

## **BRYAN BOARD OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS**

**DECEMBER 7, 2021**

Board of Public Affairs Chairman Tom Sprow opened the meeting of the Bryan Board of Public Affairs at 5:00 p.m. with the following members present: Karen Ford, Annette Schreiner, Jim Salsbury, and Richard Long. Also present were: Mayor Carrie Schlade, Director of Utilities Nathan Gardner, City Attorney Rhonda Fisher, Human Resource Director Jacqueline Schlachter, Electric Superintendent Al Sullivan, Communications Superintendent Joe Ferrell, Water Superintendent Derek Schultz, Power Production Superintendent Jim Coressel, Bryan City Council member F. John Betts, and City Clerk-Treasurer Laura Rode.

Mr. Salsbury moved, Mr. Long seconded, to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting held on November 16, 2021, as written. Roll call vote: all ayes; nays, none. Motion carried.

The 2022 budget was presented to the Board beginning with Director of Utilities Gardner reviewing the Electric, Water, and Communications departmental operating budgets, respectively. He reviewed in some detail the power supply components as well as the peak shaving contributions.

Power Production Superintendent Coressel highlighted upcoming 2022 projects with specific interest focused on the solar field purchase and the power plant substation project. Electric Superintendent Sullivan reviewed the 2022 proposed capital budget for the Electric Department including, but not limited to, the 69kV Build project and the Deerfield URD Replacement project. Communications Superintendent Ferrell shared with the Board future Communications projects including the ASR 100X Upgrade which is vital to all departments. Water Superintendent Schultz addressed the Water Department capital projects including the East Bryan Street Main Replacement and the South High Pressure Rehabilitation project. Discussion was held at various intervals of the presentation. At the end of the presentation, Director of Utilities Gardener thanked all involved with the budget preparation. He added that a budget resolution would be presented to the Board at the next meeting for the Board's consideration.

Resolution No. 35, 2021, titled,

### **AUTHORIZING THE RENEWAL OF THE XCELERATE ENTERPRISE SUPPORT AGREEMENT (F.K.A., CONVERGENCE CARE) WITH BLACK BOX NETWORK SERVICES FOR INTERNET AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGIES OPERATION, MAINTENANCE AND CONSULTING SERVICES**

was presented and read by title only. Communications Superintendent Ferrell requested the Board approve renewing the Xcelerate Enterprise/Convergence Care Agreement with

Black Box Network Services for Internet and information technologies operation, maintenance and consulting services at no additional cost through December 31, 2022. Further discussion was held.

Mr. Long moved, Mr. Salsbury seconded, to pass Resolution No. 35, 2021. Roll call vote: all ayes; nays, none. Motion carried.

Human Resource Director Schlachter requested the Board's permission to hire Adrian Juarez as a Probationary Water Treatment Plant Operator Trainee effective December 20, 2021, at a rate of \$20.94 per hour pending the successful completion of his pre-employment screening.

Ms. Ford moved, Ms. Schreiner seconded, to hire Adrian Juarez as a Probationary Water Treatment Plant Operator Trainee effective December 20, 2021, at a rate of \$20.94 per hour pending the successful completion of his pre-employment screening. Roll call vote: all ayes; nays, none. Motion carried.

Human Resource Director Schlachter requested permission to start the recruitment process for a Power Plant employee. She added that there were four (4) retirement eligible employees in that department and this would assist with the succession plan. Further discussion was held.

Mr. Long moved, Mr. Sprow seconded, to grant permission to start the recruitment process for a Power Plant employee. Roll call vote: all ayes; nays, none. Motion carried.

The Board then held a discussion to consider setting a Special Meeting to conduct any pertinent year end business.

Mr. Long moved, Mr. Salsbury seconded, to set a Special Joint Meeting with Bryan City Council on December 29, 2021, at 12:00 p.m. to conduct any pertinent year end business. Roll call vote: all ayes; nays, none. Motion carried.

Mr. Salsbury moved, Mr. Sprow seconded, to pay the bills. Roll call vote: all ayes; nays, none. Motion carried.

Water Superintendent Schultz updated the Board that the 308 South Street property has now been demolished. Further discussion was held on the next property to be addressed.

Mayor Schlade thanked the Board for allowing the Police and Fire departments to train at the former rental facilities as well as for the tree donation to the Parks and Recreation department. She also cautioned the public with regard to the spike in COVID-19 cases.

Board members thanked all who contributed on the budget process and welcomed Probationary Water Treatment Plant Operator Trainee Juarez to the team.

Bryan City Councilman Betts inquired about the recently passed infrastructure bill and what projects Bryan Municipal Utilities may qualify for. Director Gardner replied that the information is just now becoming available and that grants may be possible. Councilman Betts offered his assistance in reaching out to contacts regarding possible grants if needed.

Mr. Long moved, Mr. Salsbury seconded, to adjourn the meeting. Roll call vote: all ayes; nays, none. Motion carried.

---

Chairman of the Board

---

Clerk-Treasurer