

REGULAR SESSION –WEDNESDAY, JUNE 16, 2021

STATE OF KANSAS)
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CITY OF KANSAS CITY)

The Board of Public Utilities of Kansas City, Kansas (aka BPU, We, Us, Our) met remotely in Regular Session on Wednesday, June 16, 2021 at 6:00 P.M. The following Board Members were on the teleconference: Robert L. Milan, President; Mary Gonzales, Vice President; Rose Mulvany Henry, Secretary; Jeff Bryant, Thomas Groneman, and Ryan Eidson.

Also on teleconference: William Johnson, General Manager; Angela Lawson, Deputy Chief Counsel; Lori Austin, Chief Financial Officer/Chief Administrative Officer; Steve Green, Executive Director Water Operations; Darren McNew, Director Electric Transmission & Substation; Johnetta Hinson, Executive Director Customer Service; Dong Quach, Executive Director Electric Production; Jerry Ohmes, Executive Director Electric Supply; Jerry Sullivan, Chief Information Officer; David Mehlhaff, Chief Communications Officer; Becky Aldinger, Director Purchasing/Supply Chain; Dennis Dumovich, Director of Human Resources; Robert Kamp, IT Project Manager; and Patrice Townsend, Director Utility Services.

A tape of this meeting is on file at the Board of Public Utilities.

Mr. Milan called the Board Meeting to order at 6:01P.M. He welcomed all that were listening or viewing the meeting. He stated the COVID-19 pandemic had made it necessary to conduct the meeting using technology for staff as well as for the general public. Those wishing to offer comments during the Public Comments section could click on the raised hand feature at the bottom of the application or window or press Star 9 and be connected by phone. As always, the public could email or call the BPU with any concerns. The Agenda could be found on the BPU website. If they were using Zoom, it would appear on their screen. Mr. Milan introduced himself and the other Board Members along with the General Manager, and Legal Counsel.

Roll call was taken and all Board Members were present via teleconference.

Item #3 – Approval of Agenda

A motion was made to approve the Agenda by Mr. Bryant, seconded by Mr. Groneman, and unanimously carried.

Item #4 – Approval of Work Session Minutes

A motion was made to approve the minutes of the Work Session of June 2, 2021 by Ms. Gonzales, seconded by Mr. Eidson, and unanimously carried.

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Item #5 – Approval of Regular Session Minutes

A motion was made to approve the minutes of the Regular Session of June 2, 2021 by Mr. Bryant, seconded by Ms. Gonzales, and unanimously carried.

Item #6 – Public Comments

Mr. Ty Gorman, 2843 Parkwood Blvd., spoke about volunteering for Build Power MoKan’s working with folks who couldn’t get through the KERA program. They were continuing to call for a moratorium on shut-offs as KERA works to get folks into the system. He also made a request for a medical/life support program in regards to shut-offs and the extreme weather policy.

Mr. Dustin Hare, 7800 W. 60th Terr., followed up on Mr. Gorman’s comments on the KERA program. As an organizer with WyCo Mutual Aid he said that Catholic Charities was the only organization with money for utility assistance. He was calling on the reinstatement of the shut-off moratorium and also spoke on the DME proposed program.

Ms. Christina Ostmeier, 4318 Cambridge St., spoke in solidarity with Build Power MoKan and Wyandotte County Mutual Aid those facing utility shut-off. She also commented about Board meeting accessibility.

Ms. Louise Lynch, 737 Miami Ave., commented about the need to extend the moratorium and also spoke on the DME. She also commented on meeting with the Board.

Mr. Brian Matlock, 512 N. Thompson St., wanted to echo the previous statements and also expressed the need to get the word out about the KERA program.

Ms. Emily Wolfe, 4449 Booth St., spoke in support the previous comments of the issues with the KERA program.

Ms. Sara Brown, 2318 Everett, spoke in solidarity with everyone who spoke before.

Item #7 – General Manager / Staff Reports

- i. *COVID-19 Update:* Mr. Johnson, gave an update on company COVID-19 matters.

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- ii. *KERA Program Update:* Mr. Johnson updated the Board on BPU’s continuing communication with KERA administrators regarding topics such as, complications with the program and what our community needed to obtain assistance. As the program required an applicant to be a renter, we were going to ask if the State of Kansas could provide more dollars to assist the non-profits who were trying to provide help to the customer.

He was made aware that there were submissions in the system whose status was, non-complete. He urged applicants to check the status of their applications but also to continue to make partial payments on their bill, continue to make requests for utility assistance, and work with the utility, as there was no way of knowing what the rejection rate would be. The BPU would continue to work with customers and the State of Kansas, and those who had submitted a KERA application would be kept in a non-disconnect status.

Mr. Johnson responded to questions and comments from the Board.

- iii. *Doing Business with BPU / Local Vendors:* Ms. Becky Aldinger, Director Purchasing/ Supply Chain, spoke to the Board and presented a PowerPoint about our processes in doing business with vendors. (see attached)
- iv. *Waiving Water Fees East of I-635 – Resolution #5261:* Mr. Johnson and Ms. Lawson gave an overview regarding the waiving of water fees East of I-635 to help with the revitalization of the community in order to help it grow.

Mr. Johnson answered questions from the Board.

A motion was made to adopt Resolution #5261, Waiving Water Fees East of I-635, by Mr. Groneman, seconded by Ms. Gonzales, and unanimously carried.

- v. *Infill Housing – Resolution #5262:* Mr. Johnson gave a review of this resolution to primarily address Land Bank properties.

Mr. Johnson answered questions from the Board and there was Board discussion.

A motion was made to adopt Resolution #5262, Waiving of Certain Fees in Support of the Unified Government Infill Housing Program, by Mr. Bryant, seconded by Ms. Gonzales.

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Roll call was taken;

Mr. Eidson – No

Mr. Groneman – Yes

Mr. Milan – Yes

Mr. Bryant – Yes

Ms. Gonzales – Yes

Ms. Mulvany Henry – No

The motion carried 4-2.

- vi. *Miscellaneous Comments:* Mr. Johnson spoke on upcoming meetings; requests had been sent to the Board on various topics. He also commented on the recent BPU substation outage due to another utility’s transformer fire. He also spoke on the storms of the previous weekend and gave kudos to staff in getting power restored.

Item #8 – Board Comments

Mr. Eidson also thanked all the crews for promptly getting power back on.

Mr. Groneman echoed kudos to the crews.

Mr. Bryant spoke on the importance of day to day maintenance and how that aids in storm recovery and also gave kudos to staff. He also stated that he would not be in attendance for the July 7 Board meeting.

Ms. Gonzales thanked the crews for their work during both outages. She also commented on the recent Board governance workshop and thanked Mr. McKenzie and Ms. Aldinger for their presentations.

Ms. Mulvany Henry wanted the crews to know how much their efforts were appreciated. Thanks to Jerry and Becky. She also commented on the resolutions passed and on the request for assistance in the public comments.

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Mr. Milan echoed all of the previous comments and spoke about the far-reaching responsibilities that the Board had on the community.

Item #10 – Adjourn

A motion was made to adjourn the Regular Session at 7:40 P.M. by Mr. Eidson, seconded by Mr. Bryant, and unanimously carried.

ATTEST:

Secretary



APPROVED:

President





Doing Business with BPU

June 16, 2021

Doing Business with BPU

- Overview of BPU
 - BPU is a publicly owned utility company. We are honored to provide over 65,000 electric customers and more than 53,000 water customers with safe, dependable and affordable utilities.
 - Our mission is to focus on our customers' needs and improve the quality of life in our community by promoting safe, reliable and sustainable utilities. That's the Power of Community.
 - BPU is an active partner in the community and we participate in a variety of volunteer, civic leadership and charity activities.

Doing Business with BPU

- Purchasing & Supply Chain Department
 - Provide support to BPU’s engineering, construction and operations teams for both electric and water along with other Corporate departments - HR, IT, etc.
 - Manage approximately \$20 million inventory and annual spend to support all purchasing for BPU.
 - Small team of procurement professionals with diverse backgrounds
 - Stores and Inventory team

What Does BPU Buy?

Electric - Transmission and Distribution

- Pole line hardware
- Substation equipment
- Street lights and equipment
- Transformers
- Wire and cable
- Poles



What Does BPU Buy?

- Electric - Generation
 - Maintenance, repair & operations (MRO) materials
 - Control and instrumentation materials
 - Boiler materials
 - Industrial electrical components - fuses, bearings, etc.
 - Valves, fittings



What Does BPU Buy?

- Water Operations
 - Maintenance, repair & operations (MRO) materials
 - Pipe
 - Valves, fittings
- Business and Corporate Services
 - Information Technology
 - Hardware - Desktops, laptops, servers, routers, telecom equipment, etc.
 - Software systems and support
 - Facility maintenance & management services



What Does BPU Buy?

- Construction Related Services/Miscellaneous
 - Environmental services
 - Engineering services
 - Project management services & consultants
 - Vegetation management services
 - Fleet vehicles including gas



How to Do Business with BPU

Suppliers that are not yet doing business with BPU must first register as a bidder for Goods or Construction Goods and Services

- Register in BPU's Supplier Portal for Goods - Fusion
 - Registration link: [Fusion Supplier Registration](#)
 - Additional information link: **Coming Soon!**
- Register in DemandStar for Construction Goods & Services
 - Registration link: [DemandStar Registration](#)
 - Contact DemandStar: 866-273-1863

Diverse & Local Suppliers

When we contribute to the success of diverse and local suppliers, we support the supplier, BPU and the local economy and we all benefit.

Certifying Agencies

- National Minority Supplier Council (NMSDA) or any of its state affiliates
- Women’s Business Enterprise National Council
- US Small Business Administration
- More certifying agencies coming soon! If you are certified and your agency is not listed, please reach out and we will determine if we can add your agency to our list





Diverse & Local Suppliers

BPU's Local Vendor Preference

BPU provides a preference to local suppliers whenever practical and in the best interest of BPU. The amount of preference shall be from a minimum of one percent (1%) to a maximum of five percent (5%) based on the total amount of the bid.

A local vendor or supplier is any individual or business that maintains a substantial business site within the service territory of the BPU and pays rates for water, electricity or both services prior to submission of a bid, quote or proposal. Factors to be considered by the BPU in applying the local vendor preference shall include the economic benefit to Wyandotte County, the number of employees hired by the local vendor or supplier who reside in Wyandotte County, and other factors as deemed relevant by the General Manager.

Additional Terms and Conditions apply. See BPU's web page:
<https://www.bpu.com/Portals/0/pdf/local-preference-policy-2020.pdf>

Additional Information

Follow BPU on social media:

 [Facebook](#)  [Twitter](#)  [LinkedIn](#)  [YouTube](#)  [Nextdoor](#)

 Visit our website: www.bpu.com

 Visit our Vendors/Suppliers webpage:
<https://www.bpu.com/ForBusiness/VendorsSuppliers.aspx>

 Email for questions or comments: Purchasing@bpu.com

Additional Comments

- Presented to Chamber of Commerce - Lunch and Learn - June 16, 2021
- WYCO Vendor Fair - June 22, 2021
- Coming Soon - updates to Vendor/Suppliers section on website

Questions?

