

**Utility Advisory Board MEETING**  
**November 11, 2008**  
**City Council Work Session Room, City Hall**  
**Minutes**

Attendance: Billy Thompson, Tony Torres, R Lee Alewine, Linda K Campbell, Gary Pickens, J Chris Luna

Staff: Ray Schwertner, Johnny Carlock, Minh Ngo, Carol Bentzlin

Guest: City Council Member: Preston Edwards

**Item 1:** Meeting was called to order by First Vice Chair Chris Luna at 6:00 p.m.

**Item 2:** The minutes from October 28, 2008 were considered for approval with no revisions. Motion: Chris Luna. Motion was 2<sup>nd</sup>: Billy Thompson.  
Motion carried.

**Item 3. GP&L Transmission and Distribution:** Johnny Carlock gave a presentation on the Transmission and Distribution Department (T&D) as that department's director. T&D is a nonprofit municipal entity of GP&L with no investors. Its purpose is to serve Garland customers and to create revenue for the City and its customers. 85% of the space at COG's Warehouse is used for T&D inventory. The department is charged with balancing reliability with service and costs that will not affect customer service.

Capital Budget projects are evaluated as viable, a good business decision and balancing costs. GP&L is seeking to use FERC accounting procedures to measure performance. A consultant converts the financial data for rate cases from the current COG accounting system into the FERC system. ERCOT oversees all planning and approval of future transmission projects. It also sets the rates for GP&L Transmission lines and substations. City Council sets the distribution rates for its customers.

There are no plans to convert underground loops in the older residential areas due to the lack of easements and the expense. Underground lines within conduit are required in all new developments.

**Item 4:UAB By-Laws**

The committee reviewed the draft by-laws and suggested some changes. City Council would review the changes and would have to approve any changes to the ordinance that governs the UAB. Those changes are listed below:

1. Attendance issue, Section 1, Article V
  - a. Add "Excused Absence" clause

2. Change the name to Electric Utility Board, Section 4
3. List the Duties of UAB, Article 2, Section 4
  - a. Add detail to UAB duties.
  - b. Discuss how UAB, as the role of ambassador, hears the public's input on issues and how the UAB can get info out to the public.
4. Merge and refine the By-Laws with the Ordinance
5. Meeting Monthly, Section 1.
  - a. Make allowance for exceptions to "meeting every month" so the UAB is not out of compliance.
  - b. Under Roll Call, Standing Agenda Item should be "excused absences". Revised By-Laws will be reviewed at the January meeting.

**Item 5: GP&L Briefing on Significant Electric Developments**

GP&L Director Ray Schwertner briefly discussed the following topics:

- a. Delay of formal Nodal Market to 2010 or 2011
- b. Expense of Nodal Market to date and the expected expense in the future.
- c. Transmission Renewal Energy Zones (CREZ) costs for west Texas Wind Farms
- d. Texas Municipal Power Agency (TMPA)'s debt refinancing
- e. TMPA's legal suit with City of Bryan

UAB members request that GP&L send news releases via email to UAB so they may keep up with current developments and keep the public informed.

**Item 6: Future Agenda Items**

Call to order & Roll Call

Consider approval of the UAB minutes of November 11th, 2008.

GP&L presentation: Customer Service

Report on Committee Assignments

Review of pertinent electric information

Future Agenda Items

The next UAB meeting will be on January 27, 2009.

**Item 11: Adjourn**

The meeting was adjourned by First Vice Chair Chris Luna at 7:26 pm.

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Carol Bentzlin, Secretary

Date:

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Chris Luna, First Vice Chair