

REGULAR MEETING OF KISSIMMEE UTILITY AUTHORITY HELD WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 2025 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 Melissa Thacker, Director Michele Lebron, Mayor Jackie Espinosa, President & General Manager, Brian Horton, General Counsel, Grant Lacerte and Acting Recording Secretary, Christine Reese

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

Mr. Horton advised a correction to agenda item I-1, clarifying that the RFP number listed on the agenda should state RFP Amendment No. 5 for RFP 19-021-CV.

**ACTION: Director Hemphill made a motion, seconded by Director Thacker. Chairman Ortega advised the question was moved and seconded to approve the agenda with the correction to item I-1.**

**MOTION PASSED 5 - 0**

D. AWARDS AND PRESENTATIONS

1. 5 -YEAR SERVICE AWARD – MARIO LEMMON, PP OPERATIONS TECHNICIAN II, POWER SUPPLY
2. 20 -YEAR SERVICE AWARD – MARILYN GRANDE, CUSTOMER SERVICE SUPERVISOR, CUSTOMER SERVICE
3. 30 - YEAR SERVICE AWARD – STEVE D'AURIA, ENGINEERING TECHNICIAN II, OPERATIONS
4. EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH FOR NOVEMBER 2025 – EDINSON ARAGON, FACILITIES MAINTENANCE WORKER, GENERAL MANAGEMENT

Mr. Horton congratulated Edinson for being selected employee of the month for October 2025.

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 Hemphill made a motion, seconded by Director Hardee. Chairman Ortega advised the question was moved and seconded to approve items 1 - 4 under the consent agenda.**

**MOTION PASSED 5 - 0**

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR OCTOBER 1, 2025 BOARD MEETING
2. APPROVAL OF THE PURCHASE OF ONE (1) 2026, 55-FOOT ALTEC AERIAL (BUCKET) TRUCK

**RECOMMENDATION: Approve the purchase of a 2026, 55-foot Altec aerial bucket truck for a total not to exceed amount of \$368,285.00 and authorize**

**the President and General Manager to execute any necessary documents to complete the purchase.**

3. OSCEOLA EDUCATION FOUNDATION SPONSORSHIP

**RECOMMENDATION: Approve a \$15,000 sponsorship to support the Education Foundation of Osceola County.**

4. HOPE PARTNERSHIP

**RECOMMENDATION: Approve a \$10,000 sponsorship to support the Hope Partnership.**

G. PUBLIC HEARING - None

H. INFORMATIONAL PRESENTATIONS (REQUIRING NO ACTION)

1. EDUCATION FOUNDATION

Tiffany Henderson, Director of Corporate Communications, introduced Kerry Avery, Executive Director; Savannah Bellovin, Project Manager; and Kathy Pierson, Chair of the Board, from the Education Foundation.

Ms. Avery expressed her gratitude for KUA's continued partnership and support of the Foundation over the past 25 years, emphasizing the shared commitment to strengthening the community and supporting Osceola County's public education system.

Director Ortega shared that he attended the Osceola School Department Update this morning and witnessed a testimony from a school committee member who expressed their gratitude towards the Education Foundation.

I. OLD BUSINESS

1. APPROVAL OF CONTRACT AMENDMENT NO. 5 FOR RFP 19-021-CV WITH GRESKO UTILITY SUPPLY FOR POLE AND PAD MOUNT TRANSFORMERS

Mark Flury, Vice President of Engineering & Operations, provided an overview of the continuing purchase contract with Gresco Utility Supply for pole-mount and pad-mount transformers used throughout KUA's electric distribution system. He reminded the Board that in February 2019, the Board approved a contract (RFP #19-021-CV) with Gresco Utility Supply for an initial three-year term, with two optional one-year renewals, for the provision of pole-mount and pad-mount transformers.

Mr. Flury explained that KUA utilizes a variety of single-phase and three-phase transformers for residential and commercial applications. He highlighted ongoing supply chain and pricing challenges across the utility industry due to increased demand, limited manufacturing capacity, and extended lead times—factors driven by growth, labor shortages, and major weather events. Lead times for three-phase transformers remain extended, ranging from approximately 16 weeks for units under 1,000 kVA to 20 weeks or longer for larger sizes.

While lead times are improving, inventory shortages continue to affect KUA's operations. A total of 206 transformers are currently on order to support upcoming development projects and replacements.

Mr. Flury noted that extending the contract with Gresco ensures priority manufacturing slots, guaranteed monthly shipments, and reduced lead times, benefits not available through spot-buying. The Department of Energy's new efficiency standards have been deferred to 2029, allowing the continuation of current specifications.

Director Hardee asked Mr. Horton, how KUA's organizational peers are managing similar situations. Mr. Horton responded that the utilities KUA works closely with are maintaining their existing contracts where possible.

**ACTION: Director Hardee made a motion, seconded by Director Thacker. Chairman Ortega advised the question was moved and seconded to approve i) the fifth amendment with GRESCO Utility Supply, Contract RFP #19-021-CV, to extend the term through February 2028, ii) increase the purchase authority to \$7,000,000 per year and iii) authorize the President and General Manager to execute the Contract Amendment.**

**MOTION PASSED 5 - 0**

**2. APPROVAL OF AWARD OF TRANSMISSION & SUBSTATION STRUCTURES FOR THE VAN METER SUBSTATION**

Mark Flury, Vice President of Engineering & Operations, provided an update on the Van Meter Substation project, currently in the design phase. The new substation will support development in the northwest district of KUA's service territory. He advised that staff completed an annual distribution planning report to determine where additional substation infrastructure is needed to accommodate anticipated system growth. The cost of the Van Meter Substation is included in the Board approved Capital Budget.

Mr. Flury shared that as part of the Van Meter Substation project, transmission structures are required to connect the new substation to Transmission Line 04-0710, which links KUA's Lake Cecille Substation to Duke Energy's Lake Bryan Substation; and thus, staff is recommending approval of award for these transmission and substation structures

**ACTION: Director Thacker made a motion, seconded by Director Hardee. Chairman Ortega advised the question was moved and seconded to award the contract for delivery of transmission and substation structures for the Van Meter Substation project to Superior Power Products LLC (SPP)/DISTRAN Steel for \$1,045,237.60 (includes a 10% contingency) and authorize staff to negotiate satisfactory contract terms for delivery of transmission structures for the new Van Meter substation, and authorize the President and General Manager to execute all necessary contract documents.**

**MOTION PASSED 5 - 0**

**J. NEW BUSINESS**

**1. AUTHORIZATION TO INITIATE UPDATES TO THE ELECTRIC SERVICE TARIFFS**

Kevin Crawford, Vice President of Finance & Administration, advised the Board that staff is recommending the following tariff changes to be sent to the Florida Public Service Commission for review and approval:

- Table of Contents 2.0
  - Update tariff to reflect changes as required due to the following items.
- Miscellaneous 4.0
  - Update tariff to define the e-FlexPay Program regarding payment for tampering and diversion balances.
- Net Metering Sheet 18.1, 18.2 to 18.7, 18.9 to 18.35
  - Update tariff to allow KUA to continue rolling forward accumulated credits to apply to the Customer's subsequent bill.
  - Update tariff agreements for
    - Tri-Party Net Metering Power Purchase Agreement
    - Standard interconnection for Tiers 1, 2 and 3
- Rider – Community Solar Rider (CSR) 19.0
  - Update tariff to provide KUA more flexibility to administer the program.
- Rate Schedule – Public Charging for Electric Vehicles 20.0
  - Add tariff to establish and define the Public Charging for Electric Vehicles at certain KUA owned stations billed through third-party billing provider.
    - This service provides for charging at different levels prevalent in the industry:
      - Level 2 (<20 KW) charge \$0.20 per kWh
      - Level 3 (>50 KW) charge \$0.40 per kWh
      - Idling fee \$1.00 per minute following a ten-minute grace period

- Billing is provided by a third-party provider
  - Charging Network Fees determined by network provider.  
(Currently \$0.25 per transaction + 4% of the transaction amount)

**ACTION:** Director Hemphill made a motion, seconded by Director Thacker. Chairman Ortega advised the question and seconded to authorize staff to send tariff sheets to the Florida Public Service Commission for review and advertise for a public hearing on December 3, 2025, with tariffs to be effective January 1, 2026, contingent on approval at the public hearing.

**MOTION PASSED 5 - 0**

Mr. Horton shared that during his earlier briefing with the Board, Director Hemphill inquired about how KUA plans to communicate the approved changes to the affected customers. Mr. Horton stated that staff is currently developing a communication plan to coincide with the rollout of the changes and that the updates will also be labeled on KUA's chargers located within the service territory.

## 2. APPROVAL OF AWARD FOR RFP 25-051-MC FOR DRONE INSPECTION SERVICES

Mark Flury, Vice President of Engineering & Operations, reported that KUA intends to utilize contractual services to conduct drone-based inspections of its transmission circuits on an as-needed basis. He noted that KUA has performed annual drone-based inspections of transmission facilities since 2020, with results used to identify requirements for annual transmission maintenance activities.

Mr. Flury outlined the key benefits of drone inspections, which includes safety; cost and efficiency; and data quality and analysis.

**ACTION:** Director Thacker made a motion, seconded by Director Lebron. Chairman Ortega advised the question was moved and seconded to approve the award of contract (RFP 25-051-MC) for Drone Inspection Services to Osmose Utility Services, Inc and Electric Sales Associates, Inc / Power Line Products, Inc for a three (3) year term with two (2) one (1) year renewal options with contract utilization based on lowest price and contractor availability to perform the work and authorize the President & General Manager to execute any necessary contract documents.

**MOTION PASSED 5 - 0**

Director Ortega agreed that it is prudent to proceed with two vendors to ensure continuity of service in the event of unforeseen issues, such as those that may arise during a hurricane.

## K. STAFF REPORTS

### 1. CORPORATE COMMUNICATIONS SEMI-ANNUAL STAFF REPORT

Tiffany Henderson, Director of Corporate Communications, provided an overview of current and upcoming department projects.

She reviewed the success of KUA's 40th Anniversary Celebration held on October 1<sup>st</sup> at the James Welsh Administration Building and its celebration continuation on October 3<sup>rd</sup> where KUA continued the celebration during Movie in the Park, which saw a strong turnout.

Ms. Henderson also provided a recap of the Community Connect event held on September 17<sup>th</sup>. She highlighted new outreach processes used to increase customer participation, including direct invitations; text and email reminders; streamlined staffing; and shared the turnout result of those outreach efforts.

Ms. Henderson presented new marketing assets promoting e-FlexPay, highlighting the program's benefits and functionality. She noted that an explainer video is now available on KUA's website for customers to further demonstrate how the program works.

Additionally, Ms. Henderson summarized the Big Grill's 2025 community impact, noting 29 reservations made by 23 organizations.

Ms. Henderson closed with reminding the Board of the following upcoming events:

- Movie in the Park: November 7th and December 5th
- Veterans Day Parade: November 8th
- Holiday Festival: December 13th

L. HEAR ATTORNEY, GENERAL MANAGER, DIRECTORS

Grant Lacerte, General Counsel, provided an update regarding Senate Bill 1386, which went into effect on October 1, 2025. The bill reclassifies and strengthens criminal penalties for assault and battery against utility workers performing essential infrastructure work, elevating the offense from a first-degree misdemeanor to a third-degree felony.

Brian Horton, President & General Manager, shared the reminders and upcoming events. Mr. Horton extended well wishes to all for a Happy Thanksgiving.


Director Lebron expressed her gratitude for the KUA 40th anniversary celebration and October's Movie in the Park, noting the wonderful experience shared by her and her family.

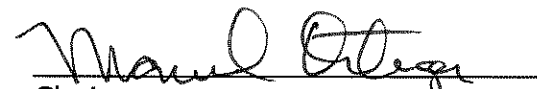
Mayor Espinosa expressed appreciation for KUA's continued participation and contributions toward the Festival of Lights. She noted that the City approved an expansion of the lights display, with additional installations planned along the lakefront.

The Board, as group, thanked staff for a successful meeting and extended Thanksgiving greetings and Veterans Day thanks to those who have served.

M. ADJOURNMENT

Director Ortega adjourned the meeting at 4:29 p.m.

  
Secretary

  
Chairman