

REGULAR SESSION –WEDNESDAY MARCH 18, 2020

STATE OF KANSAS)
) SS
CITY OF KANSAS CITY)

The Board of Public Utilities of Kansas City, Kansas (aka BPU, We, Us, Our) met in Regular Session on Wednesday, March 18, 2020 at 6:00 P.M. The following Board Members were present: Ryan Eidson, President; Robert L. Milan, Vice President; Mary Gonzales, Secretary; Jeff Bryant, Rose Mulvany Henry and Thomas Groneman.

Note: Mr. Milan joined the meeting via telephone.

Also present: William Johnson, General Manager; Angela Lawson, Deputy Chief Counsel; Lori Austin, Chief Financial Officer/Chief Administrative Officer; Jim Epp, Executive Director Water; Johnetta Hinson, Executive Director Customer Service; Dennis Dumovich, Director Human Resources; Jeremy Ash, Executive Director Electric Operations; and Ashley Culp, Human Resources Generalist Employment.

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

Mr. Eidson called the Board Meeting to order at 6:01 P.M.

Roll call was taken and all Board Members were present. Mr. Milan by phone.

Motion was made to approve the Amended Agenda by Ms. Gonzales, seconded by Ms. Mulvany Henry, and carried. The Agenda was amended to include Pandemic Update and Action, Resolution #5252 and remove the Leavenworth Road Association Neighborhood Business Revitalization Update.

Motion was made to approve the Minutes of the Work Session of March 4, 2020 by Mr. Groneman, seconded by Mr. Bryant, and carried.

Motion was made to approve the Minutes of the Regular Session of March 4, 2020 by Mr. Bryant, seconded by Ms. Gonzales, and carried.

Item #6 - Customer Comments

No visitors wished to address the Board.

Item #7 Apprentice Program – Jeremy Ash

Mr. Ash and Ms. Culp gave a PowerPoint presentation on the Apprentice Lineman Program (attached).

Mr. Ash, Ms. Culp, Mr. Johnson answered questions from the Board.

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Item #8 –Pandemic Update and Actions

Mr. Johnson provided an update on the pandemic and the safety measures needed.

Ms. Lawson requested the adoption of Resolution No. 5252 granting additional authority to the General Manager during the state of emergency caused by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Ms. Lawson addressed questions from the Board and the Board Members discussed the update and resolution.

Motion was made to adopt Resolution #5252 by Mr. Bryant seconded by Ms. Gonzales, roll call was taken and the motion carried unanimously.

The Board and staff discussed how BPU would handle day-to-day operations, recommended the lobby be closed, determination of essential/non-essential employees still to come, documenting the continuity plans, and determined to hold meetings remotely or via telephone during the pandemic for the next two months.

Mr. Ash, Mr. Johnson, and Ms. Lawson answered questions from the Board and discussed the Open Meetings Act regulations.

Item #9 - Board Comments

Mr. Milan had no comments.

Ms. Gonzales thanked Mr. Ash and Ms. Culp.

Mr. Groneman was sorry that BPU would not be able to host the Lineman's Rodeo due to the pandemic. He thanked the staff for all their work.

Mr. Ash discussed the work that went into the Rodeo and that the next years were already booked in other locations.

Mr. Bryant had no comments.

Ms. Mulvany Henry had no comments.

Mr. Eidson had no comments.

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Item #10 - General Manager Comments


Mr. Johnson was expecting to have more comments about COVID-19 and would be releasing more information in the future.

Motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 7:01 P.M. by Mr. Eidson, seconded by Ms. Mulvany Henry, and carried.

ATTEST:

Not signed by secretary due
Secretary *to pandemic*

APPROVED:



President

Christina J. May
Administrative Assistant



Apprentice Lineman Program

March 18, 2020



Agenda

- Journey Lineman Demand
- BPU's Apprentice Program
- Selection of Apprentice Candidates
- Cost for Apprentice to Start Program
- Current Programs



Journeyman Lineman Demand

According to the Department of Labor the demand for Journey Level Lineman will go up 8% by 2028 both at the national level and state level

National	2018 - Employment	2028 - Employment	Percent Change	Projected Annual Job Openings*
United States	119,400	128,900	8%	11,400

State	2016 – Employment	2026 – Employment	Percent Change	Projected Annual Job Openings*
Kansas	1,760	1,900	+8%	160

* Projected Annual Job Openings refers to average annual job openings due to growth and net replacement.





BPU's Apprentice Program

- BPU started their DOL recognized program in the 1970s
- Since 2006, the apprentice program has successfully developed 11 Journey Level Lineman
- Overseen by six member Joint Apprenticeship Committee
- Ratio of one Apprentice Lineman to four Journey Level Lineman
- Training period for this program is 8,000 on-the-job training hours
- 654 hours of classroom instruction





Selection of Apprentice Candidates

- Position posted for internal candidate for 14 business days
- Selection of apprentice openings will be on the basis of seniority and qualifications without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, or age
- Pass a Criteria Basic Skills Test and Wiesen Test of Mechanical Aptitude
- Pass a Human Performance Evaluation physical test
- Ability to obtain a Commercial Driver's License in the allowed timeframe
- High School Diploma or the equivalent
- Good attendance and a good safety record



Cost for Apprentice to Start Program

- Required Equipment for Day One of the Pole Yard:

Needed Item	Cost
Lineman's Belt	\$250 - \$550
Tool Holster, Pouch and Tools	\$200
Gaff Hooks and Guards	\$230+
Boot with a heel	\$100- \$500
Total Average Cost:	\$800+

Current Programs

- Last program started on January 4, 2018 - have four-two year apprentice that currently are able to work on energized line work with a journey level lineman observing
- On March 5, 2020, BPU accepted six apprentice lineman into the program

