

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

May 20, 2019

1. ROLL CALL

President McCormick called the meeting to order at 7 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)

William Morrison, representing the Fernside Homeowners Association, praised the city's efforts to retrofit the streetlights in his neighborhood with light-emitting diode (LED) bulbs.

3. SPECIAL PRESENTATION

None

4. CONSENT CALENDAR

A1. Minutes –Special Meeting Budget Workshop–April 15, 2019

A2. Minutes –Special Meeting–April 15, 2019

A3. Minutes –Regular Meeting–April 15, 2019

B. Listing of Bills Paid–April 2019

C. Financial Report–March 2019

D. Treasurer's Report for the Month Ending March 31, 2019

E. By Resolution, Authorize the General Manager to Purchase 15kV Pad-Mounted Switchgears for Immediate Initial Purchase to Trayer Engineering Corporation in an Amount Not to Exceed \$256,700; Innovative Switchgear Solutions in an Amount not to Exceed \$153,000; and Five Year Awards for Future Purchases from Each Vendor per Material Specifications MS-02-19-01

F. By Motion, Award a Three Year Contract in the Amount not to Exceed \$154,381, Including Contingencies, to Universal Building Services and Supply Co. for Janitorial Services at Alameda Municipal Power Facilities, Specification No. PS 01-19-01, and Delegate Authority to the General Manager to Extend up to an Additional Two Years

G. By Motion, Award a Three Year Contract in the Amount not to Exceed \$66,326, Including Contingencies, to Forster and Kroeger Landscape Maintenance, Inc. for Landscape Maintenance at Alameda Municipal Power Facilities, Specification No. CS 01-19-02, and Delegate Authority to the General Manager to Extend up to an Additional Two Years

H. By Resolution, Commend Lilly Amargo for Her Long and Distinguished Service to Alameda Municipal Power

I. By Motion, Authorize the General Manager to Purchase a Network Server and Storage Upgrade for a Total Cost Not To Exceed \$169,540

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, Authorize the General Manager to Enter into an 18-Month Professional Services Agreement with Synergy Companies to Provide a Residential Direct-Install Energy Efficiency Program for Qualified Low-Income Customers for an Amount Not to Exceed \$750,000

Following a staff presentation, President McCormick said she would like Synergy Companies to collect information that would allow AMP to evaluate heat pump water heaters and heat pump space heating. AMP should make efforts to gather data through this program that can be used for future programs on the electrification of homes in Alameda.

President McCormick asked staff whether there would be referrals to PG&E and East Bay Municipal Utilities District (EBMUD) for customer questions regarding natural gas and water conservation measures. Staff responded that PG&E has a contract with Synergy to work with low-income customers in Alameda and will promote both AMP's and PG&E's energy efficiency programs to qualified customers. Staff did not know details regarding EBMUD. President McCormick said AMP should make referrals to both EBMUD and PG&E, at a minimum.

Commissioner Gould asked for more information about advanced power strips. Staff responded that these tools have sensor capabilities – they can sense whether the appliance is in use and will shut off if not in use.

President McCormick asked about Synergy's 18-month timeline.

Staff responded that Synergy thinks it can do the job in 12 months.

The Board would like regular updates on this project, President McCormick said.

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

B. For Information Only, Transportation Electrification Customer Program Implementation Proposal

Following a staff presentation, President McCormick opened public comment.

Debi Ryan from Community Action for a Sustainable Alameda (CASA) said that AMP should ask how Alameda can lead in the area of electric vehicle adoption. AMP should not just follow CEC goals – it should do more than that, she said. She encouraged AMP to consider specific EV goals for 2020, 2025 and 2030.

President McCormick said that the underlying assumptions for a baseline program are not a goal. These are baseline numbers to start with, she said, and AMP should establish goals.

Alameda resident Margaret Jameson said her homeowners association will not allow her to charge her car. In addition, public charging parking spots in Alameda are always filled, she said.

President McCormick noted that there are a number of new chargers being installed on the island. In addition, AMP is considering a multifamily pilot, she said.

Alameda resident Doug Linney said the biggest missing piece in the plan is a goal, he said.

Alameda resident Nick de Vries said that AMP's tier 3 rate is unfair. The tier 3 rate was designed to dissuade people from wasting energy, but EV owners are avoiding pollution and using energy wisely, he said.

Alameda resident Christy Cannon said if 20 percent of the people AMP surveyed are planning to buy or lease a car in the next year, AMP needs to really take action to encourage them to buy an EV.

Commissioner Gould suggested that the proposed multifamily program include an EV audit, similar to the energy audits that AMP conducts.

He said he was not excited about the workplace charging proposal, adding that he thinks that most EV owners prefer to charge at home.

He also said that state incentive programs for EVs are typically oversubscribed.

President McCormick said AMP's EV programs are a work in progress. She said she likes workplace charging because AMP can sell electricity to non-Alamedans.

AMP needs aggressive goals for its EV program, she said. The forecast of conservative CEC numbers is not what AMP intends to do – it would be the worst it could do, she said.

AMP's EV programs are linked directly to AMP's rates, she said, and rate setting will drive the behavior and the economics.

She said she personally advocates for using renewable energy credit (REC) funds for EV programs.

Commissioner Giuntini said the staff presentation laid out a nice baseline.

Commissioner Serventi proposed the idea of creating a program to get old, polluting cars off the market. He also said he wanted the city to develop a way to prevent people from staying long periods of time in public charging parking spots.

General Manager Procos said he wanted to remind the Board about AMP's strategic plan and key performance indicators, which include that AMP will be in the top 3 of similarly sized public utilities in California for percent of residential customers receiving EV and energy efficiency rebates.

He also said that AMP is very excited that it has nearly \$1 million in low carbon fuel standard (LCFS) funds that it can put toward EV programs. Though it is not necessary now, AMP can look into REC funds as a potential funding source for EVs at a future date.

Commissioner Gould said he thinks it would be a good idea to have incentives for curbside charging. He also said that a level 1 charging program would not be a viable option.

President McCormick said that AMP's near-term goals in the future will be around electrifying houses and removing other carbon sources. She raised the possible issue of people incrementally upgrading their panels to first accommodate EVs and then to accommodate electric appliances for the electrification of homes. She said it would be worth looking at incentives that would involve a more significant panel upgrade so that people won't need to pay multiple times for upgrades. She gave the example of incentivizing an electric-ready home with a greater panel upgrade.

City Manager Levitt said he agreed with President McCormick on developing a holistic approach to upgrades. He said he favors charging in residential and commercial locations, so that people will have more places in which to charge their EVs.

President McCormick said the Board will discuss EV-related topics again at the June board meeting in an item on time-of-use rates.

Since the item was informational, the Board did not take a vote.

6. GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

A. General Manager's Report – April 2019

General Manager Procos said that AMP continues to see strong interest from customers in solar. He also noted that AMP has already surpassed its annual goals for energy savings in non-residential energy efficiency programs.

7. COUNCIL COMMUNICATIONS

None

8. BOARD COMMUNICATIONS

None

9. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS – NON-AGENDA ITEMS

Alameda resident William Morrison expressed concern that residents did not have access to energy usage information from their smart meters.

President McCormick requested that staff provide the Board with an off-agenda memorandum on the status of the payment portal in development.

10. ADJOURNMENT

President McCormick adjourned the meeting at 8:50 p.m.