

City of Gainesville

City Hall
200 East University Avenue
Gainesville, Florida 32601



Minutes

July 8, 2021

5:30 PM

City Hall Auditorium

Utility Advisory Board

Wendell Porter (Member)

Wes Wheeler (Member)

Barry Jacobson (Member)

Carla Lewis (Member)

Theresa Spurling-Wood (Non-Voting Member)

Tim Rockwell (Member)

Don Davis (Non-Voting Member)

Fletcher Crowe (Member)

Jason Fults (Member)

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CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 5:36 p.m.

ROLL CALL

All members were present except members Don Davis and Carla Lewis.
Member Crowe entered the meeting at 6:19 p.m.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT ITEMS

[210156.](#) UAB May 25, 2021 Workshop Minutes (Revised) and June 10, 2021 Meeting Minutes (B)

Attachments: [210156 UAB 5-25-21 Workshop Minutes Revised 20210708](#)
[210156 UAB 6-10-21 Meeting Minutes 20210708](#)

RECOMMENDATION *Approve the revised version of the May 25, 2021 workshop minutes and the June 10, 2021 meeting minutes.*

Approved on consent.

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

Member Jacobson made a motion, seconded by Member Rockwell, to approve the agenda with the following modification: Hear old business after new business.

The motion passed unanimously.

CITIZEN COMMENT

Nathan Skop

STATE OF THE UTILITY

[210157.](#) GRU Operational Update for the Month of June 2021 (B)

RECOMMENDATION *Receive report.*

Tom Brown gave an update on GRU's operations.

OLD BUSINESS

[180258.](#) Utility Advisory Board's Draft Energy Policy for the City of Gainesville (B)

Attachments: [180258_Energy_Policy_Presentation_20210610](#)
[180258_Energy_Policy_Survey_Analysis_20210610](#)
[180258_Energy_Policy_Survey_Results_20210909](#)

RECOMMENDATION *Discuss and decide whether to bring this item to the July 27, 2021 joint UAB/City Commission meeting for discussion and direction.*

This item was heard after all the New Business items. The board discussed options for community engagement to gather feedback on the energy policy and whether to form a subcommittee to develop a community engagement plan. Assistant City Attorney Bennett stated that she would have to research and let them know whether they are able to form such a committee. The board will put this item on the agenda for their June 22, 2021 joint meeting with the City Commission to seek further guidance.

NEW BUSINESS

[201103.](#) **Proposed Cost Agreement with St. Johns River Water Management District to Meet Lake Brooklyn and Geneva Minimum Flows and Levels (MFLs) (B)**

****This item was presented to the UAB on July 8, 2021.****

Summary: GRU staff worked with St. Johns River Water Management District (SJRWMD) staff to develop a proposed cost participation agreement which will enable the City of Gainesville d/b/a Gainesville Regional Utilities (“GRU”) to comply with Minimum Flows and Levels (MFLs) rules for Lakes Brooklyn and Geneva. Under the proposed agreement GRU will pay \$2.71 million to SJRWMD as a cost participation for the Black Creek Water Resource Development Project. The agreement will ensure GRU’s compliance with these MFLs through at least 2045. GRU will pay the money into an escrow account, which has a separate escrow agreement associated with it. The proposed cost participation and escrow agreements will be presented to the SJRWMD governing board for their approval on July 13, 2021. Staff recommends that City Commission approve the agreements and have the mayor sign them, upon approval of SJRWMD governing board.

Attachments: [201103_CCom_Ltr_to_SJWMD_Re_Keystone_Lakes_Project_20210415](#)
[201103_SJRWMD_Brooklyn-Geneva_MFLs_20210617](#)
[201103_Cost_Participation_Agreement_Final_20210727](#)
[201103_Escrow_Agreement_Final_20210727](#)
[201103_Final_Settlement_Stipulation_\(Utilities\)_20210727](#)

RECOMMENDATION

- 1) *City Commission approve the proposed cost participation and escrow agreements and settlement stipulation and have the mayor sign them.*
- 2) *City Commission approve the dismissal of all petitions related to the MFLs and Recovery Strategy, upon approval of*

these agreements by the SJRWMD governing board.

On July 8, 2021, the UAB voted 6-0, with Member Lewis absent, to advise the Commission to approve the staff recommendation.

Chief Water/Wastewater Officer Tony Cunningham introduced the item and Rick Hutton gave an explanation. Member Porter made a motion, seconded by Member Jacobson, to approve the staff recommendation and the motion passed unanimously.

Citizen Ms. Sheridan spoke on the matter.

[210088.](#)

Resolution Authorizing the Execution of Gainesville Regional Utilities Financial Transactions (B)

****This item is informational only.****

Attachments: [210088 Thirty-Fifth Award Resolution with Exhibits A-H 20210617](#)
[210088 Resolution Final 20210617.pdf](#)
[210088 Resolution Final B 20210617.pdf](#)

RECOMMENDATION *Receive information from staff.*

Due to timing, staff had to take this item to the City Commission for approval without first presenting it to the UAB. However, staff presented the item to the UAB for informational purposes in an effort to keep the board informed.

[210089.](#)

Resolution Authorizing the Cash Defeasance of Certain Outstanding Utility System Debt (B)

****This item is informational only.****

Attachments: [210089 Resolution GRU Cash Defeasance w Exhibits A-B Revised 202](#)
[210089 Resolution Final 20210617.pdf](#)

RECOMMENDATION *Receive information from staff.*

Due to timing, staff had to take this item to the City Commission for approval without first presenting it to the UAB. However, staff presented the item to the UAB for informational purposes in an effort to keep the board informed.

[210116.](#)

Setting the Amount of the General Fund Transfer (B)

****This item was presented to the UAB on July 8, 2021.****

Resolution No. 210116

Resolution of the City Commission of the City of Gainesville, Florida, setting the amount of the general fund transfer from Gainesville Regional Utilities Funds to the

General Government Fund through fiscal year 2027; providing an immediate effective date.

Attachments: [210116A_draft_resolution_20210715](#)
[210116_Resolution_Final_20210719](#)

RECOMMENDATION *The City Commission adopt the proposed resolution.*

On July 8, 2021, the UAB voted 6-0, with Member Lewis absent, to advise the City Commission to approve the staff recommendation.

After hearing staff's explanation of this item, Member Porter made a motion, seconded by member Jacobson, to advise the City Commission to approve the staff recommendation. The motion passed unanimously.

[210125.](#)

Establish Rates for Electric and Wastewater through Fiscal Year 2027; Resolving to Establish Utility Rate Assistance Programs (B)

****This item was presented to the UAB on July 8, 2021.****

Resolution No. 210125

A resolution of the City Commission of the City of Gainesville resolving to establish rates for electric and wastewater through fiscal year 2027; resolving to establish utility rate assistance programs; providing an immediate effective date.

Attachments: [210125A_draft_resolution_20210715](#)
[210125_Resolution_Final_20210719](#)

RECOMMENDATION *The City Commission adopt the proposed resolution.*

On July 8, 2021, the UAB voted 6-0, with Member Lewis absent, to advise the Commission to approve the staff recommendation.

After hearing staff's explanation of this item, Member Rockwell made a motion, seconded by member Porter, to advise the City Commission to approve the staff recommendation. The motion passed unanimously.

MEMBER COMMENT

[210158.](#)

Member Fletcher Crowe - Suggestion for Possible Federal Funding Source for Achieving GRU's Goal of 100% Renewable Energy Sources (B)

Attachments: [210158_Potential_Federal_Funding_for_GRU_20210708](#)

RECOMMENDATION *Discuss and take any action deemed appropriate.*

Discussed and will put on the June 22, 2021 agenda for the joint meeting with the City Commission.

[210159.](#)

Members Jason Fults and Fletcher Crowe - Sharing of Information Learned at the 2021 American Public Power Association (APPA) National Conference (B)

Attachments: [210159 Member Crowe Notes 2021 APPA Conference 20210824](#)
[210159 Member Fults APPA 2021 Conf Notes 20210824](#)

RECOMMENDATION *Hear information from Members Fults and Crowe.*

This item was postponed by mutual agreement to the August 24, 2021 workshop.

CITIZEN COMMENT

Ms. Sheridan
Nathan Skop

NEXT MEETING DATE

August 12, 2021

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:01 p.m.