



ROCHELLE UTILITY ADVISORY BOARD  
Wednesday, September 18, 2013

The Rochelle Utility Advisory Board met on September 18, 2013 in the RMU Technology Center, 910 Technology Parkway. The meeting was called to order by Mr. Elliott at 3:00 p.m.

***Present at the meeting:***

Bob Elliott, UAB Chairman	Joanne Peters, RMU
Richard Ohlinger, UAB	Dan Westin, Business Analyst
Jim Black, UAB	Scott Koteski, RMU
Ray Schwartz, UAB	Jeff Sartorius, RMU
Maryann Macklin, UAB	Barbara Bell, RMU
Claude McKibben, UAB	Kelly Roberts, RMU
Chet Olson, Mayor	Al Corl, RMU
Dave Plyman, City Manager	Jenny Thompson, RMU
Jason Anderson, GREDCO	Eric Wagner, RMU

Jeff Leon, WRHL Radio  
Roger Kline, Frontier Communications

***Approval of Minutes:***

MOTION: To approve the UAB meeting minutes dated July 17, 2013  
MAKER: Mr. Schwartz  
SECOND: Mr. McKibben  
VOICE VOTE: Motion carried

***Financial Statements:*** The July 2013 financial statements were distributed with the Agenda. Mr. Westin reminded the board that there was no PCA for the first three months a year ago. Mr. Ohlinger asked if the labor costs were split between the Communication & Technology Funds and Mr. Koteski advised that they were. City Manager Plyman advised that once Council accepts the 2012/13 audit, Chris Frye will forward copies to the Board.

***Projects in Progress summarized by RMU Superintendents:*** (Kathy Cooper was on vacation, but she provided a written summary that was included in the Agenda packet for items a. through f.)

- a. Kyte Creek Stabilization & Emergency Funding – Waiting to hear from FEMA
  - b. Second Avenue Water Main – Complete except for last 500 feet of contaminated soil area
  - c. Water Well #12 – Municipal Pump & Well was awarded the bid for \$496,467  
Mr. Ohlinger asked if the well location was in Lee County and Mr. Plyman advised yes
  - d. Centrifuge Replacement – Waiting for available Grant funding
  - e. Caron Road Lift Station – Anticipate to be on-line first week in October
  - f. Notice of Violation – Ammonia – No fines were assessed
- Jeff Sartorius reported in Joe's absence on the Electric Projects:

- g. Electric Service - Nippon Sharyo Golden Prairie – RMU is installing the temporary power; the main project is out for bid to be opened September 26<sup>th</sup>.
- h. Electric Service – Water Tower #12 – Mr. Plyman advised the tower is in the ComEd territory but once annexed the property will belong to the City
- i. Electric Service – Street Light installation on 20<sup>th</sup> Street, Caron Road & North Pointe has been delayed due to an issue with the design of the bases.
- j. Electric & Fiber Service – Caron Road Lift Station – both electric and fiber are installed
- k. City Phone System Upgrade – New “Mitel” phones will be installed beginning October 7<sup>th</sup> and the project will take 4 to 6 weeks. These phones were installed at RTHS over the summer.
- l. New Fiber Customers – Jenny advised an additional \$19,136.40 in revenue would be collected annually from new fiber internet customers. Mr. Black asked why the price difference and Scott advised that KishHealth Systems and Syndeo (NITT Circuit) were dark fiber.

Barbara Bell introduced, Kelly Roberts, a new Customer Service Representative

- m. Customer Service Call Tacking System – 900 Service Orders YTD – looking for an affordable, user-friendly system that can be used City wide.
- n. Customer Service Updates – The integration between the billing and metering software will allow automated meter readings for all rate classifications
- o. GIS Mapping – Al Corl provided a demonstration of an “Information Management System” that is being developed and will be available to staff through “tablets” in the line-trucks providing layers of mapping information. This information will improve pole assessments and assist in isolating outage areas while increasing our response times.

***Business Analysis Report:***

- a. Electrical Demand & Summer 2013 Usage Analysis – The summer peak within the PJM Region was July 18<sup>th</sup> at 4:00 p.m. We were able to reduce load on 7/18/13 to 45.5 MW. Our target to reduce usage by 10% during the summer of 2013 compared to 2012 was reached and we intend to continue our incentive programs. Mr. Black commented that the summer text message program was a good idea. Mr. Westin explained that our demand was changing and improvements were made to the Load Duration report.
- b. PCA Management – Staff continues to work at keeping the PCA as steady as possible. In addition to staff changes and budgetary savings, we are now selling the REC’s from the Methane Plant and received approximately \$100,000 back from the Auction Revenue Rights, (ARR).

***New Projects in Planning:***

345 kV ComEd tie-in – City Manager Plyman advised participation in the study was for future planning and the cost would be between \$100,000 and \$150,000.



MOTION: The Utility Advisory Board recommends that the Rochelle City Council engage in a joint study with ComEd to explore a tie-in for a new Northern Line from the Byron - Wayne Transmission line.  
MAKER: Mr. Schwartz  
SECOND: Mr. Black  
VOICE VOTE: Motion carried

- c. Electric Production Review – Mr. Westin explained that Generation Plant continuity planning was needed. Mr. Plyman added that we have a large amount of cold storage that could impact the entire Region if there was a “major outage” and we need to be prepared to serve our customers.
- d. RP3 Application – RMU is going to apply for the APPA, Reliable Public Power Provider certification and Mr. Westin provided an over-view of the program. Examples of improved reliability actions and disaster planning were included.
- e. Technology Park Marketing – Mr. Westin explained the process in place for marketing the Rochelle Business & Technology Park. A new brochure is being developed and a LinkedIn page has been created. Jason Anderson added that two-thirds of the most recent requests for information included inquiries about redundancy.

*New Business:* None

*Comments from the Public:* None

*Comments from the Board:* Mr. Black asked if there were future plans for natural gas lines to the South of Rochelle in conjunction with RMU plans for electric and water. Mr. Anderson advised “yes” that Nicor has made changes over the past 3 plus years and intend to continue their growth in the area. Mr. Schwartz complimented the 100% reliability from the Communications Division, but advised the outage report for electric appeared to be missing data. Staff will check into the report.

*Adjournment:*

MOTION: To adjourn at 4:25 p.m.  
MAKER: Mr. McKibben  
SECOND: Ms. Macklin  
VOICE VOTE: Motion carried

Submitted By,  
Joanne M. Peters