

## **Board Update Meeting Summary | Friday August 7, 2015**

*This summary may not include all agenda items and is not considered minutes of the meeting. For complete meeting agenda, click [here](#).*

### **Board of Public Utilities approves Consent Calendar**

- Approved contract for microwave radio system replacement project to Pacific Services Inc. for \$129,679.30 and increase the work order amount to \$75,000.
- Approval was given for a work order of \$97,629 to Crown Technical Systems for the line protection relay replacement and substation automation system project.
- Approval was given for a work order of \$146,755 for a protective device coordination and arc flash study.
- Approval was given for a work order of \$63,000 for conduit and cable replacement at Alvarez Court and Rancho Road.
- Approval was given for a purchase order not to exceed \$300,000 with West Coast Arborists, Inc. to provide utility line clearance and vegetation management services.
- Approval was given for a purchase order in the amount of \$61,707 to Airgas to supply specialty gases at Riverside's power plants.
- Approval was given for a professional services agreement in the amount of \$58,335 to Baker Tilly Virchow Krause, LLP to complete a performance audit of Riverside Public Utilities.

### **Board receives a Strategic Technology Plan Update**

Steven Rupp, Vice President of Leidos Engineering Solutions, continued his presentation with the Board regarding Leidos recommendations for RPU's future technology plan. Recommendations include establishing an office of technology to oversee all advancements, expanding mobile offerings, and enhancing customer service through technology.

### **Board approves construction of the Valverde Water Main Replacement Project**

Interim Assistant General Manager Todd Jorgenson asked that the Board approve a capital expenditure of \$1,727,000 for design, construction, paving contract administration, inspection and construction contingency costs for the Valverde Water Main Replacement Project. There is currently inadequate fire protection in the area. This project will add new pipeline and reroute existing.

### **Board approves construction of the Dwight Avenue Water Main Replacement Project**

Interim Assistant General Manager Todd Jorgenson asked that the Board approve a capital expenditure of \$1,930,000 for design, construction, paving contract administration, inspection and construction contingency costs for the Dwight Avenue Water Main Replacement Project. These are old mains and pipelines that require replacement.

### **Board approves additional funding for Wells Raub 4R and 5R per well relocation agreement between the City and OSR Development, LLC.**

Interim Assistant General Manager Todd Jorgenson asked that the Board approve additional funding of \$1,042,113 to continue the work needed to add additional wells. RPU exceeded the original contract amount of \$6.1 Million because of material costs to add new wells.

### **Board approves and recommends that the City Council approve the Sharing Households Assist Riverside's Energy Program (SHARE) contract amendment**

Assistant General Manager Michael Bacich presented a brief history of the SHARE program, which has been in existence for 15 years and helps low income customers with their utility bills. He asked that the Board approve and recommend to the City Council a 15<sup>th</sup> amendment to the agreement with the County of Riverside Department of Social Services in the amount of \$1 Million and authorize the City Manager, or designee to approve payments up to 25% or \$250,000 above the contract amount if funds are depleted.

### **Board approves funding for turf removal programs**

Assistant General Manager Michael Bacich presented a history of the turf removal program, which had been exhausted and closed by Metropolitan Water, and asked that the Board approve and recommend to Council \$1,500,000 for funding of RPU's program. After some discussion Board ultimately recommended that the City Council remove item 3 (Supplemental appropriation of \$150,000 to the Residential Turf Incentive Account) and add \$150,000 to item 5 (Commercial Landscape Demonstration Projects Account). It was also determined that guidelines should exclude new development until the City adopts its new design guidelines for landscaping.

### **Board approves funding for Tyler Street Widening Project**

Assistant General Manager Pat Hohl asked that the Board approve a work order of \$957,000 for the Tyler Street Widening Project. Poles need to be relocated as part of the project. He added that as part of the approved RTRP route, the street lights will be LED.

### **Board conducts review of City of Riverside Code of Ethics**

The policy, which is currently being reviewed by a special committee, was discussed by the Board. Two years ago the Board reviewed the policy and made some recommendations regarding decorum at meetings. The Board agreed to let Chair Cash represent their sentiments at the next Government Affairs Committee review.

### **Board provided input on proposed financial, performance and business process audits to be considered by City Council on August 11, 2015**

General Manager Girish Balachandran shared with the Board that as part of the performance and financial audits proposed by the City, each department will undergo an internal audit. RPU, City Finance and Human Resources will be the first departments to participate. RPU management has met with the City's internal auditor. The audit should begin on January 16, and Girish informed the Board that he made a recommendation that whoever completes the audit have some utility experience.

The RPU Board discussed the upcoming audit and had the following comments that they wanted Chair Cash to pass along to the City Council

- Supportive of utilizing internal auditor and self-assessment to augment the external auditor scope
- Utilize an auditor/consultant that has specific utility experience
- Request that the Board discuss the scope of the audit after the City Council determines what areas are to be audited
- Board to review and approve the cost related to RPU audit

### **Items to be carryovers to the next meeting**

- Planned Routine Projects Over \$500,000 for Electric and Water capital projects for Fiscal Year 2015/16- \$27,692,000
- 2015 Mid-Year Legislative Update