Report–June 2021

General Manager Procos updated the Board on the recent Flex Alerts issued by the California Independent System Operator (CAISO). He also noted that AMP is posting a new video on its website regarding safe digging resources for contractors.

7. COUNCIL COMMUNICATIONS

City Manager Levitt said the City Council will be evaluating housing and services for the homeless population. In addition, the City Council will be reviewing funding from the American Rescue Plan Act.

8. BOARD COMMUNICATIONS

President McCormick said the next commissioner will be confirmed by the City Council tomorrow.

Commissioner Serventi thanked President McCormick all her work for the PUB.

Speaking on behalf of his role as AMP's representative to NCPA, Commissioner Serventi mentioned AMP's recent meeting with NCPA General Manager Randy Howard. During the meeting, AMP staff and Mr. Howard discussed potential impacts of the drought. AMP also expressed its desire for NCPA to replace its combustion turbines with a greener energy resource.

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

None.

10. ADJOURNMENT

President McCormick adjourned the meeting at 7:30 p.m.