PUBLIC UTILITY ADVISORY BOARD
CITY OF TRUTH OR CONSEQUENCES, NEW MEXICO

Monday, October 21, 2013
REGULAR MEETING

TIME & PLACE: The Public Utility Advisory Board of the City of Truth or Consequences, New Mexico, in the County of Sierra, and State of New Mexico, met in Regular Session in full conformity with the Law and Ordinances of said Board, at the City Commission Chambers of said City, on Monday the 21st day of October, 2013 at 5:30 P.M.

PRESIDING OFFICER: The meeting was called to order by Mike Potia, Vice-Chairman and Angela A. Torres acted as Secretary.

ATTENDANCE: Upon calling the roll the following members were reported present:

Mike Potia, Vice-Chairman
Alvin Siffring, Member
James Hunt, Member
George Szigeti, Member

Also Present:

Juan Fuentes, City Manager
Gil Avelar, Electric Division Director
Leonard Carrillo, Sanitation Director
Andy Alvarez, Sanitation Division
Ed Williams, Safety Coordinator/Electric Division
Angela A. Torres, Deputy City Clerk

Absent Was/Were:

Bill Jacka, Chairman

QUORUM: There being a quorum present the Board proceeded with the business at hand.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Mike Potia, Vice-Chairman called for approval of the Agenda.

"Alvin Siffring moved approval of the Agenda as submitted."

Seconded by George Szigeti
Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Mike Potia, Vice-Chairman, called for review and approval of minutes of the Special meeting held Wednesday, September 04, 2013.

"Alvin Siffring moved approval of the minutes of the Special meeting held Wednesday, September 04, 2013 as submitted."
Seconded by George Szigeti
Motion carried unanimously.

Mike Potia, Vice-Chairman, called for review and approval of minutes of the Regular meeting held Monday, September 16, 2013.

“Alvin Siffring moved approval of the minutes of the Regular meeting held Monday, September 16, 2013 as submitted.”

Seconded by George Szigeti
Motion carried unanimously.

COMMENTS
FROM THE PUBLIC:

A. DISCUSSION/UPDATE - NET METERING:
Discussion/Update - Net Metering - Ed Williams, Safety Coordinator/Electric Division, and Gil Avelar, Electric Division Director.

Ed Williams, Safety Coordinator/Electric Division reviewed the Net Metering Project with the Board, and introduced Bill Griffith and Jim Miller from WH Pacific.

Juan Fuentes, City Manager stated that the city’s goal is to present this item (in final form) at the next scheduled meeting, so that a recommendation can be made and forwarded to the City Commission for approval.

Discussion ensued with no action taken.

B. DISCUSSION/UPDATE - SOLID WASTE COLLECTION CENTER:
Discussion/Update - Solid Waste Collection Center - Leonard Carrillo, Sanitation Director.

Leonard Carrillo, Sanitation Director, reviewed the opening, training, and signage for the Solid Waste Collection Center Scale House.

Mr. Carrillo briefly reviewed the status of the Poly-Carts, the acceptance of flood debris at the City Landfill, and the disposal of tires.

Poly-Cart update - An order has been placed for the Poly-Carts and they should be arriving in about a month in a half to two months. An order was also submitted for the placement of numbers and the city emblems on the Poly-Carts. An order has been submitted for the new trash truck, and it should be here within the next few weeks. Five of our Sanitation Division employees plus one of our Mechanics will be going to Albuquerque to receive training on the truck.

Acceptance of Flood Debris at the City Landfill – The State of New Mexico is allowing us to accept flood debris at the City Landfill. Residences have been coming to the Collection Center trying to dispose of the debris there, but we cannot accept it there unless we charge them. We will accept wood fences, corrals, and stock piles of hay, and will not accept tires, dead animals, or anything that has to do with asbestos.
Disposal of Tires – Leonard Carrillo, Sanitation Director, spoke with the State and discussed different options for the disposal of tires. The South Central Solid Waste Authority confirmed that if we cut up the tires, they will dispose of them. We are looking into a tire cutter for the Collection Center, because we are currently holding 3000 to 4000 tires at the Landfill. The tire cutter we are looking at can cut up to 120 tires in one hour. Once we receive the tire cutter we will no longer accept tires at the Landfill and all tires will have to be kept at the Solid Waste Collection Center.


Juan Fuentes, City Manager, reviewed the Energy Services Agreement with the Board stating that the city is pursuing efforts to construct a newer system. Sierra Electric COOP has been very receptive and has indicated that they would like to move forward with amending the Energy Services Agreement between them and the city to pursue a Solar Renewable System. Hopefully we will be discussing it at tomorrow’s city Commission meeting, and can ask the Commission for authorization to proceed forward with a Solar Farm similar to the one we visited in Silver City.

Discussion ensued with no action taken.

Discussion/Update - Electric System Study – Juan Fuentes, City Manager.

Juan Fuentes, City Manager, stated that last Electrical Distribution System study (to determine the systems weaknesses and deficiencies) was done in 2003, and he believes that an updated study is long overdue. So far one has been done for the Waste Water Treatment Plant, and we plan on doing one for the Water System as well.

Discussion ensued with no action taken.


Juan Fuentes, City Manager reviewed the Utility Financial Report with the Board.

Mike Potia, Vice Chairman, stated that he is interested in knowing what effect the recent rains had on our wells, and asked that it be added to next month’s Financial Report.

Discussion/Update – Hot mineral water dedicated to sewer system – Juan Fuentes, City Manager.

Juan Fuentes, City Manager, stated that the City Commission has supported a study of our hot springs system. The study will be to determine the recharge area for our hot springs, and also how sustainable it is with the current use of the number of wells that are out there. The city used to have a small number of well
permits, and now we have close to 200 permits or more. The city has a small drain system throughout the downtown area that is dedicated to hot mineral water. There is supposed to be a $10.00 fee applied to residences that tap into the sewer lines, or the hot mineral system, and a $30.00 fee for commercial bath house users. We came across an issue in our code regarding bathhouses. Our City Code does not define what a bath house is. There are not many accounts out there that these fees apply to, but with the study will allow us to implement the fee according to our code. City Staff is working on a definition that will clearly define what a bath house is, and we will bring that back at a later time for a recommendation.

COMMENTS
FROM STAFF: None.

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business to come before the Public Utility Advisory Board Mike Potia, Vice-Chairman declared the meeting adjourned.

APPROVAL: PASSED AND APPROVED this 18th day of November, 2013, on motion duly made by [signature], seconded by [signature], and carried.

[Signature]
Mike Potia, Vice-Chairman
Public Utility Advisory Board