



UEB Meeting Minutes, June 16, 2021

Meeting Time and Location: Began at 4:30pm. Held remote via Zoom meeting.

Attendance: Jim Kerr, Lee Hall, Larry Quinn, Jerry Rotz, Chris Meline, Chris Cope, Mike Jackson

Staff: Aaron Caplan

Liaison: Mike Karavas (unavailable this meeting)

Guests: Mitch Simms

1. Welcome new UEB member Chris Cope

Chris is a long time member of PRC and an electrical engineer at Seagate.

2. Amendments to Agenda

Motion to amend agenda to discuss the Summit Housing proposal.

Approved Unanimously

3. Approve Minutes from June 2, 2021

Approved Unanimously

4. Audience Business.

Mitch Simms. Just listening in for information. Mitch grew up in Lyons and just returned after receiving a degree in energy policy.

5. Upcoming Meetings

A meeting is scheduled for tomorrow with Chris La May on the solar farm grant.

6. Updates

a) Board of Trustees, Mike Karavas

Not available

b) Staff, Engineering. Aaron Caplan

Community garden – BOT agreed with UEB recommendations on not using the water fund for any required infrastructure.

Longs Peak Turnaround – Some citizens have suggested that the town install a turnaround at the end of Longs Peak when the utility project is undertaken. Cost estimates range from 40K to 150K for a full fire code compliant turnaround. The UEB consensus was that this add-on project should be financed by general fund and not the utility funds.

c) UEB Chair – Jim Kerr

Discussed following items with Carol Brehm, MEAN, at meeting on June 9, 2021.

1. Lyons Summary and Hourly Data Request
2. Asked to reevaluate FCRC Calculations - will have Jamie call
3. MEAN meetings in person - August Quarterly and September Annual
4. Asked about Gunnison getting 100% renewable. Another community wanted out of Wind Contract and Gunnison took over. Also buying renewable at premium price on open market
5. Requested Landfill gas information which is available - many communities do not consider renewable

d) Other UEB Members

Amended Item – Summit Housing Proposal

Summit is proposing a reduction in tap and other fees to the tune of about a million dollars, or about half of Lyons annual budget. It is being blamed on Covid increases in construction costs.

Motion - UEB recommends denying the Summit Housing Group's request to eliminate the fees for all water and sewer taps, electric development fees, and building permit fees for a total of \$1,122,500 and the elimination of permit fees for project utility calculations, if not included, and Use taxes.

Approved Unanimously

7. Net Metering Change Ordinance First Reading

Discussion – The town attorney and other staff have concerns that Lyons is the first Colorado town to implement the recommended UEB changes, even though being done in other states. As such, the BOT will hold another workshop on the issue next week

which Jim Kerr will attend and present the recommended changes again to the BOT. The workshop will include both net metering and the solar farm. Lee Hall will attend for the Solar Farm update.

It was also noted the earlier UEB motions on this issue did not include the recommended meter fee for new installations.

Motion – the UEB recommends that new net metering customers have a meter fee of \$2.50 per month and be reimbursed at the MEAN renewable energy rate, currently \$4.3 cents per KWH for excess energy produced.

Approved Unanimously

8. Town of Lyons Solar Farm Feasibility Report Review

A status update will be presented at the workshop before the next Board of Trustees meeting along with net metering.

We reviewed the CU-Denver report to determine whether it is ready for approval and final payment. The reports are complete but are lacking a bit in technical specificity and accuracy and need some clarifications in writing. It was agreed to accept the reports as good technical background for the solar farm final design team (likely the prevailing Design-Build contractor) while also editing the executive summary somewhat before it is finalized. The CU-Denver team has completed their work, but the team leader (Brittany LeMarc) is expected to be retained soon to address remaining work.

Motion – The primary location for the solar farm is recommended to be the bike park location with the dog park location as a contingency plan.

Approved Unanimously

9. First Quarter Financial Review

Jerry Rotz reviewed the first quarter financials. Due to staff turnover, the town is apparently a bit behind in paying some bills which is somewhat skewing the numbers. It is assumed that the second quarter report will reconcile some of these numbers.

Meeting ended: 6:07 pm. Minutes Submitted by: Larry Quinn