

REGULAR MEETING OF KISSIMMEE UTILITY AUTHORITY HELD WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 2026 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, President & General Manager, Brian Horton, General Counsel, Grant Lacerte and Recording Secretary, Margie Boles. Mayor Jackie Espinosa was not in attendance.

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 Hardee made a motion, seconded by Director Thacker. Director Ortega advised the question was moved and seconded to approve the agenda.**

**MOTION PASSED 5 - 0**

D. AWARDS AND PRESENTATIONS

1. 5-YEAR SERVICE AWARD - KARLA LOPES, HUMAN RESOURCES GENERALIST, HUMAN RESOURCES
2. 10-YEAR SERVICE AWARD - LAKEISHA FLUELLYN, RISK MANAGEMENT ADMINISTRATOR, HUMAN RESOURCES
3. 10-YEAR SERVICE AWARD - SUE ANN PANTON, MANAGER OF GIS, OPERATIONS
4. 15-YEAR SERVICE AWARD - AUSTIN FRANNEY, LINE CREW SUPERVISOR, OPERATIONS
5. 20-YEAR SERVICE AWARD - JARED TILLMAN, POWER PLANT OPERATIONS, SUPERVISOR, POWER SUPPLY
6. 20-YEAR SERVICE AWARD - DANNY GONZALEZ, ENERGY CONSERVATION SPECIALIST, CUSTOMER SERVICE
7. EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH FOR FEBRUARY 2026 - MIKE TAYLOR, LEAD LINEMAN, OPERATIONS

Mr. Horton congratulated Mike for being selected employee of the month for February 2026.

Director Ortega thanked the EOC for the effort and time they put into Field Day this afternoon.

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

**MOTION PASSED 5 - 0**

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR JANUARY 7, 2026 BOARD MEETING

2. APPROVAL OF CONTRACT AMENDMENT NO. 5 WITH ELECTRIC SUPPLY OF TAMPA, LLC FOR THE PURCHASE OF PAD MOUNT EQUIPMENT & JUNCTION BOXES (AR 21-045-CV)

**RECOMMENDATION: Approval of a Fifth Amendment to extend the existing continuing purchase Contract AR 21-045-CV for two additional years (through July 2028), set the purchase authority at \$3,000,000 per year, and authorize the President and General Manager to execute the Contract Amendment.**

G. PUBLIC HEARING - None

H. INFORMATIONAL PRESENTATIONS (REQUIRING NO ACTION)

1. OSCEOLA COUNCIL ON AGING

Ms. Tiffany Henderson, Director of Corporate Communications, introduced William Santiago, Director of Senior Services with the Osceola Council on Aging. Mr. Santiago thanked KUA and the Board for the positive impact KUA's financial contributions have made for the organization.

Director Hemphill asked Mr. Santiago what the waitlist for Meals on Wheels is. Mr. Santiago advised there are 326 clients on the waitlist, however, due to a grant received, some of those clients will receive meals.

2. YEAR END AUDITED FINANCIAL REPORT FOR FY 2025

Mr. Kevin Crawford, Vice President Finance & Administration, advised the Board that KUA completed a successful and clean audit with no exceptions.

Mr. Crawford introduced Ron Whitesides with Purvis Gray & Company to present the audited financial report.

Mr. Whitesides reviewed the auditor's reports, significant estimates and judgments, and significant audit matters. Mr. Whitesides also shared highlights within the report, which included Revenues & Expenses and Statement of Net Position.

Mr. Whitesides shared the audit went very well recognizing the KUA finance team for such great work. Mr. Whitesides thanked KUA staff for their cooperation.

Director Lebron asked if the 5 months reserve KUA presently has is normal across the industry. Mr. Whitesides advised that it aligns within the industry. Director Lebron inquired if there is anything KUA can do to make it a great financial position versus just good. Mr. Whitesides advised that what KUA currently has in place is strong.

Mr. Horton advised the Board that the current 2026 Strategic Goals has KUA looking into some of the finances on the Power Supply side of business.

3. BAKER TILLY COST OF SERVICE PRESENTATION

Mr. Crawford introduced Russ Hissom with Baker Tilly, who provided a broader analysis and background for a professional course of study and how it is completed.

Mr. Hissom reviewed the Cost-of-Service Study and Rate Design for Electric Services report. Mr. Hissom reviewed the overview and process, overall results, rate design by customer class, other rate considerations, and fees and charges.

I. OLD BUSINESS - None

J. NEW BUSINESS

1. APPROVAL OF AWARD FOR IFB 26-013-RM TO MWRESOURCE INC. FOR A MONARCH SYSTEM SOFTWARE (SCADA) UPGRADE

Mike Wagner, Assistant Vice President of Operations, informed the Board that KUA uses a Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) system from Open System International

(OSI) to monitor and control the KUA Transmission and Distribution system. The current system, installed in 2017, relies on outdated components. The proposed upgrade will enhance operational capabilities, ensure real-time notifications, improve data storage, and incorporate robust backup and security features.

**ACTION:** Director Thacker made a motion, seconded by Director Hemphill. Director Ortega advised the question was moved and seconded to approve the award IFB# 26-013-RM for a Monarch System Software Upgrade to MWResource, authorize expenditures per pricing set forth in the contract not to exceed the project budgeted amount of \$510,000 and authorize the President & General Manager to execute all necessary contract documentation.

**MOTION PASSED 5 - 0**

2. APPROVAL TO PURCHASE TRANSMISSION POLES FOR LINE 07-0115 BETWEEN MARYDIA AND TAFT SUBSTATION (IFB 25-081-JG)

Wesley Infinger, Assistant Vice President of Operations, informed the Board that in order to storm harden and improve system reliability, staff has identified the need to replace aging wood and static cast concrete transmission structures with steel transmission structures supporting the Marydia to Taft 230kV transmission line. At the August 4, 2021 meeting, the Board awarded the engineering design of this work to Power Engineers. The transmission line engineering design is complete and allows for the bid of the transmission structures required. Staff released solicitation IFB 25-081-JG on November 7, 2025. Bids from seven vendors were received on January 12, 2026. ANIXTER-WESCO/METALPOL submitted the low bid of \$1,141,769.95 with a 30-week delivery. Power Engineers (PE) completed a technical review of the calculations provided by WESCO/METALPOL with their bid. The calculations were determined to be technically compliant and acceptable.

Mr. Horton advised Mr. Infinger that some of the board members had a couple of questions – is KUA going to install the poles or will a contractor be hired to do so, and does KUA have an estimated time as to when we can expect for the item to come before the Board. Mr. Infinger advised KUA has an existing transmission contract that has been priced. The item should come to the Board in March or April.

Ms. Thacker asked if the pole installation is for the dead end poles that have foundation, and is that with the same bid or different bid. Mr. Infinger confirmed that it will be done by the same contractor.

**ACTION:** Director Lebron made a motion, seconded by Director Thacker. Director Ortega advised the question was moved and seconded to approve staff to negotiate contract terms for delivery of transmission structures for 230 kV Transmission Line 07-0115 to ANIXTER-WESCO/METALPOL for \$1,255,946.95 (includes 5% contingency), and authorize the President and General Manager to execute all necessary contract documents.

**MOTION PASSED 5 - 0**

3. APPROVAL OF AWARDS FOR RFP 26-003-RM FOR INSPECTION, REPAIR & TESTING SERVICES FOR ELECTRIC UTILITY TRANSMISSION AND DISTRIBUTION POLES AND 15KV UNDERGROUND CABLES

Mr. Infinger informed the Board that KUA seeks to utilize continuing contractual services to perform inspections of distribution and transmission poles and testing of underground distribution cables on an as-needed basis. KUA has historically inspected the wood poles in its system on a recurring eight-year basis. The results of these inspections inform the requirements for KUA's annual pole maintenance activities. KUA has identified funding for the inspection work in the annual Operations & Maintenance budget. Staff issued KUA RFP 26-003-RM for inspection and testing services on October 22, 2025, with expanded pricing requests for concrete and steel pole inspection services and distribution cable testing services. A KUA staff RFP committee evaluated three proposals, received on November 17, 2025, against the solicitation specifications. Proposal ranking of the following was

determined as a result of the evaluation: Osmose Utility Services, Inc. with 88 points; Geoforce Utility Technologies with 59 points; and Davinci Sky with 51 points.

Director Ortega inquired if new material is used when changing out a wooden pole. Mr. Infinger advised typically a wooden pole would be used if replacing a wooden pole. If replacing a main line feeder, KUA would look into putting an arm pole. Director Ortega asked if there are future pole replacements in the areas where the wooden poles would be obsolete. Mr. Horton advised that would typically require an engineering study of the whole line.

**ACTION: Director Thacker made a motion, seconded by Director Hardee. Director Ortega advised the question was moved and seconded to approve contract award for RFP 26-003-RM for Pole Inspection, Repair & Testing Services to Osmose Utility Services, Inc and Geoforce Utility Technologies for an initial three (3) year term with two (2) one (1) year renewal options and authorize the President & General Manager to execute any necessary contract documents.**

**MOTION PASSED 5 - 0**

K. STAFF REPORTS

1. CUSTOMER SERVICE DEPARTMENTAL SEMI ANNUAL REPORT

Rhonda Reaves-Smith, Vice President of Customer Service, presented an update on the strategic goals that included Customer Assistance; Pay by Text; e-Flex Pay; Customer Programs; Surge Protection Program; KUA Public EV Charger Network; EV Charger Projects; Scam Awareness; Energy Conservation; Metering Operations; AMI; and Billing & Collections.

Director Lebron asked if in the effort to improve ACH transactions over text, does the system automatically store the customer's account and routing number. Ms. Reaves-Smith advised that the system provides that option.

L. HEAR ATTORNEY, GENERAL MANAGER, DIRECTORS

Grant Lacerte, General Counsel, informed the Board that Jennifer and himself attended the FMEA Legislative Rally. Mr. Lacerte provided updates on some legislative matters. Mr. Lacerte reminded the Board that the APPA Legislative Rally is scheduled for the end of the month.

Director Ortega asked if paying interest is part of the FEMA Act bill. Mr. Lacerte advised not yet.

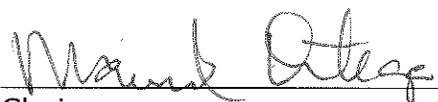
Mr. Horton advised the Board advised that he will not be attending the APPA Legislative Rally but Mr. Lacerte and Jennifer Gonzalez will be attending.

Mr. Horton reminded the Board of the upcoming events.

The Board thanked the EOC for a great Field Day event and thanked staff for the great presentations presented at the meeting.

M. ADJOURNMENT

Director Ortega adjourned the meeting at 4:54 p.m.

  
Chairman

  
Secretary