

REGULAR MEETING OF KISSIMMEE UTILITY AUTHORITY HELD WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 10, 2024 AT 3:30 P.M., BRINSON BOARD ROOM, JAMES C. WELSH ADMINISTRATION BUILDING, 1701 WEST CARROLL STREET, KISSIMMEE, FLORIDA

Present were Director Manny Ortega, Director Rae Hemphill, Director Reginald Hardee, Director Ethel Urbina, Director Jeanne Van Meter, President & General Manager, Brian Horton, General Counsel, Grant Lacerte and Recording Secretary, Margie Boles. Mayor Gonzalez was not present.

A. MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

Director Ortega called the meeting to order at 3:30 p.m.

B. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG

The Board members and staff recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

C. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

**ACTION: Director Van Meter made a motion, seconded by Director Hardee to approve the agenda.**

**MOTION PASSED 5 – 0**

D. AWARDS AND PRESENTATIONS

1. AMERICAN PUBLIC POWER ASSOCIATION (APPA) CUSTOMER SATISFACTION AWARD

Tiffany Henderson, Director of Corporate Communications advised the Board that KUA earned a Public Power Customer Satisfaction Award from APPA. The Customer Satisfaction Award is the result of receiving high marks from customers in areas of: customer service, field personnel, communication, reliability, value, outage response, innovation, and overall satisfaction. KUA was presented with a bronze level award.

2. 15-YEAR SERVICE AWARD – KASEE CAVALCANTE, WRITE OFF & BANKRUPTCY SPECIALIST, CUSTOMER SERVICE

3. 15-YEAR SERVICE AWARD – JEFF THOMPSON, ENGINEER I, POWER SUPPLY

4. 20-YEAR SERVICE AWARD – JANA E TREACY, CUSTOMER SERVICE REPRESENTATIVE II, CUSTOMER SERVICE

5. EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH FOR JANUARY 2023 – JORGE CARRERO, MANAGER OF MATERIALS MANAGEMENT, OPERATIONS

Mr. Horton advised Jorge is not present however, he was recognized and congratulated for being selected employee of the month for January 2024.

6. EMPLOYEE OF THE YEAR FOR 2023 – ROXANNA PASSINI, GIS TECHNICIAN, OPERATIONS

Mr. Horton congratulated Roxanna as KUA's 2023 Employee of the Year.

7. RECOGNITION OF 2024 CALENDAR ART CONTEST WINNERS

Ms. Henderson introduced the winners of KUA's 2024 Energy Conservation Calendar and KUA's newest mascot, Sparky was present as well. The 12 winners are as follows; Highlands Elementary - Aubrie Rios Colon, grade 3 (grand prize winner); Celebration K-8 School - Karsyn Crowell, grade 1; Holy Redeemer Catholic School - Emma Gonzalez, grade 3; Highlands Elementary - Yusuf Adam, grade 3; St. Cloud Elementary School - Faithlyn Selvam, grade 4; Holy Redeemer Catholic School - Julianna Mapalo, grade 5; Holy Redeemer Catholic School - Isabella Salas Humbria, grade 1; Holy Redeemer Catholic School - Victor Grzeskowiak, grade 4; Lakeview Elementary School - Jaysiah Carr, grade 1; Celebration K-8 School - Mario Corcino, grade 4; Celebration K-8 School - Rodrigo Paez Pinto, grade Kindergarten; The Vine Christian Academy - Shanty Zarrazaga, grade 3.

At 3:45 p.m. Director Ortega requested a 10 minute recess.

Director Ortega called the meeting to order at 3:55 p.m.

E. HEAR THE AUDIENCE

Director Ortega asked if anyone from the public would like to address the Board. In hearing none, the Board moved forward.

F. CONSENT AGENDA

**ACTION: Director Van Meter made a motion, seconded by Director Hemphill, to approve items 1 – 4 under the consent agenda.**

**MOTION PASSED 5 – 0**

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR DECEMBER 6, 2023 BOARD MEETING
2. APPROVAL OF HELP NOW OF OSCEOLA, INC SPONSORSHIP

**RECOMMENDATION: Approve a \$12,000 sponsorship to support Help Now of Osceola Inc.**

3. APPROVAL OF MARCH FOR MEALS SPONSORSHIP

**RECOMMENDATION: Approve a \$10,000 sponsorship of the Osceola Council on Aging's March for Meals 5K Walk/Run, benefiting the Meals on Wheels program.**

4. APPROVAL FOR ANNUAL RENEWAL OF HARRIS/ADVANCED INFINITY CIS SOFTWARE SUPPORT AND MAINTENANCE

**RECOMMENDATION: Approve the annual CIS maintenance and support expenditure with Advanced Utility Systems in the amount of \$366,538.68 and authorize the President and General Manager to execute any necessary documentation.**

G. PUBLIC HEARING - None

H. INFORMATIONAL PRESENTATIONS (REQUIRING NO ACTION)

1. RUNWAY TO HOPE ORGANIZATION

Ms. Henderson introduced Laura Lockner, Executive Director of Runway to Hope Inc. and Ms. Rachel Coudriet, Board Member of Runway to Hope. Ms. Coudriet shared a short presentation on how the organization has helped families. Ms. Lockner thanked KUA for its continued support throughout the years.

The Board thanked the organization for what they do.

I. OLD BUSINESS - None

J. NEW BUSINESS - None

K. STAFF REPORTS

1. HUMAN RESOURCES SEMI-ANNUAL REPORT

Ms. Cindy Herrera, vice president of Human Resources, presented an overview on the various Human Resource related statistics, which included demographics in the workplace, KUA's Tuition Reimbursement Program, worker's compensation, safety & risk management, health care costs and wellness initiatives.

Director Urbina asked if the employees have ever learned about a condition they may have through the on-site biometrics screening.

Ms. Herrera advised there have been many times employees thanked Human Resources for providing the screenings because they have been able to care for problems they didn't know they had.

Director Hemphill asked if these services are also provided at Cane Island. Ms. Herrera advised every effort is made to incorporate all of the organization.

The Board thanked Cindy for her report.

L. HEAR THE ATTORNEY, GENERAL MANAGER, DIRECTORS

Grant Lacerte, General Counsel advised that KUA received its first grant award; IT received a grant which will give us the accessibility to a security operations platform.

Mr. Lacerte provided an update on legislative matters regarding the General Transfer Bill.

Director Van Meter asked what is the reasoning on the general transfer bill since everyone is doing well. Mr. Lacerte advised that these customers, outside the city limit, have no say in terms on how the money is spent.


Director Hardee thanked staff, the presenters and the parents that support the children for the calendar contest.

The Board wished everyone a Happy New Year.

M. ADJOURNMENT

Director Ortega adjourned the meeting at 4:28 p.m.

  
Chairman

  
Secretary