

CITY OF LA JUNTA)
COUNTY OF OTERO)
STATE OF COLORADO)

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Subject to approval at the February 9, 2010 Regular Board Meeting.
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A Regular Meeting of the Board of Utilities Commissioners of the City of La Junta, Colorado was called to order by Chairman Lorenz Sutherland on Tuesday, January 12, 2010, at 4:00 p.m. in the Power Board Room of the Municipal Building.

Roll was called and the following Board Members were present:

Bob Freidenberger, Council Representative
Allen Hill, Commissioner
Carl Otteman, Commissioner
Don Rizzuto, Mayor
P. Lorenz Sutherland, Chairman

Absent: None

Also present: Rick Klein, City Manager
Bill Jackson, Assistant City Manager
Lloyd Smith, Electric Utility Director
Joe Kelley, Director of Water and Wastewater Treatment
Patty Hurt, Finance Director
Dan Eveatt, Director of Engineering
Jan Schooley, City Clerk
Billie Johnson, City Council
Lisa Steeves, Tribune-Democrat

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING: Chairman Sutherland asked if there were any corrections to the minutes of the Regular Meeting of December 8, 2009. Hearing none he declared the minutes approved as published.

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION – None

REPORTS

Water & Wastewater Treatment. Joe Kelley gave the following report:

1. The storage tanks project is going well. The steel sides to the tanks have reached the top – twenty-four feet tall at the Smithland site and forty feet tall at the Airport site.
2. We moved a fire hydrant on Belmont and 9th to make room for a new sidewalk that is part of the Belmont Avenue project.
3. We installed three new manholes on San Juan Avenue between 14th and 22nd. These were needed on main line runs of over 600 feet, which made proper cleaning and maintenance very difficult.
4. Parker Ag hauled 100,400 gallons of biosolids in December.
5. The crew cleaned 2,800 feet of sewer mains.

Power Plant & Distribution. Lloyd Smith gave the following report.

1. We are continuing to work to replace unit #7 generator breaker. That breaker is scheduled for delivery on Monday, January 18.
2. The line crew has removed and stored all of the Christmas lighting and decorations.
3. We have installed two new tornado sirens for the Fire Department. One is located on the west side of town behind Little Caesar's and the other is in a city well field in North La Junta. They will both be operational soon.
4. The line crew is doing some line maintenance on our primary circuit in North La Junta through the well fields.

5. The next ARPA Board Meeting will be held in La Junta at the OJC Student Center beginning at 10 AM, January 28.
6. The final settlement of the Raton-ARPA litigation is scheduled for completion January 15.
7. ARPA has been notified that Wild Earth Guardians are trying to get a Cease and Desist Order to shut down the Lamar power plant.

Sanitation. Dan Eveatt gave the following report:

1. The numbers for December 2009 and down just a little compared to December 2008.
2. Wal-Mart has started to recycle some of their groceries for composting which has affected the waste stream as far as what we haul off for them. Another vendor is picking up their grocery waste.
3. OCLI is considering making some changes in the operation of the County Landfill. They are looking at starting a “pay as you throw” program. But before they establish any tipping fees, they want to do an evaluation of their waste stream during 2010.
4. Kois is putting together specifications for a new sanitation truck. The 2009 demo model had too many problems, so we decided not to purchase it.

NEW BUSINESS**A. City Manager’s Comments**

1. The Electric Department crews will be mulching Christmas trees starting tomorrow at the vacant lot across from Boss Hogg’s on Adams. People may pick up free mulch at that site.
2. The new water and sewer rates go into effect this month. A brochure will be mailed with each bill explaining the new rates. Also the Utilities Department will be sending out informational brochures throughout the year.
3. I want to thank everyone for their hard work last year and I look forward to good things in 2010.

B. City Attorney’s Comments - None**C. Governing Body’s Comments**

1. Freidenberger told the Board that he and Allen Hill and Lloyd Smith attended a conference call meeting with the ARPA Board concerning the Raton arbitration. Freidenberger was in South Carolina at the time.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 4:38 p.m.

CITY OF LA JUNTA

ATTEST:

P. Lorenz Sutherland, Chairman

Janice L. Schooley, City Clerk