

# Board Meeting and FY 2024 Budget Workshop Agenda Thursday, April 20, 2023 9:00 a.m.

Call to Order

Roll Call

**Approval of Minutes** 

**Official Action** 

Resolution 1475 – A Resolution Authorizing Knoxville Utilities Board ("KUB") to Apply for Tennessee Emergency Broadband Fund-American Rescue Plan Grants

**Public Comments** 

**Adjournment of April Board Meeting** 

# **Reconvene for FY 2024 Budget Workshop**

Introduction Gabe Bolas, President and CEO

Electric/Natural Gas John Gresham, Vice President, Operations

Water/Wastewater Kurt Stafford, Director, Engineering

Fiber Jamie Davis, Vice President and CTO

Finance Mark Walker, Senior Vice President and CFO

Closing Comments Gabe Bolas, President and CEO

**Adjournment of Budget Workshop** 



April 14, 2023

Knoxville Utilities Board 445 S. Gay Street Knoxville, Tennessee 37902-1109

#### Commissioners:

As you know, the April 20 meeting includes a workshop on the proposed financial budget for fiscal year 2024, however, prior to the workshop, there is one official action item on the Board agenda for your consideration. An overview of the resolution is provided below.

#### Resolution 1475

KUB previously submitted grant applications under the Tennessee Emergency Broadband Fund-American Rescue Plan to help fund the deployment of broadband services to unserved locations within KUB's electric service territory.

As you will recall, KUB was awarded \$15.3 million in grants for the deployment of broadband services in Union, Grainger, Sevier, and Jefferson Counties.

The contracts from the state awarding the \$15.3 million in grants included a provision for KUB's governing body to adopt a resolution authorizing KUB to file applications for the grants. The need for an authorizing resolution had not been previously communicated by the state.

Upon discussions with the state and our legal counsel, Resolution 1475 has been prepared authorizing KUB to apply for Tennessee Emergency Broadband Fund-American Rescue Plan grants, with such authorization to be retroactive to a date preceding KUB's filing of the grant applications.

A draft of Resolution 1475 is enclosed for your information. I recommend its adoption on first and final reading.

Respectfully submitted,

Gabriel J. Bolas II President & CEO

## **RESOLUTION NO. 1475**

# A Resolution Authorizing Knoxville Utilities Board ("KUB") to Apply for Tennessee Emergency Broadband Fund-American Rescue Plan Grants

**Whereas**, by Resolution No. 1439, this Board authorized KUB to provide broadband services to the fullest extent permitted by applicable Tennessee law; and

**Whereas**, among the KUB goals for offering broadband service is to make broadband service available to all customers in KUB's electric utility service area, including rural areas served by KUB in Knox, Union, Grainger, Sevier, and Jefferson counties; and

**Whereas**, to aid KUB's goal of deployment of broadband services to unserved locations within KUB's electric service territory, KUB desires to seek grant funding under the Tennessee Emergency Broadband Fund-American Rescue Plan; and

**Whereas**, the Board supports the effort to deploy service to unserved locations within KUB's electric service territory, including the grant of authority for KUB to apply for grants from Tennessee Emergency Broadband Fund-American Rescue Plan; and

Now, Therefore, Be It Hereby Resolved by the Board of Commissioners of the Knoxville Utilities Board:

- 1. The Board hereby authorizes the filing of applications for Tennessee Emergency Broadband Fund-American Rescue Plan ("Program") grants for Knox, Union, Grainger, Sevier and Jefferson counties, including all understandings and assurances contained therein, and directs the President and CEO, or his designee, to act in connection with the applications and to provide such additional information as may be required.
- 2. This Resolution shall take effect immediately upon its passage and shall be deemed by this Board to apply retroactively to July 1, 2021, a date preceding KUB's filing of applications for Program grants.

	Tyvi Small, Vice Chair
Mark Walker, Board Secretary	
APPROVED ON 1st	
& FINAL READING:	
EFFECTIVE DATE:	
MINUTE BOOK PAGE	

# Knoxville Utilities Board Board Meeting Minutes Thursday, March 23, 2023 Noon

### Call to Order

The Knoxville Utilities Board met in regular session in the Larry A. Fleming Board Room at 445 S. Gay Street, on Thursday, March 23, 2023, pursuant to the public notice published in the January 7, 2023, edition of the *News Sentinel*. Chair Simpson-Brown called the meeting to order at 12:00 p.m.

#### Roll Call

Commissioners Present: Claudia Caballero, Ron Feinbaum, Cynthia Gibson, Kathy Hamilton, Celeste Herbert, Adrienne Simpson-Brown, and Tyvi Small.

Commissioners Absent: None

# **Approval of Minutes**

Upon a motion by Commissioner Small and a second by Commissioner Herbert, the February 16, 2023 Board Meeting minutes were approved by a roll call vote. The following Commissioners voted "aye": Caballero, Feinbaum, Gibson, Hamilton, Herbert, Simpson-Brown, and Small. No Commissioner voted "nay".

#### **Old Business**

None.

## **New Business**

Resolution 1474, A Resolution Authorizing and Approving the Disposal of a Parcel of Real Property of the Wastewater Division of Knoxville Utilities Board ("KUB") Located at 0 Stephenson Drive in Knoxville, Tennessee

President Gabriel Bolas recognized Daniel Kembel, Manager of Procurement and Storeroom, to present Resolution 1474 authorizing the sale or disposal of one parcel of real property owned by the Wastewater Division.

## March 23, 2023

Upon a motion by Commissioner Herbert and a second by Commissioner Hamilton, Resolution 1474 (*Attachment 1*) was adopted by a roll call vote on first and final reading. The following Commissioners voted "aye": Caballero, Feinbaum, Gibson, Hamilton, Herbert, and Simpson-Brown. No Commissioner voted "nay". Commissioner Small abstained from voting.

# **President's Report**

# **Community Advisory Panel Input**

President Bolas reminded Commissioners that the Community Advisory Panel continues to meet regularly to provide input about programs and policies that affect our customers. He recognized Liz Hannah, Manager of Executive Services and Environmental Stewardship, to provide an update on input recently provided by the Panel.

## FY23 Budget Update

President Bolas recognized Mark Walker, Senior Vice President and Chief Financial Officer, to provide an update on the FY23 budget performance.

## Storm Response – March 3-5, 2023

President Bolas reminded Commissioners our area was significantly impacted by high wind and severe thunderstorms on Friday, March 3<sup>rd</sup>. He recognized Josh Johnson, Manager of System Operations, to provide an overview of the impacts and restoration efforts.

## **Employee Recognition**

President Bolas recognized John Williams, Senior Vice President of Engineering and Construction, to recognize KUB employees Ed Moore and James Parrott who recently went above and beyond what's expected of them to assist our customers when they're in need.

### Announcement

Chair Simpson-Brown advised the Board the April 20 financial session will focus on the details of the fiscal year 2024 budget. We will begin with a brief business meeting at 9:00 a.m. Public comments will be welcome before the meeting is adjourned. Following the conclusion of the business meeting, we will begin the budget workshop.

#### Other Business

None

March 23, 2023

**Public Comment** 

None	
Adjournment	
There being nothing further to come befo declared the Board meeting adjourned at	•
Mark Walker, Board Secretary	Adrienne Simpson-Brown, Chair

# **Attachments**

Attachment 1	Recommendation Letter and Resolution 1474 – A	Page(s)
	Resolution Authorizing and Approving the Disposal of a	118 <del>89 – 11</del> 890
	Parcel of Real Property of the Wastewater Division of	
	Knoxville Utilities Board ("KUB") Located at 0 Stephenson	
	Drive in Knoxville, Tennessee	



March 17, 2023

Knoxville Utilities Board 445 S. Gay Street Knoxville, Tennessee 37902-1109

#### Commissioners:

The March 23 Board meeting agenda includes one official action item requesting authorization for the sale or disposition of a parcel of surplus wastewater system property. An overview of the resolution is provided below.

This month's President's Report will include several updates, including input received from the Community Advisory Panel on certain topics.

## **Resolution 1474**

Resolution 1474 authorizes and approves the disposal of a parcel of real property owned by the Wastewater Division of KUB that is not needed for the continued operation of the wastewater system or any other KUB system.

The 1.34-acre parcel is located at 0 Stephenson Drive in Knoxville, Tennessee, and is located adjacent to our Kuwahee Wastewater Treatment Plant on Neyland Drive. The State of Tennessee has requested KUB convey this parcel to the state on behalf of the University of Tennessee. The university intends to plant trees and create a vegetation screen along Stephenson Drive.

In accordance with KUB's Procurement Procedures, I have determined this real property to be surplus.

Pursuant to the City Charter, the Procurement Procedures, and the bond resolutions of the Wastewater Division, this real property may be sold or disposed of in a manner that it is in the best interest of KUB and the Wastewater Division.

A draft of Resolution 1474 is enclosed for your information. I recommend its adoption on first and final reading.

Respectfully submitted,

Gabriel J. Bolas II President & CEO

## **RESOLUTION NO. 1474**

A Resolution Authorizing and Approving the Disposal of a Parcel of Real Property of the Wastewater Division of Knoxville Utilities Board ("KUB") Located at 0 Stephenson Drive in Knoxville, Tennessee

**Whereas**, the Wastewater Division of KUB holds title to certain real estate located at 0 Stephenson Drive, Knoxville, Tennessee, identified as Parcel 6.01 on Knox County Tax Map 108-K "A", recorded in the Knox County Register of Deeds Office as Instrument No. 201203260052926, consisting of approximately 1.34 acres (the "Stephenson Property"), which is adjacent to KUB's Kuwahee Wastewater Treatment Plant; and

**Whereas**, the University of Tennessee ("UT") seeks to plant trees and create a vegetation screen along the Stephenson Property and the State of Tennessee on behalf of UT needs to acquire from KUB in fee simple absolute the Stephenson Property in order to manage, maintain, and upkeep the vegetation screen; and

**Whereas**, the Stephenson Property sought by the State of Tennessee is not useful and necessary for the continued operation of the Kuwahee Wastewater Treatment Plant or otherwise of the Wastewater System substantially as it now exists, and is not needed for use by any other KUB system; and

Whereas, pursuant to Section VII of the KUB Procurement Procedures previously adopted by the KUB Board of Commissioners (the "Board"), the President and Chief Executive Officer ("CEO") of KUB has determined that the Stephenson Property sought by the State of Tennessee is no longer necessary and useful for the continued operation of the Wastewater System and is not needed by any other KUB system; and

**Whereas**, the bond resolutions for the KUB Wastewater Division authorize the disposal of property of the Wastewater System which the Board determines to be no longer necessary, material to or useful in the operation thereof; and

Whereas, in accordance with the City Charter and KUB's Procurement Procedures and Procurement Guidelines, the sale or disposal of the Stephenson Property sought by the State of Tennessee, may occur in a manner that is in the best interest of KUB and the Wastewater Division.

Now, Therefore, Be It Hereby Resolved by the Board of Commissioners of the Knoxville Utilities Board:

**Section 1.** That the Stephenson Property, a 1.34 acre parcel adjacent to KUB's Kuwahee Wastewater Treatment Plant at 0 Stephenson Road, is not necessary, material to or useful in the continued safe, efficient, and economic operation of the KUB Wastewater System, substantially as it now exists, nor is the Stephenson Property needed by any other KUB system.

**Section 2.** That the President and CEO or the authorized designee of the President and CEO be, and hereby is, authorized and directed to sell or otherwise dispose of the Stephenson Property in a manner that is in the best interest of KUB and the Wastewater Division, and consistent with KUB's Procurement Procedures and state law, to execute all documents, including without limitation deeds, that are necessary and proper to sell or otherwise dispose of the Stephenson Property and to do all things that the President and CEO or the authorized designee of the President and CEO deems reasonable and necessary to effectuate such sale or disposal.

**Section 3.** That the proceeds of any sale shall be placed into the accounts of the Wastewater Division in accordance with the Wastewater System Bond Resolution.

**Section 4.** That this Resolution shall take effect upon its passage.

Adrienne Simpson-Brown/s
Adriene Simpson-Brown, Chair

Mark Walker/s
Mark Walker, Board Secretary

APPROVED ON 1st

& FINAL READING: 3-23-23 EFFECTIVE DATE: 3-23-23

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