



**Board Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, October 8, 2019
11:50 AM
Pueblo Convention Center
320 Central Main Street**

MEETING CALLED BY

Don Banner, Chairman, called the Tuesday, October 8, 2019 Board Meeting to order at 11:57 a.m.

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT

Dave Abeyta, Mark Aliff, Patrick Avalos, Don Banner, Louie Carleo, Dennis Flores, Meagan Kroeze, Betty Martinez, Garrison Ortiz, Jim Valenzuela, Ralph Williams

COMMISSIONERS ABSENT

Marlene Bregar, Rita Gersick

STAFF PRESENT

Tony Acri, Cherish Deeg, Andrea DelaGarza

GUESTS PRESENT

Kevin Ortiz, Lynn Clark, Steven Meier, Doug Piersel, Mayor Gradisar, Charles Hernandez, Donielle Kitzman, Ted Freeman

(All meetings are recorded per PURA's Financial and Administrative Internal Controls Policy adopted February 11, 2014)

PUBLIC COMMENT

Ted Freeman, Pueblo Citizen, shared his concerns about the Public Comment restrictions and his belief that this is against freedom of speech. Don Banner, Chairman, shared that PURA is under no obligation to have a public comment period and clarified the intent behind the language governing this section of the meeting.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

All generally agreed to move forward with the PURA Tuesday, October 8, 2019 Board Meeting Agenda as presented.

City of Pueblo Aquatics Presentation

Steven Meier, City of Pueblo, shared the Aquatics presentation. Discussion Followed regarding needs assessment and programing. All agreed that a five-year operating and maintenance cost should be calculated and funded prior to building anything.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Finance Committee Report

Dave Abeyta, Treasurer, stated that PURA is working on changes in the financial reporting with Todd Mihelich, Elhers is running some preliminary numbers on refinancing debt in some of our areas, and EVRAZ is moving forward. Ralph Williams, Assistant Treasurer, shared that PURA and the City will be meeting with the staff members of the Office of Economic and International Trade (OEDIT) sometime in November to discuss keeping the percentage of State Sales Tax Pueblo receives at the same level. This would allow the total grant award to be received faster and the bonds paid off early. PURA then could assist the City on building the Aquatics Center with excess fund and interest savings.

CONSENT AGENDA

Consent Agenda approval to accept and file the following:

- Tuesday, September 10, 2019 Board Regular Meeting and Advance Meeting Minutes
- Monday, September 9, 2019 Executive Committee Meeting Minutes
- Monday, September 23, 2019 Executive Committee Meeting Minutes
- Friday, September 27, 2019 Finance Committee Minutes
- August 2019 Pueblo Convention Center Operations and Sales Report
- August 2019 Pueblo Convention Center Operating Statements
- August 2019 PURA Operating Statements

A motion to approve the consent agenda and all items included was made by Louie Carleo, Commissioner. The motion was seconded by Meagan Kroeze, Commissioner. The motion passes unanimously.

ACTION ITEMS

No action items were presented.

REPORTS

Chairman

No report was given.

Secretary

Cherish K. Deeg, Operations Director, shared the Taxing Entity Agreement for EVRAZ Rail is being distributed and there have been no objections so far. Thunder Village project area amendment is fully understood and Jerry M. Pacheco, Executive Director, will give a presentation to City Council soon requesting direction. The letter of intent with Inluent Energy has been executed and they will be presenting at the next meeting. Budget Open House needed to be scheduled. Discussion followed and all agreed that Wednesday, October 16th from 1:00- 3:00 p.m. would be the budget open house. She finished by sharing PURA is sponsoring the Boys and Girls Club event this Friday.

HARP

Meagan Kroeze, PURA representative for the Historic Arkansas Riverwalk of Pueblo (HARP) Authority, shared that lots 6 and 7 are for sale, they are working on additional art for the Riverwalk, correcting safety issues, finalizing Gateway Plaza, and moving forward with County 1A funding for channel extension and Boat House.

City of Pueblo

Steven Meier, City of Pueblo, shared that the storm water in Mechanic Street still is under construction and the Pedestrian Signal has been delayed. These two items will extend the Gateway Plaza completion date to February 2020. He shared that the Hotel site has 2 years to build and they closed on the property in June. The hotel will be a minimum of 100 rooms.

Pueblo Convention Center

Kevin Ortiz, Pueblo Convention Center (PCC) General Manager (GM), shared compared to the same time last year they are \$40,000 ahead and are currently beating budget. He will be attending Destination Colorado with the Greater Pueblo Chamber of Commerce (Chamber) in October to promote Pueblo. Discussion followed regarding convention booking process, parking garage usage and hotel rates.

Pueblo Welcome Center

Danielle Kitzman, Chamber, thanked the board for their partnership during the Chili Fest and shared that they received the Governors Award for this festival. They are inviting strategic planners to Pueblo and will work with the PCC to showcase Pueblo in order to try and get future convention and conference business to locate in Pueblo. They also see the hotel room issue. Discussion followed regarding potential development on the Old Health Department Lot and how it may affect the festival.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion to adjourn the Tuesday, October 8, 2019, Regular Board Meeting was made by Betty Martinez, Vice-Chairman. The motion was seconded by Ralph Williams, Assistant Treasurer. Don Banner, Chairman, adjourned the Tuesday, October 8, 2019, Regular Board Meeting at 12:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by,



Cherish K. Deeg,
Pueblo Urban Renewal Authority, Operations Director