

**ACTION MINUTES  
BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSIONERS  
CITY OF TULARE**

**December 19, 2019**

**A regular meeting of the Board of Public Utilities of the City of Tulare was held on Thursday, December 19, 2019 at 4:00 p.m. in the Tulare Public Library & Council Chamber, 491 North "M" Street.**

**BPU PRESENT:** Chris Harrell, Howard Stroman, Ray Fonseca, Rene Soto, Thomas Griesbach

**STUDENT PRESENT:** Abigail Lopez-Gonzalez, Gregory Garcia

**STAFF PRESENT:** Rob Hunt, Megan Dodd, Michael Miller, Darlene Thompson, Trisha Whitfield, Nick Bartsch, Jim Funk, Jason Bowling, Andrew Bettencourt, Mario Orosco, Art Avila, Tim Doyle, David Dodson, Melissa Hermann

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

Board President Harrell called the regular meeting to order at 4:02 p.m.

**II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND INVOCATION**

Jason Bender led the Pledge of Allegiance and an invocation was given by Board President Harrell.

**III. CITIZEN COMMENTS**

Board President Harrell requested those who wish to speak on matters not on the agenda within the jurisdiction of the Board, or to address or request a matter be pulled from the Consent Calendar to do so at this time. He further stated comments related to General Business matters would be heard at the time that matter is addressed on the agenda.

Charles Ritchie addressed the Board regarding city wells.

**IV. COMMUNICATIONS**

There were no items for the section of the agenda.

**V. CONSENT CALENDAR**

**It was moved by Board Member Soto, seconded by Vice President Stroman, and unanimously carried to approve items on the Consent Calendar as presented with the exception of items 1 and 5.**

- (1) **Approve the minutes of the December 5, 2019 regular meeting.** This item was pulled due to a clerical error.
- (2) **Accept the Monthly Investments Reports for October and November 2019.**
- (3) **Accept the Financial Status Report.**
- (4) **Receive the Public Works performance reports for November 2019.**
- (5) **Approve the purchase and installation of Advanced Meter Infrastructure (AMI) equipment and services from Core and Main using existing City of Tulare contract pricing not to exceed \$183,000 and approve the revised project WT0049, accelerating the project to FY 2019/2020 and increasing the total budget to \$183,000.** Board Member Griesbach pulled this item for clarification. IT Manager Jason Bowling provided a response thereto. Following discussion, it was moved by Board Member Griesbach, seconded by Board Member Fonseca, and unanimously carried to approve the item as presented.

## VI. STUDENT REPORTS

Teens-On-Board representative Abigail Lopez-Gonzalez and Gregory Garcia updated the Board on school related activities.

## VII. GENERAL BUSINESS

- (1) **Award and authorize the City Manager to sign a contract with Telstar Instruments of Concord, CA in an amount not to exceed \$1,988,800 for electrical system upgrades associated with Project WW0048 – WPCF New MCC & Electrical Reconfiguration Project, and authorize the City Manager or designee to approve contract change orders in an amount not to exceed 10% (\$198,880) of the contract award amount; and, approve the revised project budget.** Project Manager Jim Funk provided a report for the Board's review and consideration. Questions posed by the Board were responded to by Mr. Funk and Public Works Director Trisha Whitfield. Following discussion, it was moved by Vice President Stroman, seconded by Board Member Fonseca, and unanimously carried to approve the item as presented.
- (2) **Authorize the City Manager to approve a contract change order for the Sequencing Batch Reactor (SBR) Inspection and Maintenance Services to B. R. Frost Company, Inc. of Huntington Beach in the amount of \$19,415.00 for the additional repairs to SBR basin #5.** Public Works Director Trisha Whitfield provided a report for the Board's review and consideration. Questions posed by the Board were responded to by Ms. Whitfield. It was moved by Board Member Fonseca, seconded by Board Member Soto, and unanimously carried to approve the item as presented.
- (3) **Award the purchase of 3,180 automated refuse cans to Cascade Cart Solutions, using NJPA Contract No. 041219-CEI in the amount of \$162,570.72, which includes tax and shipping.** Solid Waste Manager Art Avila provided a

report for the Board's review and consideration. Following discussion, it was moved by Board Member Griesbach, seconded by Vice President Stroman, and unanimously carried to approve the item as presented.

**VIII. ITEMS OF INTEREST**

Items of interest were discussed amongst the Board and staff.

**IX. ADJOURNMENT**

Board President Harrell adjourned the regular meeting at 4:56 p.m.

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President of the Board of Public Utilities  
Commissioners of the City of Tulare

**ATTEST:**

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Secretary of the Board of  
Public Utilities Commissioners