

Block Island Utility District
April 25, 2020
11:00 AM

HELD REMOTELY VIA ZOOM DUE TO COVID-19 AND TOWN OF NEW SHOREHAM
EMERGENCY ORDER

Minutes

Participating BOD Members Present via ZOOM: Barbara MacMullan, Bill Penn, Everett Shorey and Mary Jane Balsler.

Elliot Taubmann joined at 11:10 AM.

Also Present: Jeff Wright, Kyle Connors and John Healy of Marcum, LLC and a representative from the BI Times.

Barbara MacMullan called the meeting to order at 11:03 AM.

1. Commissioner's Report

- Barbara MacMullan welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2. Receive and Act on President's Report

- President Jeffery Wright presented the President's Report (on record) and answered questions from those on the call.
- A lengthy discussion was had pertaining to the SBA PPP loans and whether BIUD should apply.
 - Jeff reported that at a recent NRECA Board Meeting there was a lengthy debate on whether non-profit coops and utility districts should be applying as they had other mechanisms to recover losses through rates.
 - Jeff reported that NRECA was actively lobbying the US Treasury Department to include non-profits in the SBA loan requirements and that this effort was supplemented with letters from Senators Whitehouse and Reed.
 - Jeff also reported that at this time, BIUD was not experiencing a significant decline in collections or sales and that layoff were not being considered at the time.
 - Jeff recommended to the BOD that due to BIUD not being significantly negatively impacted by the pandemic that he would not be pursuing any SBA loans and that if at any time the need became imminent then he would ask for a BOD meeting to discuss.

3. Approve Minutes of the April 4, 2020 regular meeting.

Barbara MacMullan moved to accept the April 4, 2020 minutes with an amendment that authorized President Jeffery Wright to approve the DPUC-BIUD Rate Case Settlement Agreement. The motion was seconded by Everett Shorey. There was no discussion. The motion passed unanimously.

4. Review and Act on the Audit report

- President Jeffery Wright introduced the audit team and thanked all involved for a great job and applauded the fact that the audit schedule was met despite the challenges that the pandemic forced upon everyone.

- Kyle Conners of Marcum, LLC presented the final draft audit report (on record) with the help of John Healy.
- Barbara MacMullan highlighted some non-substantive items, such as spelling and grammar corrections, that she requested to have changed and offered to send them to Kyle after the meeting.
- The footnote regarding the pandemic was updated to include the most recent PUC order preventing customer shutoffs for nonpayment.
- A discussion was had regarding the cash collateral requirements and the footnote was slightly modified to reflect that.

5. Report on Employee Housing

- Bill Penn presented the current status of the work that the architect had done to date.
- Mary Jane Balsler presented the process for which she would obtain drawings for the building RFP process.
- A discussion was had regarding the schedule that would meet the needs of the HDC and bidding requirements that would enable a 2020 construction schedule.

Barbara MacMullan moved to adjourn the meeting at 12:23, seconded by Bill Penn. The motion passed unanimously.

APPROVED: _____

POSTED _____