

# 2020 ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE HUALAPAI TRIBAL UTILITY AUTHORITY (HTUA)



PREPARED BY: HUALAPAI TRIBAL UTILITY AUTHORITY BOARD  
AND  
WILLIAM L. CYR, GENERAL MANAGER

PRESENTED TO HTUA BOARD ON FEBRUARY 23, 2021  
APPROVED BY HTUA BOARD ON MARCH 6, 2021



**2020 ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE  
HUALAPAI TRIBAL UTILITY AUTHORITY (HTUA)**

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## **2020 ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE HUALAPAI TRIBAL UTILITY AUTHORITY (HTUA)**

### **1.0 PREFACE**

#### **1.1 FORMATION / MISSION**

Hualapai Tribal Utility Authority (HTUA) has been formed by the Hualapai Tribal Council in accordance with Hualapai Rules, Regulations and Ordinances.

The five primary missions for the HTUA as defined by Section 107 of the Ordinance are as follows:

1. Establish and maintain electric power service for Grand Canyon West
2. Establish and maintain water service for Grand Canyon West
3. Establish and maintain sewage service for Grand Canyon West,
4. Establish and maintain telecommunications service,
5. Establish and maintain such additional utility services for such other locations within the Hualapai Reservation and on other Tribal lands under the jurisdiction of the Hualapai Tribe as the Tribal Council may deem appropriate pursuant to Section 108 of this Ordinance.

To accomplish these various missions, HTUA is authorized to carry out the following kinds of activities:

1. To plan for, provide, and furnish electric power, water and wastewater utility services to GCW and provide telecommunication services for the Hualapai Reservation and other Tribal lands under the jurisdiction of the Hualapai Tribe. Such services may include other energy-related services, including energy conservation and the use of renewable energy technologies.
2. To promote the use of HTUA's services where available in order to improve the health and welfare of residents of the Reservation and to facilitate economic development.
3. To acquire, construct, operate, maintain, promote, and expand electric power service, water service, and wastewater service at GCW as well as acquire, construct, operate, maintain, promote, and expand telecommunications throughout the Hualapai Reservation and on such other locations within the Hualapai Reservation and on other Tribal lands under the jurisdiction of the Hualapai Tribe as the Tribal Council may deem appropriate pursuant to Section 108 of this Ordinance.
4. To operate utility services so as to provide revenue sufficient to service debt on particular component projects as may be required by creditors on such component projects.
5. To do everything necessary, proper, and advisable, or convenient for the accomplishment of the mission set forth in this section, and to do all things incidental to or connected with such mission, which are not forbidden by law, this Ordinance, or the Hualapai Constitution.

#### **1.2 ANNUAL REPORT REQUIREMENTS**

In accordance with Section 110 of the Hualapai Tribal Utility Authority (HTUA) Ordinance, the Board of Directors (Board) shall submit a report to the Tribal Council on an annual basis. The report shall include, but not be limited to:

1. Financial conditions
2. Proposed budget for the upcoming fiscal year
3. Rates for various classes of consumers



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4. Progress on HTUA's mission, and;
5. Other pertinent utility matters

Any actions which the HTUA Board ("Board") plans to take in the upcoming year that appear to require approval by the Tribal Council ("Council") shall be highlighted in the annual report; including, any request for the appropriation of Tribal funds for the operation of HTUA. The Board may assign the General Manager the responsibility for preparing the report, although it shall be presented to, and must be approved by, the Board before being submitted to the Tribal Council. Failure to seek Council approval in an annual report will not necessarily preclude the Board from taking a planned action; but, if Council approval is required, a supplemental report to the Council (followed by Council approval) shall be required.

### **1.3 CURRENT HTUA BOARD MEMBERS**

**CHARLIE VAUGHN, CHAIRMAN** – *CURRENT TERM EXPIRES OCTOBER 2022*

**JOE MONTANA, VICE CHAIRMAN** – *CURRENT TERM EXPIRES OCTOBER 2023*

**LANA KELLER ROBINETT, SECRETARY** – *CURRENT TERM EXPIRES OCTOBER 2021*

**JASON DAVIS, TREASURER** – *CURRENT TERM EXPIRES OCTOBER 2021*

**RORY MAJENTY** – *CURRENT TERM EXPIRES OCTOBER 2023*

*\*Note – Charlie Vaughn, Chairman; Joe Montana, Vice Chairman; and Rory Majenty were reappointed by the Council on October 9, 2020, to serve on the Board for 2, 3, and 3 more years, respectively.*

## **2.0 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

The HTUA, like many other organizations, has been impacted by the CV-19 pandemic. Board meetings were suspended for a period of time until and technologies like 'Zoom' were used to supplement and support Board meetings during the last six months of 2020. The negative financial impact of CV-19 to the Hualapai Tribe as a whole appears to have postponed the financing of some electrical infrastructure projects planned/proposed by HTUA. Despite the negative impact of CV-19, HTUA has continued to address the mission(s) set forth by the Tribal council.

The HTUA made several presentations during 2020 to the Hualapai Council providing technical background on the solar grant and micro-grid expansion grant applications by the Planning Department. The HTUA is pleased to report that its efforts in supporting the Solar Grant application for GCW has resulted in the Tribe obtaining approximately \$1.4 million in support of a \$2.7 million Solar Power Plant at GCW. The HTUA also continued its development/planning activities related to the GCW Power line. The HTUA provided a status report to the Hualapai Council in August, to bring the current Council and new Council members up to date on HTUA efforts. The Council was able to use the information conveyed by this presentation in setting direction for HTUA to follow. Additionally, HTUA provided



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support to Planning in its efforts on developing and deploying the community high-speed internet pilot program with assistance of MuralNet.

### **3.0 MISSION RELATED ACCOMPLISHMENTS 2020**

#### **3.1 BOARD MEMBERS**

In October 2020, the Hualapai Tribal Council re-appointed Mr. Charlie Vaughn, Mr. Joe Montana and Mr. Rory Majenty to the HTUA Board of Directors.

#### **3.2 GCW POWER LINE RELATED**

The HTUA Board has been investigating the construction of a power line to GCW. The closest feasible point for connecting the new power line is at the UniSource/TEP Dolan Springs Substation on Pierce Ferry Road in Dolan Springs. The HTUA Board has:

1. Developed and issued a technical specification for the required GCW transformer.
2. The HTUA developed, issued and evaluated a request for proposal for engineering design services for the proposed power line. HTUA is awaiting the BLM issuance of a right-of-way for the proposed project prior to seeking approval to fund the engineering design services currently estimated at \$950,000.
3. The HTUA has provided all of the required environmental studies and information for BLM to complete its evaluation of the proposed power line right-of-way.

#### **3.3 GCW SOLAR PROJECT**

The HTUA and Planning completed and submitted a grant request from DOE to fund 50% of the costs for a 1 MW Solar Power Plant at GCW in the first quarter. During the first quarter of 2020 the Hualapai Tribe was notified that it had been awarded a \$1.35 million grant or 50% of the \$2.7 million project. Planning continues to work on the final site selection and the environmental evaluation of the proposed site.

In early November, in response to the negative impact CV-19 has had on Tribal economies, the DOE issued guidance on how a Tribe could apply for a reduction in the 50% grant match requirement that the Hualapai Tribe received for the solar project. Planning completed the necessary paper work, and the Tribe applied for a grant match reduction on November 16, 2020. On December 29, 2020, the DOE approved the cost reduction request making the Tribe's new match 10% or \$270,000, a savings to the Tribe's general fund of \$1,080,000.

#### **3.4 GCW MICRO-GRID EXTENSION**

The HTUA worked with Planning on developing a grant application to extend the existing GCW micro-grid to serve loads at GCW that are not currently connected to GCW. The grant application was



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completed; however, Tribal Council decided not to submit the application due to financial concerns over the match amount.

**3.5 TELECOMMUNICATION**

The HTUA worked with Planning, MuralNet and IT on implementing a pilot high-speed educational network to 23 community homes with school aged children. The network was successfully deployed in early 2020 and remains operational today, with an upgrade in late October. The implementation of the network was in time to support increased internet access demands that have occurred during the continuing CV-19 pandemic, and to take advantage of the newly acquired 2.5 Ghz spectrum granted to the Tribe by the FCC, as part of the Rural Tribal Priority Window (see Appendix B).

**4.0 FY 2020 FINANCIAL REPORT**

HTUA's operational budget for 2020, as approved by the Hualapai Council, was \$2,088,685. As of November 24, 2019, HTUA had expended \$120,097.92, leaving an unexpended amount of 1,968,587.08 of its 2020 Budget.

<b>2020 HTUA Budget</b>		<b>Expenditures to date</b>		<b>12/31/2020</b>
<b><u>I. General</u></b>		<b>Expenditures to Date</b>	<b>Amount remaining</b>	
General Manager Consulting	\$ 82,710	\$75,704.00	\$	7,006.00
Arizona Power Authority BCP Power	\$ 6,691	\$6,716.03	\$	(25.03)
Board Member Training & Travel	\$ 5,975		\$	5,975.00
Arizona Tribal Energy Association	\$ 1,500	\$3,000.00	\$	(1,500.00)
Public Outreach	\$ 5,545		\$	5,545.00
Misc.	\$ 50,000		\$	50,000.00
<b><u>II. GCW Power Line Related</u></b>			\$	-
Transmission Line Design Substation	\$ 325,000.00		\$	325,000.00
Survey work	\$ 125,000.00		\$	125,000.00
Environmental Work(Tierra)	\$ 30,000.00	\$26,127.53	\$	3,872.47
UNES Facility Study	\$ 100,000.00		\$	100,000.00
<b><u>III Other</u></b>				
Educational Network Back Haul	\$ 16,740.00	\$16,155.00	\$	585.00
GCW Solar	\$ 1,339,524.00		\$	1,339,524.00
Anchor wave	\$ -	\$1,394.00	\$	(1,394.00)
Kingman Daily Mirrow	-\$300.15	\$300.15		
<b>Total Budget</b>	<b>\$ 2,088,685.00</b>	<b>\$129,396.71</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>1,959,288.29</b>



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**5.0 2021 BUDGET**

2021 Proposed HTUA Budget				Account No.	01-60-00-0000
<b>I. General</b>					
<b>General Manager Consulting</b>	Rate	units/week	weeks	Total	<b>Line Item Description</b>
Labor per Hour	\$83.75	20	52	\$ 87,100	Power Line, Technical support for grants. Services provided by third party contractor William L. Cyr -BBC Consulting
Lodging per night	\$125.00	2	6	\$ 1,500	
Per Diem	\$45.00	0	0	\$ -	
Mileage per visit	\$0.535	250	36	\$ 4,815	Board meetings and Travel to GCW for project management of Solar project
<b>Total</b>				<b>\$ 93,415</b>	
<b>Arizona Power Authority BCP Power</b>	Rate/MWHR	MWhrs/Month	Months	Total	
Capacity	\$28.17	15.50	12	\$ 2,293	Hualapai Tribe Federal Hydro Power Allocation
Energy				\$ 2,947	Hualapai Tribe Federal Hydro Power Allocation
Recoverable Capital Advances				\$ 1,451	Hualapai Tribe Federal Hydro Power Allocation
<b>Total</b>				<b>\$ 6,691</b>	Hualapai Tribe Federal Hydro Power Allocation
<b>Board Member Training &amp; Travel</b>	Rate/Mile	Miles		Total	
Automobile	\$0.575	3,000		1,725	Misc. training and conferences TBD
Inside-State Per Diem	\$11.25	\$45.00	10	\$ 450	Misc. training and conferences TBD
Outside-State Per Diem	\$15.00	\$60.00	5	\$ 300	Misc. training and conferences TBD
Training/Conferences				\$ 2,000	Misc. training and conferences TBD
Hotel				\$ 1,500	Misc. training and conferences TBD
<b>Total</b>				<b>\$ 5,975</b>	Misc. training and conferences TBD
<b>Memberships</b>	Annual Dues			Total	
Arizona Tribal Energy Association (ATAEA)	\$3,000			\$ 3,000	State Tribal Energy Association substantial value keeping HTUA up to date with Tribal Energy development at other Tribes providing leads for grants and access to other Tribes experiencing within energy sector
<b>Public Outreach</b>	Rate/Cost	Units/Month	Months	Total	
			0	\$ 5,000	Provide information about projects to Tribal Community as required including printed material and in person presentations to the community
<b>Total</b>				<b>\$ 5,000</b>	
<b>Total General</b>				<b>\$ 114,081</b>	
<b>II. GCW Power Line Related</b>					
<b>Legal Counsel</b>	Rate	Units/Month	Months	Total	
Total			<b>Total</b>	<b>0.00</b>	Utilize Tribal General Counsel - primary arears of support will be final agreements with third party contractor for solar and various agreements related to GCW Power Line
<b>Other professional Services</b>					
Transmission Line Design Substation			<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 750,000</b>	Third party engineering support for GCW power line, development of final construction plans. Based on proposals provided thru competitive bid process. Will need to rebid for actual cost. Last year winning bid inflated to cover possible cost increase when project is re-bid
Final survey and GOE tech Substation and selected poles--Hells Canyon			<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 75,000</b>	Third party analysis of soil conditions at critical structure location. Required for final design
Environmental Work			<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 25,000</b>	Environmental work is 95% complete this amount is a contingency in the event something unknown comes up
UNES Facility Study			<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 100,000</b>	
<b>Total Power Line</b>				<b>\$ 950,000</b>	
<b>Grant match for GCW Solar project</b>				<b>\$ 1,400,000</b>	
<b>Total Budget</b>				<b>\$ 2,464,081</b>	



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**6. 2021 GOALS**

- **MANAGE THE CONSTRUCTION OF A 1.0 MW SOLAR POWER GENERATION PROJECT GCW**
- **COMPLETE ROW ACQUISITION FOR 69 KV POWER LINE FROM DOLAN SPRINGS TO GCW**
- **UPON COUNCIL DIRECTION - MOVE FORWARD WITH FINAL AGREEMENTS, ENGINEERING AND CONSTRUCTION OF THE GRAND CANYON WEST POWER LINE**





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- **APPENDIX A: 2020 MEETING MINUTES**



## **Hualapai Tribal Utility Authority Board Meeting Minutes**

**February 13, 2020 @ Hualapai Cultural Center**

**Originally Scheduled for January 21, 2020 Hualapai Health and Wellness Center**

**9:30 AM**

**Hualapai Tribal Utility Authority Board Meeting Agenda  
February 13, 2020 9:30 am  
Hualapai Cultural Center**



**1) Call to Order**

Chairman Vaughn called the meeting to order at 9:26 am.

The Board accepted additional agenda items and materials as attached to these minutes

**2) Roll Call**

***Board Members***

Charlie Vaughn, Chairman -- present

Joe Montana, Vice Chairman -- present

Lana Keller Robinett, Secretary --present

Jason Davis, Treasurer --present

Rory Majenty – present via phone

***Support Personnel and Guest(s)***

Bill Cyr, General Manager -- present

Kevin Davidson, Planning Director –present

**3) Review and Approve Minutes**

**a) December 19, 2020**

Motion to approve minutes by Mr. Vaughn, and second by Mr. Montana vote (4-0-0).

Mr. Majenty did not vote as he was excused from last meeting

**4) Approval of Invoices**

**a) BBC Consulting – General Manager Services-**

Motion to approve; BBC Consulting 2019 year-end invoice of \$6,514.2, January 2020 invoice of \$7,782.20 and February 2020 invoice of \$9,792.60 by Mr. Vaughn second by Mr. Montana – vote (5-0-0).

**b) Tierra Right Of Way - Environmental Assessment**

Motion to approve 2019 year-end invoice of \$12,758.5 by Mr. Montana second by Mr. Vaughn – vote (5-0-0).

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**\*\* Additional Agenda item for Arizona Tribal Energy Association ATEA**

**Motion to approve ATEA membership fees of \$3,000 by Mr. Montana second by Mr. Vaughn – vote (5-0-0).**

## **5) Manager's Report**

The General Manager presented the General Manager's report which focused on the following items. Additional details on each of these items may be found in these minutes under the appropriate agenda item.

- 2020 Budget
- Discussions with Tierra and BLM Kingman
- Educational Network MuraNet
  - Back Haul Contract Secured
- Power Line -other
- Solar GCW
- Initial Discussions with MEC
- Annual Report
- ROW coordination call AT&T Fiber
- Other
  - Prepare December Minutes
  - Prepare January Agenda
  - Assemble / Issue Board Package

## **6) Financial Review**

### **a) 2020 Budget**

The Board reviewed the approved 2020 budget amount notification letter from the Hualapai Finance director Wanda Easter. The amount approved was for a single line item amount of \$2,088,685. The Board also reviewed the spread of those dollars to specific line items that provide for HTUA accomplishing 2020 goals. The spread reviewed by the HTUA Board has also been reviewed by the Hualapai Council and is consistent with the direction that the Hualapai Council desires for HTUA.

### **b) 2019 Budget Expenditures to date**

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The Board reviewed the HTUA financial expenditures for 2019. HTUA expended approximately \$218,640 of the \$251,500 2019 budget.

**7) 2019 Annual Report**

The Board then reviewed the 2019 HTUA annual report. Motion to approve; HTUA 2019 annual report by Mr. Montana, second by Ms. Keller Robinett – vote (5-0-0).

**8) GCW Solar**

**a) General Update**

The Board was briefed on the GCW solar project. Most of the work during this reporting period has been dedicated to completion and submission of the Department of Energy (DOE) Grant. The grant was submitted on time and accepted by the DOE.

Mr. Davis, Mr. Davidson and Mr. Cyr met with Caterpillar management/technicians and technical staff from GCW to discuss the proposed solar Project. A general discussion regarding current operation including continuing technical problems provided a great deal of insight into the current status of GCW diesels and micro grid. Additionally, the group discussed the integration of the proposed solar project into the GCW micro-grid. Primary items discussed were:

- Additional information regarding the operation of the diesels is available thru direct downloads from the diesel generator panel. Caterpillar will forward those downloads directly to GCW and HTUA on a forward going basis. We can expect one or two downloads per month. It may be beneficial if GCW staff was trained in this area.
- Discussion regarding GCW operator training was reviewed. Mr. Davis will be following up to provide GCW staff with additional training. GCW should consider having a lead electrical operator for the diesel generators and the micro-grid. Currently, most if not all operational knowledge is held by Caterpillar. GCW staff could not operate the generators and grid without direct involvement by Caterpillar.
- Caterpillar indicated that they have an operational off-grid diesel/solar micro-grid in southern Arizona (Tucson area). Mr. Vaughn indicated that he would like to visit the Site. HTUA staff will work to co-ordinate a visit/tour for the Board.
- Caterpillar explained that the operating hours by the existing diesels is higher than expected due to a complex technical problem. The fundamental problem is that there are not enough loads connected to the grid to allow for stable operation with

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just one unit. This problem could be reduced if additional load could be connected to the micro-grid. GCW should strongly consider connecting all non-connected load (New Town, Western Town Cabins, new ARFF building and Main Kitchen).

- The group also discussed the annual maintenance requirements for the diesel generators including the major maintenance item for diesel unit 3 this coming year.
- Additional items related to this operational review were provided to the Board in the supplemental additional agenda items –item 5.

**b) Grant**

**i) Draft Application**

**ii) Council Resolution**

The Board discussed the draft application and reviewed the Council resolution. Supporting documents were also included in the supplemental additional agenda items. GCW solar documents were included under item 3.

**c) Vendor Selection**

Final vendor selection has not occurred. Solon has assisted a great deal in the grant preparation process.

**d) Site Selection**

The board reviewed proposed sites. The final site has not been selected; however, the leading site at the junction of Buck and Doe Road and the maintenance road is the current choice and was included in the grant application

**9) Mohave Electric o-operative (MEC)**

Mr. Cyr and Mr. Davidson then updated the Board on their recent conversation with MEC regarding improvements to system reliability including the possibility of buying out MEC assets in Peach Springs. MEC appears interested in working with Hualapai in selling the electrical assets presently servicing and located on the Hualapai Reservation in the Peach Springs area.

The Board felt that continued conversations should occur and that Mr. Vaughn will participate in the meetings when possible. The Board reviewed a list of issues to be discussed including but not limited to;

- Acquisition price of assets
- Operational concerns---switching, trouble response, metering.....

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- How HTUA will gain direct access to power supply which can occur at Round Valley substation
- HTUA access to MEC transmission line from Nelson to Round Valley.
  - Will MEC develop a wheeling rate?
  - Would MEC consider selling an ownership interest to HTUA of this transmission line?
- Other possible areas that HTUA can work with MEC to improve reliability to Peach Springs

**10) Proposed Power Line to Grand Canyon West**

All work related to the proposed power line was suspended pending clarification of the HTUA approved budget. The Hualapai Finance department believed that the budget dollars approved were solely for the GCW solar project and the funding of the HTUA GM fees. The use of the approved dollars was reviewed by Hualapai Council during its February 1, 2020, regular Council meeting. The Council, having been provided with the proposed spread of the budget of \$2,088,685, agreed with the proposed spread and indicated that HTUA should continue moving forward with developing the plans for the proposed GCW power line. Mr. Davidson immediately informed Tierra Right of Way to continue with their work related to obtaining the right of way from the BLM and the associated environmental impact finding of no significant impact. The Board will be updated next month on the status of the project.

Mr. Majenty left the meeting due to previous commitments.

- a) **BLM Related**
  - i) **Plan of Development**
  - ii) **Vegetation Management Plan**
- b) **NEPA/ Environmental/Cultural/Biological**
  - i) **Cultural Report**
  - ii) **Biological Report**
  - iii) **Visual Impact Assessments**
  - iv) **Environmental Assessment report**
- c) **Tucson Electric Power System Facility Study Dolan Springs to Grand Canyon West.**
- d) **Transmission Line Design Contractor RFP**

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**11) Deployment of fixed-wireless 4G LTE network in Peach Springs**

**a) General Update**

Mr. Davidson updated the Board on the deployment of the modems to the individual customers. Some system components needed to be updated and the Board was provided with handouts that documented the changes more fully. Mr., Davidson is hopeful to have all customer end use equipment deployed and operational by the end of February.

\*\* Supplemental additional agenda item 7. Muralnet Wireless Frequency Application Assistance agreement

The Board approved an agreement with MuralNet for assistance with completing the documentation/application to apply for the necessary frequency for continued operation after the pilot program. The frequency will be secured for exclusive use by the Hualapai Tribe. Motion by Mr. Vaughn second by Ms. Keller Robinett vote (4-0-0)

**12) Federal Hydro Power/WAPA/Other Power related**

**a) Request to WAPA for meeting with HTUA and Tribal Council**

The Board was updated on a pending meeting with WAPA and the Council. No firm date has been established at this time

**13) Other Matters**

**a) General Manager's 2020 Contract – Kevin**

The Board then reviewed the candidates and proposed contract for General Manager Services---Mr. Cyr left the meeting while this issue was discussed by the Board. The Board evaluated and ranked all the candidates and made the following motion;

On a motion by Mr. Vaughn and a second by Mr. Davis the Board approved the proposed General Manager contract between the HTUA and BBC Consulting, William L. Cyr vote (4-0-0)

Mr. Cyr returned to the meeting and was informed of the Board's action.

**b) Update on tribal council actions – Kevin**

Mr. Davidson briefed the Board regarding on going Council activity. Primary discussion surrounded the recently opened playground.



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**c) AT&T fiber optic easement and status of negotiation**

Mr. Davison briefed the Board on the AT&T right of way negotiations. Currently Mr. Davidson is looking to propose a list of possible members for the negotiating committee. Mr. Vaugh, Mr. Montana and Mr. Cyr all indicated they would be willing to serve on such a committee.

**d) ATEA Annual Meeting**

**e) Announcements**

**14) Set time and location for next meeting**

The Board set the date and location of the next meeting to be at the Tribal Cultural Center at 9 am on March 19, 2020.

**15) Adjourn**

The meeting was adjourned at 1:30 PM



## **Hualapai Tribal Utility Authority Board Meeting Minutes**

**June 29, 2020**

**Hualapai Cultural Center**

**9:00 AM**

**Hualapai Tribal Utility Authority Board Meeting Agenda**  
**June 29, 2020 9:00 am**  
**Hualapai Cultural Center**



**1) Call to Order**

Chairman Vaughn called the meeting to order at 9:21 am.

**2) Roll Call**

***Board Members***

Charlie Vaughn, Chairman -- present via Zoom

Joe Montana, Vice Chairman -- present

Lana Keller Robinett, Secretary --present via Zoom

Jason Davis, Treasurer --present

Rory Majenty – absent

***Support Personnel and Guest(s)***

Bill Cyr, General Manager -- present via Zoom

Kevin Davidson, Planning Director –present

**3) Review and Approve Minutes**

**January 2020 Board meeting held on February 13, 2020 @ Cultural Center**

Motion to approve minutes by Mr. Montana, and second by Mr. Davis vote (3-0-2).

The two member votes not for approval due to member absence from meeting

**4) Approval of Invoices**

**a) BBC Consulting – General Manager Services-**

Motion to approve; BBC Consulting June invoice of \$9,450 by Mr. Montana second by Mr. Davis – vote (3-0-2). The two member votes not for approval due to member absence from meeting

**b) Tierra Right Of Way - Environmental Assessment**

Motion to approve May invoice of \$257.50 by Mr. Montana second by Mr. Davis – vote (3-0-2). The two votes not for approval due to absence from meeting

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**June 29, 2020 9:00 am**  
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## **5) Manager's Report**

The General Manager presented the General Manager's report which focused on the following items.  
Separate reports on each item were included in Board package

- *Micro Grid Extension*
- *GCW solar Project Grant -has been granted—discussed in greater detail in agenda item 8*
- *Power Line project-also discussed in agenda item 10*

*During the discussion of the power line project the, concerns were expressed regarding the length of time it has taken the BLM to address / resolve issues surrounding the BLM's due diligence in granting ROW. Mr. Cyr and Mr. Davidson reported that the BLM is in possession of all required documents necessary to make their decision. The Board agreed that a letter should be sent to the BLM detailing HTUA's concerns regarding the slow rate of progress being achieved by BLM. Mr. Vaughn indicated he would draft a letter outlining HTUA concerns.*

- *Plan of Development*
  - *Vegetation Management Plan*
  - *Biological Report*
  - *Cultural Report*
  - *Visual Impact modeling—(All except for one site –the final model for this one site is pending approval of a change order to Tierra Right of Way---BLM revised the location of the site – rejecting the results of the simulation of the site they had previously approved since right-of-way was relocated to avoid mining claim due on oversight on BLM's behalf.)*
- *GCW Var Issue*
  - *GCW Substation Power Transformer*
  - *ATEA Regional Call-Hoover Letter*
  - *GCW Maintenance practices*
  - *Tribal Utility and Energy Infrastructure Legislation for Indigenous People (TUEILIP)*

## **6) Financial Review**

### **a) 2020 Budget Review –Expenditures to date**

*It was reported that \$78, 646 of the \$2.01 million dollar budget had been expended to date*

**Hualapai Tribal Utility Authority Board Meeting Agenda**  
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**Hualapai Cultural Center**



**7) GCW Micro Grid Extension**

*The Board was provided with the following brief of the project*

*Project Summary*

*The project provides for extending the existing 20.8 KV GCW micro grid to serve existing non-micro grid connected loads. Grand Canyon West (GCW) is not interconnected to a traditional utility grid. The majority of electrical loads at GCW are served by a Hualapai owned and operated micro grid which is supplied energy by three Hualapai owned and operated CAT 750 KW diesel generators and a soon to be installed 1 MW community solar power plant (including 1.5 MWH battery storage systems). The solar power plant, battery storage system, 750 KW diesels and the 20.8 KV micro grid delivery system combine to form the Grand Canyon West - Integrated Micro Grid (GCW-IMG). A handful of electrical loads at GCW; Main Kitchen, Western Town Cabins, New Town Employee Housing, and the Airport Fire/Rescue are not currently served/connected to the GCW-IMG and are currently served by individual standalone diesel generators. This project provides for the connection of these loads to the GCW-IMG. The net result of the project will be to; reduce operating costs, improve end use reliability, reduce greenhouse gas emission, and a reduction noise.*

*The current costs serving the unconnected loads are \$801,000. Connection of these loads to the GCW-IMG will produce annual savings of approximately \$515,000 producing a 3.77 year total cost payback and a 1.9 year payback of the funds contributed by the Tribe.*

**a) Cost for detailed Load Survey from Walker Service Electric**

*This item was not available for the Board meeting. The contractor failed to provide a timely estimate. The services would provide for surveying the non-grid connected loads at GCW. This information would have been used to support / verify existing assumptions regarding a grant application for the micro-grid extension project. This supporting information would have been included in the grant application.*

**b) Feasibility**

*The Board was provided with an internally completed economic/ feasibility study for extending the micro-grid at GCW. The primary take aways from this study was:*

- *GCW off-grid loads are the most expensive energy produced at GCW*
- *Cost of serving GCW off-grid loads is estimated to be 69 cents per KWH*
- *Cost to extend the micro grid is up to \$2 million dollars if performed by third-party contractor—Walker Electric*

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- *The cost to extend the micro grid by HTUA-(if HTUA had proper staff) would be less than \$1 million*
- *A \$2 million grant application has been prepared for submission pending Council approval. Council wanted the HTUA Board to review the project and make a recommendation back to Council.*
- *The grant would provide 50 % of the required funding or \$1 million and the Tribe would be required to provide an additional \$1 million towards the project*

**c) Options Analysis DOE requirement**

*Options analysis will be completed in time for grant submission*

**d) Resolution**

*Motion of HTUA support for the GCW Micro-Grid Extension Project and grant application by Mr. Montana second by Mr. Vaughn. (3-0-2)*

**8) GCW Solar**

**a) General Update**

*The grant application submitted by Planning and HTUA has resulted in an award of \$1.3 million grant from DOE towards the \$2.6 million GCW solar project. Mr. Davidson is working on the final DOE paperwork with the Hualapai accounting department. In addition, Mr. Davidson and the TERC committee are working on accessing the proposed solar project site.*

**b) Solan Agreement**

*Solan has provided a draft contract for the solar power plant engineering procurement and construction. The document has been reviewed by Mr. Davison, Mr. Cyr and the tribe's legal counsel. The draft will be finalized and then submitted to Hualapai Council for final approval.*

**9) Mohave Electric Update**

*The CV-19 crisis has suspended work in this area. We are hopeful that due diligence can re-start in the next 30 to 60 days.*

**10) Proposed Power Line to Grand Canyon West**

**a) BLM Related**

**Hualapai Tribal Utility Authority Board Meeting Agenda**  
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**i) Plan of Development-Pending approval**

**b) NEPA/ Environmental/Cultural/Biological**

**i) Cultural Report-Pending Approval**

**ii) Biological Report-Approved**

**iii) Visual Impact Assessments-In Progress**

**iv) Environmental Assessment Report-draft has been submitted**

**v) Tierra Change order**

*The BLM has rejected the visual simulation for one of the sites they selected for simulation as inadequate. A new location must be visually simulated resulting in the necessity for a Tierra Change order. The change order can be accommodated within the 2020 Tierra budget.*

**c) Tucson Electric Power System Facility Study Dolan Springs to Grand Canyon West.**

**i) System Facility Study Approval - \$100,000**

*The Board has chosen to delay possible approval of this expenditure pending approval of the ROW grant from BLM.*

**d) Transmission Line Design Contractor RFP - bid evaluation immediately after Board meeting.**

*There were five bidders to the Transmission Line Contactor RFP. Prior to today's HTUA Board meeting Mr. Cyr, Mr., Davidson and Mr. Knott evaluated the bid responses utilizing a standard ranking sheet. The results of that review are shown in the table below*

Combined Rating Sheet for Grand Canyon West Power Line and Substation Design						
Name of Firm	Specialized Knowledge and Experience and Technical Competence (0-40 pts)	Knowledge and understanding of the scope, realistic approach (0-30 pts)	Cost of the proposed services (0-25 pts)	Total Costs (Tab 4)	Indian Owned Enterprise (5 pts)	Total
DiGioio Gray	36.7	28.3	10.0	\$1,283,319	0.0	75.0
Outsource Utility Contractor Corp	10.0	6.7	0.0	\$2,517,760	0.0	16.7
Pickett Salient	36.3	29.7	17.7	\$900,500	0.0	83.7
Q-Spec, LLC	38.3	28.7	25.0	\$662,691	5.0	97.0
Realtime Utility Engineers	33.7	29.7	21.3	\$810,810	0.0	84.7

*The Board has chosen to delay review and possible approval of this expenditure pending approval of the ROW grant from BLM.*

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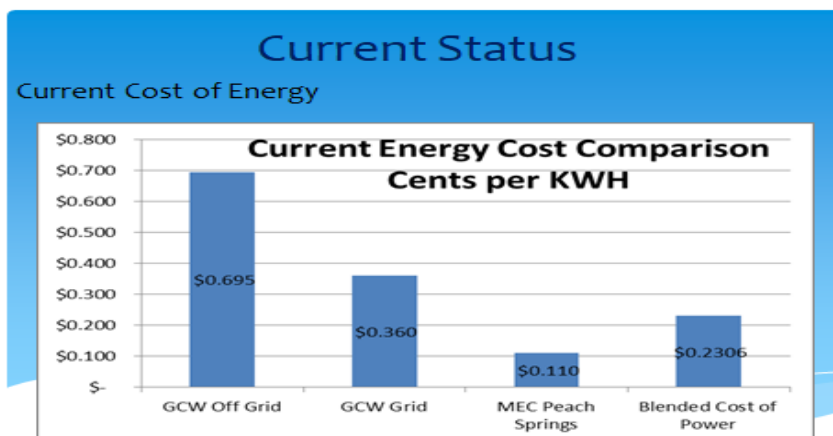


**11) HTUA Multi - Year Build Out Economics**

**a) Economics**

*Mr. Cyr presented to the Board a 30 plus page power point that focused on the impact that three specific energy infrastructure projects, ( GCW Solar Project, GCW Micro Grid Extension, GCW Power Line,) would have on the cost of energy on the Hualapai reservation. The graph and table below summarize the current status at Hualapai.*

Current Status			
Current Cost of Energy			
Current Conditions		yo=today	
Load Centers	Energy Required	Current Cost	Total Cost
	KWH	Cents /KWH	
GCW Grid	3,500,000	\$ 0.360	\$ 1,260,000
GCW OffGrid	1,154,257	\$ 0.695	\$ 801,884
Peach Springs	8,194,942	\$ 0.110	\$ 901,444
Total	12,849,200	\$ 0.231	\$ 2,963,327
Total Capital Expenditure	0		

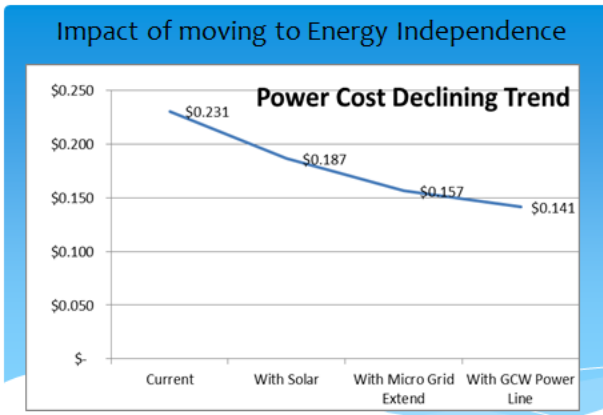




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The graph below tracks the impact that each project would have on the average cost of power on the Hualapai reservation.



- *The estimated cost to Hualapai for these projects is approximately \$18 million*
- *The projects would be completed over the next 4 to 5 years*
- *The costs for these projects would be paid for initially thru the Tribe's general fund and grants.*
- *In the long term, the Tribe's General fund would be made whole thru the continuing energy saving during the initial 15 years. After that the savings would be retained in the General Fund*
- *The bulk of these projects would be completed by a fully staffed HTUA. The cost for HTUA staff is included in the \$18 million estimate*
- *Final rates to be charged to GCW by HTUA will be at the direction of Hualapai Council*
- *At the end of the 5 year build out HTUA will have a competent staff and the necessary equipment to operate and maintain all electrical assets at GCW.*
- *Peach Springs energy requirements will be addressed separately thru separate projects*

**b. NextEra Letter**

The Board reviewed a letter from NextEra-White Hills wind project. The letter offers various community benefit projects to the Hualapai. One of the community benefit proposals is line worker training which would be helpful in beginning the training of possible Hualapai Tribal Members as line workers.

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**12) Fixed-wireless 4G LTE network in Peach Springs-Status Update (Kevin)**

**a) 2.5 GHZ request letter**

*The Board reviewed a letter from Mr. Vaughn as HTUA Chair regarding the application to the FCC for a slice of 2.5 GHZ spectrum for use in Peach Springs to deliver high speed internet access to Tribal homes.*

**13) Federal Hydro Power/WAPA/Other Power related**

**a) Request to WAPA for meeting with HTUA and Tribal Council**

*It was reported to the Board that this item is still pending and is dependent upon resolution of the CV-19 pandemic*

**14) Other Matters**

**a) Update on tribal council actions – Kevin**

**b) AT&T fiber optic easement and status of negotiation – Kevin**

*Mr. Davidson reported that the negotiating committee for this easement renewal will be the Hualapai Council. The Council will request assistance from HTUA and Planning as needed.*

**c) Announcements**

**d) DOE site Visit**

*Mr. Davidson informed the Board that representatives from DOE-Washington DC- would like to visit GCW West to review the GCW Solar Project site. Mr. Davidson will continue to work with DOE and the CV-19 response team to schedule the visit.*

**15) Set time and location for next meeting**

*Next meeting date will be a Cultural 9:00 am Tuesday the 21<sup>st</sup>. Board members will have the option to attend by Zoom or in person.*

**16) Adjourn**

**Hualapai Tribal Utility Authority Board Meeting Agenda**  
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*Meeting was adjourned by Chairman Vaughn at 12:20 PM*



## **Hualapai Tribal Utility Authority Board Meeting Minutes**

**July 21, 2020**

**Hualapai Cultural Center & ZOOM**

**9:00 AM**

**Hualapai Tribal Utility Authority Board Meeting Minutes**  
**July 21, 2020 9:00 am**  
**Hualapai Cultural Center & ZOOM**



**1) Call to Order**

Vice Chairman Mr. Montana called the meeting to order at 9:38 am.

**2) Roll Call**

***Board Members***

Charlie Vaughn, Chairman -- present -- joined in person at approximately 10:30 am

Joe Montana, Vice Chairman -- present

Lana Keller Robinett, Secretary -- present

Jason Davis, Treasurer -- present via Zoom

Rory Majenty -- absent

***Support Personnel and Guest(s)***

Bill Cyr, General Manager -- present via Zoom

Kevin Davidson, Planning Director -- present

**3) Review and Approve Minutes**

**June 2020 Board meeting held on June 29, 2020 @ Cultural Center**

Motion to approve minutes by Ms. Lana Keller Robinett, and second by Mr. Davis vote (3-0-2).  
-2 not present

**4) Approval of Invoices**

**a) BBC Consulting – General Manager Services-**

Motion to approve; BBC Consulting July invoice of \$7,350 by Mr. Montana second by Ms. Lana Keller Robinett, – vote (3-0-2). -2 not present

**b) Tierra Right Of Way - Environmental Assessment**

No Invoice this period

**Hualapai Tribal Utility Authority Board Meeting Minutes**  
**July 21, 2020 9:00 am**  
**Hualapai Cultural Center & ZOOM**



**5) Manager's Report**

Mr. Cyr then reported on the following

- **Micro Grid Extension**

Grant application is complete and pending council decision on approval of grant application

- **Solar Project**

Solar project has been awarded \$1.3 million grant from DOE awaiting the following

- Tribal match funding of \$1.3 million—COVID-19 budget concerns leaves it unclear if Tribe will fund the \$1.3 million match
- Contract disposition / approval awaiting discussions with Wanda and Council
- Environmental –the Tribal Environmental Review Commission (TERC) is working on this aspect and final location
- **HTUA Development Power Point**

PowerPoint has been revised and ready for presentation to Council. Board instructed Kevin to request a special meeting with Hualapai council to conduct a work shop where the presentation will be given outlining the work completed to date and the funding of the next steps. Next steps include

1. Approval of Tierra ROW change order by Council
2. Issuance of grant of ROW by BLM
3. Funding of Uni-Source feasibility study --\$100,000
4. Engineering final Design and GEO Tech work –approximately \$800,000 to \$ 850,000

**6) Financial Review**

**a) 2020 Budget Review –Expenditures to date**

The Board reviewed HTUA expenses to date. The Board discussed the possibility that the approved budget may be cut back. Mr. Davis discussed the budget cut backs being implemented at GCW. Clarification on HTUA budget will be discussed with Council when the Board meets with them.

**7) GCW Micro Grid Extension**

**a) Status of Grant Application**

Pending Council approval

**b) Option Analysis**

**Hualapai Tribal Utility Authority Board Meeting Minutes**  
**July 21, 2020 9:00 am**  
**Hualapai Cultural Center & ZOOM**



Compered this month for inclusion in grant application

**8) GCW Solar**

- a) General Update**
- b) Solon Agreement**

- Tribal match funding of \$1.3 million—C-19 budget concerns leaves it unclear if Tribe will fund the \$1.3 million match
- Contract disposition / approval awaiting discussions with Wanda and Council
- Environmental –TERC is working on this aspect and final location

**9) Mohave Electric Update**

**10) Proposed Power Line to Grand Canyon West**

The Board was further brief on the Power Line project as shown below

- a) BLM Specific**
  - i. **Letter to BLM** Will wait to send
  - ii. **Plan of Development**-Pending approval
  - iii. **Vegetation Management Plan** -Approved
- b) NEPA/ Environmental/Cultural/Biological**
  - i) **Cultural Report**-Pending Approval
  - ii) **Biological Report**-Approved
  - iii) **Visual Impact Assessments**-Pending approval of Tierra ROW change order
  - iv) **Environmental Assessment Report**-draft has been submitted
  - v) **Tierra Change order**-Update
- c) Tucson Electric Power System Facility Study Dolan Springs to Grand Canyon West.**
  - i) **System Facility Study** –Awaiting approval by HTUA and Hualapai Council - \$100,000
- d) Transmission Line Design Contractor RFP- RFP response review-completed** –awaiting HTUA and Hualapai Council approval approximately \$800,000

**Hualapai Tribal Utility Authority Board Meeting Minutes**  
**July 21, 2020 9:00 am**  
**Hualapai Cultural Center & ZOOM**



**11) HTUA Multi - Year Build Out Economics**

**a) Updated Power Point**

Power point has been revised and ready for presentation to Council. Board instructed Kevin to request a special meeting with Hualapai council to conduct a work shop where the presentation will be given outlining the work completed to date and the funding of the next steps. Next steps include

1. Approval of Tierra ROW change order by Council
2. Issuance of grant of ROW by BLM
3. Funding of Uni-Source feasibility study --\$100,000
4. Engineering final Design and GEO Tech work --approximately \$800,000 to \$ 850,000

**12) Fixed-wireless 4G LTE network in Peach Springs-Status Update (Kevin)**

**a) Update**

Mr. Davidson updated the Board on his efforts in securing FCC license with the assistance of Muralmet

**13) Federal Hydro Power/WAPA/Other Power related**

**a) Tribal Utility and Energy Infrastructure Legislation for Indigenous People (TUEILIP)-  
Testimony**

The board was briefed on the efforts of TUEILIP, an informal group trying to influence Federal Government to allocate more resources (dollars) to Tribes. Completion of the engineering design of the Power line would place the Hualapai Tribe in a good position to be prepared to respond to any new government grants that become available.

**b) ATEA- CRSP Comments**

The board was briefed on the efforts of ATEA commenting on the proposed Colorado River Storage Project rates.

**14) Other Matters**

**a) Update on tribal council actions – Kevin**



**Hualapai Tribal Utility Authority Board Meeting Minutes**  
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Mr. Davidson briefed the Board on his recent meetings / interaction with the Council. Primary focus right now is on a new RV park at GCW.

**b) AT&T fiber optic easement and status of negotiation – Kevin**

Mr. Davidson briefed the Board that AT&T has provided the Tribe with approximately \$73,000 to conduct cultural and environmental work related to the AT&T easement

**c) Announcements**

**15) Set time and location for next meeting**

Next meeting August 25, 2020 9:00 AM Cultural meeting room

**16) Adjourn**

Meeting concluded at 11:45 AM



## **Hualapai Tribal Utility Authority Board Meeting Minutes**

**August 25, 2020**

**Hualapai Cultural Center**

**9:00 AM**

**Hualapai Tribal Utility Authority Board Meeting Minutes**  
**August 25, 2020 9:00 am**  
**Hualapai Cultural Center**



**1) Call to Order**

Vice Chairman Mr. Montana called the meeting to order at 9:15 am.

**2) Roll Call**

***Board Members***

Charlie Vaughn, Chairman -- present Joined meeting at 10 AM

Joe Montana, Vice Chairman -- present

Lana Keller Robinett, Secretary –present via phone

Jason Davis, Treasurer –present

Rory Majenty – present by phone

***Support Personnel and Guest(s)***

Bill Cyr, General Manager -- present

Kevin Davidson, Planning Director –present

**3) Review and Approve Minutes**

**July 21, 2020 Board meeting @ Cultural Center**

Motion to approve minutes by Mr. Montana and second by Mr. Davis vote (4-0-1).

-1 not present

**4) Approval of Invoices**

**a) BBC Consulting – General Manager Services-**

Motion to approve; BBC Consulting July invoice of \$5,389.2 by Mr. Montana second by Ms. Lana Keller Robinett, – vote (4-0-1). -1 not present

**5) Manager's Report**

M. Cyr briefed the Board on the following items with additional supporting documents included in the Board package under separate agenda items

**Hualapai Tribal Utility Authority Board Meeting Minutes**  
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**Hualapai Cultural Center**



- **Council Workshop**

Mr. Cyr and Mr. Davidson presented a long range HTUA plan outlining the solar project, micro-grid extension and power line to the Hualapai Council on Wednesday August 5. The presentation explained the long term HTUA strategy including a phased in approach over the next 4 or 5 years. All costs were identified along with the impact the projects had in lowering the overall cost of energy to the Tribe. The power point presentation was included in the Board packet agenda item 12. The meeting was also attended by Board members Mr. Montana and Ms. Keller Robinett. The Council provided no specific direction on any of the proposed energy projects.

A last minute update prior to this meeting occurred in the form of a telephone call from Hualapai Chair Dr. Clarke to Mr. Davidson. In that call Dr. Clarke informed Mr. Davidson that the Council will not be supporting the submission of a grant application for the micro grid extension due to a lack of sufficient funds to satisfy the Hualapai grant match requirements.

- **Mohave Electric Meeting**

Mr. Cyr and Mr. Davidson had a telephonic meeting with MEC leadership regarding the acquisition of MEC assets in Peach Springs. The highlights of that meeting were **presented to the Board** with a detailed meeting minutes provided in agenda item 10.

- **GCW Energy Accounting**

During the aforementioned Council work shop a slide was presented by Mr. Cyr showing a graph that indicated the energy usage at GCW had not decreased during the CV 19 shut down at GCW. In fact during the first few months the energy usage actual increased. Mr. Cyr and Mr. Davidson were contacted by the General Manager of GCW—Mr. Colin McBeath. A conference call was set up between HTUA and GCW leadership to discuss this issue. Mr. Cyr and Mr. Davidson explained the origin of the data used to prepare the graph. Mr. Cyr and Mr. Davidson were unable to provide any additional quantifiable data on why energy usage at GCW had not declined during shut down. . Mr. Cyr presented an example of a more detailed energy accounting system that could be used in the future to better monitor energy usage and fuel consumption at GCW.

Mr. Cyr then indicated to the Board that HTUA was at a cross road or perhaps a stand still. HTUA has developed three separate energy projects that in the end lower the cost of energy on the reservation, develop HTUA into a bricks and mortar operating company, and move the Tribe much closer to energy self-direction. In addition, a longer range plan/strategic goal for the acquisition of MEC assets in Peach Springs, secure transmission for access to regional markets at Round Valley, and improve overall system reliability by building a loop transmission system from Round Valley to Peach Springs, to GCW and back to Dolan Springs. Without direction from Council HTUA is at a stand still.

**Hualapai Tribal Utility Authority Board Meeting Minutes**  
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The Board discussed next steps and felt that it would be appropriate to have a joint meeting with GCW Board to update the GCW of HTUA efforts and to provide the GCW Board with insights into how the operation of the GCW micro-grid and generation be improved upon including but not limited to; increased data collection to allow for development of managing metrics, additional maintenance, details on pending GCW energy related projects and to emphasize that GCW is operating an utility and as such stress the importance of proper training and oversight for their staff working on these utility assets.

- **ATEA comment letter**

See agenda item 14 for copy of letter

- **Last Minute Off Agenda Item—Cares Act-EDA**

The Board was briefed on a call that Mr. Cyr and Mr. Davidson had with the EDA Cares Act representatives regarding a possible grant opportunity for the GCW power line The representatives were hesitant regarding the projects \$15 million or so price tag but they are willing to entertain a grant for that amount in the future however they indicated \$15 million exceeded their normal grant amount.

As the discussion progressed and they were given more detail on the project –they indicated that financing the \$800k or so of the final engineering was more likely to receive immediate consideration. Mr. Davidson downloaded grant details and Richard will review and determine if we should pursue this opportunity. If the grant application is a viable course of action, we will work to submit an application as soon as possible for consideration by their review committee at their October selection committee meeting. They also indicated that they will provide guidance or leads for other grants that may be supportive of the line as well

With the final engineering completed we can develop final cost quote and be in a great position as more grant monies become available for post cv-19 stimulus and overall infrastructure support. With the ROW secured and engineering done ---all we need is the money and the line can be built

## **6) Financial Review**

Mr. Cyr updated the Board on financial expenditure to date

### **a) 2020 Budget Review –Expenditures to date**

**Hualapai Tribal Utility Authority Board Meeting Minutes**  
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**Hualapai Cultural Center**



**7) GCW Micro Grid Extension**

**a) Council Chair letter to DOE**

**i) Discussions with DOE**

The Board reviewed correspondence from DOE which details the nature of grant matches. In summary the DOE is considering reducing grant match requirements for future and past awards. Any grant match reduction, if they do occur, will only apply to grants that do not have final budget approved by DOE. The Solar grant budget has not been approved as of this date so, if DOE reduces grant match requirements, the GCW Solar project would be eligible for any reduced match level.

Mr. Vaughn indicated that the letter sent out by Council, Dr. Clarke, may not have properly reflected the severity of the financial impact that CV-19 has had on the Hualapai Tribe. Mr. Vaughn felt that the Tribe as a whole could be better at communicating its financial position and in setting overall goals/strategic plan for the Tribe.

**b) Status of Grant Application**

Mr. Davidson reported that he received notification from Council Chair Dr. Clarke that the Council will not be supporting the grant application to extend the micro-grid due to a lack of funding resources by the Tribe.

**8) GCW Solar General Update**

Mr. Davidson and the TERC committee are taking the lead on final site selection and environmental. Hualapai financial department have been made aware of the grant award and required DOE financial required forms/agreement have been forwarded to them for review and execution.

**9) GCW Utility Operations**

See minutes above Section 5 Manager's Report for summary of this activity

**a) Energy and Fuel Accounting**

**b) Maintenance Requirements**

**10) Mohave Electric Update**

See minutes above Section 5 Manager's Report for summary

**a) Meeting minutes of July 31, 2020 with MEC**

**b) Outage Response**

**i) Key Accounts list**

**ii) Key Hualapai Contacts**

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**August 25, 2020 9:00 am**  
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**iii) Outage portal for Hualapai customers**  
**11) Proposed Power Line to Grand Canyon West**

The Board was briefed on the following

- Tierra ROW change order has been approved by Council and Tierra will complete the last KOP simulation.
- Despite having the plan of development for almost three years now ---the BLM came up with a series of comments and questions on pole locations. We have responded to all of their concerns and are waiting, once again, to hear back from them on our response. The Board was given a copy of an email from the BLM that they were very busy with other projects and it would be sometime before they would get back to us.

- a) BLM Specific
  - i. Plan of Development-update
  - ii. Vegetation Management Plan -Approved
- b) NEPA/ Environmental/Cultural/Biological
  - i) Cultural Report-Pending Approval
  - ii) Biological Report-Approved
  - iii) Visual Impact Assessments-Update
  - iv) Environmental Assessment Report-draft has been submitted
  - v) Tierra Change order-Update—approved by Council
- c) Tucson Electric Power System Facility Study Dolan Springs to Grand Canyon West.
  - i) System Facility Study –Awaiting approval by HTUA and Hualapai Council - \$100,000
- d) Transmission Line Design Contractor RFP- RFP response review-completed –awaiting HTUA and Hualapai Council approval approximately \$800,000

**12) HTUA Multi - Year Build Out Economics**

See minutes above Section 5 Managers Report for summary of this item

- a) Power Point presented to Council on August 5, 2020

**13) Fixed-wireless 4G LTE network in Peach Springs-Status Update (Kevin)**

- a) Hualapai recipient of \$50,000 award to perform reservation wide broadband study

Mr. Davidson briefed the Board on his department's success in obtaining grant monies to study the current broad band capability on the entire reservation. The results of the study will be used in helping to formulate a Hualapai plan for the deployment of additional high speed internet across the reservation. Mr. Davidson will be issuing an RFP for providing the study services in the near future.

**Hualapai Tribal Utility Authority Board Meeting Minutes**  
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**b) Upgrade wi-fi pilot program equipment to 2.5 GHz**

MuralNet is working on upgrading current pilot system to 2.5 GHZ.

**c) Community need for additional access due to distance learning**

The pilot educational broadband network deployed earlier this year is operating next to capacity. CV-19 has again impacted this area of our lives as more students are utilizing the system for home studies. Many requests from potential customers have been made to be added to the network; however, the system is operating at capacity and no other customers can be added until additional bandwidth is acquired. WECOM, our current bandwidth back haul provider, does not currently have any additional capacity. They are taking steps to enhance their micro-wave link capacity and that may result in additional bandwidth becoming available.

**d) Wecom limitations on backhaul to serve pilot program**

WECOM has received been awarded a grant to bring more bandwidth to Peach Springs but this project may take years to be deployed. The primary hurdle for development of this system is related to securing the necessary ROW on existing pole lines or for a new pole line.

**14) Federal Hydro Power/WAPA/Other Power related**

The Board reviewed the ATEA letter included in Board Package

**a) ATEA- Comments on Tribal Utility and Energy Infrastructure Legislation for Indigenous People (TUEILIP)-positions**

**15) Other Matters**

**a) Update on tribal council actions – Kevin**

Mr. Davidson briefed the Board on the tribe's efforts to develop a new building to serve as an Emergency Operation Center (EOC). The building would be used to house personnel that are dealing with emergencies such as CV-19.



**Hualapai Tribal Utility Authority Board Meeting Minutes**  
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Mr. Davidson also briefed the Board of the Tribes intent to develop an RV site in downtown Peach Springs that will hold fifth wheels. The fifth wheels would act as overflow housing that result from CV-19 infections.

**b) AT&T fiber optic easement and status of negotiation – Kevin**

The survey of the 18 mile stretch of AT&T fiber optic cable right of way is in progress

**c) Announcements**

**16) Set time and location for next meeting**

Next meeting date September 22,202 –Cultural Office

**17) Adjourn**

The meeting was adjourned at 11:15 AM motion by Mr. Vaughn second by Mr. Davis vote (4-0-1)



## **Hualapai Tribal Utility Authority Board Meeting Minutes**

**September 22, 2020**

**Hualapai Cultural Center**

**9:00 AM**

**Hualapai Tribal Utility Authority Board Meeting Minutes**  
**September 22, 9:00 am**  
**Hualapai Cultural Center**



**1. Call to Order**

Vice Chairman Mr. Montana called the meeting to order at 9:20 am.

**2. Roll Call**

***Board Members***

Charlie Vaughn, Chairman -- absent

Joe Montana, Vice Chairman – present via Phone

Lana Keller Robinett, Secretary –present via phone

Jason Davis, Treasurer –present via phone

Rory Majenty – absent

***Support Personnel and Guest(s)***

Bill Cyr, General Manager -- present

Kevin Davidson, Planning Director –present

**3. Review and Approve Minutes**

**August 25, 2020 Board meeting @ Cultural Center**

Motion to approve minutes by Ms. Lana Keller Robinett and a second by Mr. Montana (3-0-0)

**4. Approval of Invoices**

**a) BBC Consulting – General Manager Services-**

Motion to approve; BBC Consulting July invoice of \$4789.2 by Mr. Davis and second by Ms. Lana Keller Robinett, – (3-0)

**b) Tierra Right of Way**

Based on recommendations by Mr. Cyr the Board took no action on the Tierra ROW Invoice.  
Awaiting for product / deliverables covered by invoice

**5. Manager's Report**

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**(a) GCRC Joint Meeting**

The General Manager reported on the informal telephonic meeting between the GCRC Board and the HTUA Board on September 3, 2020.

HTUA updated the GCRC Board on the status of the following;

1) HTUA emphasized the fact that GCRC is actually operating/managing an electric utility. It is the opinion of the General Manager of HTUA that GCRC should consider teaming up with HTUA or retain other third-party expertise to address the following areas of concern

- Accurate energy accounting for energy produced by both on grid and off grid loads
- Accurate accounting of fuel consumption by generation resource
- Accurate accounting of the energy utilized by each load center
- GCW staff is not qualified to work on micro-grid –that service is contracted out to Walker Electric
- GCW staff is not qualified to operate main diesel generators –that service is performed by Caterpillar
- Address the cost of third party contractors performing work versus having utility trained employees on staff
- Elimination of the practice of connecting new loads to stand alone generators versus the micro-grid
- Concerns over the lack of continual maintenance of utility assets. Provide a copy of a maintenance plan recommended at the time that the micro-grid was installed
- Continuing concerns regarding excessive VAR production by the micro-grid

2. HTUA then updated GCRC on proposed money saving electrical projects at GCW

- GCW Solar: this project has received a DOE grant for approximately 50% of the project costs. The project is awaiting final siting and Tribal 50 % match funding. Both Boards were updated on the environmental process as well as a glare study so the solar field will not adversely impact aircrafts flying in and out of GCW. HTUA informed GCRC Board that the savings in fuel consumption would pay for the match requirement in about 1 year.
- GCW Micro-GRID Extension: HTUA informed GCRC Board that a grant application has been completed that would fund \$ 1 million of the \$2 million dollar estimated cost. HTUA informed GCRC Board that the savings in fuel consumption would pay for the match requirement in about 1 year. The GCRC Board was informed that Dr. Clark has indicated that the Tribe will not be submitting a council resolution in support of the project.

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- GCW power line: the status of the proposed power line was presented to GCRC. The power line process is at a stand still awaiting ROW approval from the BLM. Approximately \$8000,000 is required to complete the final engineering design and final project estimate for the proposed power line. Mr. Cyr and Mr. Davidson provided the GCRC Board with a more comprehensive look at the proposed project during a zoom presentation with GCRC Board members on September 18, 2020.

**(b) 2021 Draft Budget**

- Mr. Cyr presented a draft Budget to the Board of \$2.5 million under item 6 b of this agenda. HTUA and Mr. Cyr are awaiting additional guidance from the Council regarding 2021 budget guidelines

**(c) Cares Act –Grant Activity**

- Richard Knott of the Planning Department continues to review this grant possibility

**6) Financial Review**

- a) **2020 Budget Review –Expenditures to date**
- b) **2021 proposed Budget Draft**

Mr. Cyr updated the Board on financial expenditure to date and presented 2021 draft budget

**7) GCW Micro Grid Extension**

Mr. Davidson reported that he received notification from Council Chair Dr. Clark that the Council will not be supporting the grant application due to a lack of funding resources by the Tribe. The Board discussed that perhaps GCRC could advocate directly to council for funding this project.

**8) GCW Solar General Update-Glare Study**

The Board was informed that the environmental review of proposed sites is still in progress by TERC. HTUA worked with DOE and the GCW airport manager on a glare study to ensure the solar field will not adversely impact aircraft coming and going from GCW airfield. The glare study was provided to the Board for their review. At this juncture the glare study has found no problems.

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**9) GCW Utility Operations**

*See minutes above Section 5 Managers Report for summary of this activity*

- a) Joint meeting between HTUA Board and GCRC Board
- b) HTUA presentation to GCRC Board on September 18, 2020

**10) Mohave Electric Update**

- *No progress on this item this month*

**11) Proposed Power Line to Grand Canyon West**

- a) BLM Specific
  - i. Plan of Development-Complete
  - ii. Vegetation Management Plan –Complete
- b) NEPA/ Environmental/Cultural/Biological
  - Cultural Report-Pending Approval
  - Biological Report-Approved-Complete
  - Visual Impact Assessments-Waiting for final key observation point modeling from Tierra
  - Environmental Assessment Report-draft has been submitted  
Tierra ROW change order to compete visual simulations has been approved by Council.
- c) Tucson Electric Power System Facility Study Dolan Springs to Grand Canyon West.  
System Facility Study –Awaiting approval by HTUA and Hualapai Council - \$100,000
- d) Transmission Line Design Contractor RFP- RFP response review-completed –awaiting HTUA and Hualapai Council approval approximately \$800,000

**12) Cares Act Navajo Nation**

- a) *The Board reviewed an article regarding the Navajo Nation's CARES Act funding of 714 million*

**13) Fixed-wireless 4G LTE network in Peach Springs-Status Update (Kevin)**

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Mr. Davidson reported that new customer premise equipment for the 2.5 GHZ system is 10 to 15 days out. The system should have 23 customers but it appears 2 new devices are on network possibly from someone sharing passwords. Work continues on getting a new 2.5 GHZ temporary license prior to the expected permanent license to be received by the end of the year. Mr. Davidson expects to retain a third party consultant to review wireless deployment across the Hualapai reservation. This third party consultant will be funded through the recently received \$50,000 grant from BIA.

**14) Federal Hydro Power/WAPA/Other Power related**

The Board reviewed the following WAPA and other power related subjects and handouts

- (a) Boulder Canyon Project Base rate change
- (b) Parker Davis Post 2028 Federal Hydro Project Power Marketing Initiative
- (c) CRSP Update

**15) Other Matters**

**a) Update on tribal council actions – Kevin**

The re-appointment of Mr. Vaughn, Mr. Montana and Mr. Majenty will be considered at the Council meeting on October 9th.

**b) AT&T fiber optic easement and status of negotiation – Kevin**

The biological assessment for the subject easement will be performed by a third-party. There were 7 respondents to the RFP. This work should be completed by the end of the year.

**c) Core Venture Partners Proposal**

The Board review a renewable energy system that provides for storage utilizing concrete blocks that are raised during the day and allowed to lower at night –producing power as the concrete mass lowers.

**16) Set time and location for next meeting**

**Hualapai Tribal Utility Authority Board Meeting Minutes**  
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Next meeting date October 20, 2020 –Cultural Center

**17) Adjourn**

The meeting was adjourned at 10:30 AM





## **Hualapai Tribal Utility Authority Board Meeting Minutes**

**October 20, 2020**

**Hualapai Cultural Center**

**9:00 AM**

**Hualapai Tribal Utility Authority Board Meeting Minutes**  
**October 20, 2020 9:00 am**  
**Hualapai Cultural Center**



**1) Call to Order**

HTUA Board Secretary Lana Keller Robinett called meeting to order at 9:11 AM. Vice Chair Mr. Joe Montana arrived at 9:18 AM and oversight of the Board meeting was transferred to Mr. Montana.

**2) Roll Call**

***Board Members***

Charlie Vaughn, Chairman -- Absent due to Doctor Appointment  
Joe Montana, Vice Chairman – present  
Lana Keller Robinett, Secretary –present  
Jason Davis, Treasurer –present via phone  
Rory Majenty – present via phone

***Support Personnel and Guest(s)***

Bill Cyr, General Manager -- present  
Kevin Davidson, Planning Director –present

**3) Review and Approve Minutes**

**September 22, 2020 Board meeting @ Cultural Center**

Motion to approve minutes by Ms. Lana Keller Robinett and a second by Mr. Davis. Vote (3-0-0)

**4) Approval of Invoices**

**a) BBC Consulting – General Manager Services- October**

Motion to approve; BBC Consulting October invoice of \$4,189.20 by Mr. Davis and second Ms. Lana Keller Robinett, Vote – (3-0)

**b) Tierra Right of Way**

**Hualapai Tribal Utility Authority Board Meeting Minutes**  
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**Hualapai Cultural Center**



Vice Chair Mr. Joe Montana arrived at this point and oversight of the Board meeting was transferred to Mr. Montana.

Motion to approve; Tierra Right Of Way invoice of \$8,460.15 by Mr. Majenty and second Mr. Montana, Vote – (4-0)

## **5) Manager's Report**

The General Manager reported on the following;

- a) HTUA Board Re-appointments as Confirmed by Mr. Davidson
  - i) The Council re-appointed Mr. Vaughn for a two year term ending in October 2022
  - ii) The Council reappointed Mr. Montana and Mr. Majenty for a three year term ending in October 2023.

Terms were staggered to limit the potential for more than two Board members leaving the Board in any one year.

- b) 2021 Draft Budget

The draft 2021 Budget is completed. Finalization of the Budget with the Board is pending further direction from the Finance Department and the Hualapai Council.

- c) 2.5 GHZ Broadband deployment webinar

Mr. Davidson and Mr. Cyr sat thru a webinar on designing and deploying a 2.5 GHZ system. The presentation was conducted by a consultant group that can assist the planning and deployment. It was noted that the Tribe has in place a \$50,000 grant to facilitate this effort. Mr. Davidson informed the Board that this effort would begin in earnest early next year.

- d) Broadband wireless management

The management of the existing Broadband wireless network deployed by Planning and HTUA may be moving to the T department. Further clarification from Council is required. If the network is deployed deeper into the community then the demands of managing the network will increase. This increase will require additional support employees.

The existing network will be upgraded this month due to an expiring temporary FCC license. Mr. Davidson will lead the conversion with assistance from Mural Net and the Hualapai IT department.

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**e) Solar Project**

The solar project is on un-official hold pending completion of environmental work, final site selection and direction from Council / Finance Department. Mr. Davidson did a great deal of work to assist the Tribal Environmental Review Commission with evaluating sites including KOP modeling of the various sites.

Mr. Cyr indicated his preference for the original site, which is the site, covered in the solar system provider, Solon, bid proposal. During the month Mr. Cyr had conversations with Solon that they would hold their price to the one quoted. This is particularly helpful as the cost of goods like solar panels, wire, conduit and other building material like concrete is experiencing considerable upward price pressure. For this reason, distance to grid, and requirements for additional enhancements to the grid will increase the cost of the project substantially.

Several calls with DOE were conducted during the month. DOE is seeking commitment from Hualapai Council / financing. They are also waiting for environmental results and final site selection.

**f) Tierra Key Observation Point (KOP)**

Tierra has completed what we hope are the final KOPs for the GCW power line Project. The new KOP's have been submitted to the BLM –Kingman office. We await further direction from them but are hopeful that this is the last major deliverable prior to a decision by the BLM on granting the requested power line ROW easement.

**6) Financial Review see managers' report for minutes in this area**

- a) 2020 Budget Review –Expenditures to date**
- b) Draft 2021 Budget**

**7) GCW Micro Grid Extension-General Update \_extension**

The deadline for submitting grant has been extended again. At this juncture the Grant is completed but will not be submitted.

**8) GCW Solar- General Update—DOE Call**



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See managers' report for minutes in this area

**9) Block Storage System**

The block system presentation is still pending –completion of necessary paper work with tribe

**10) Mohave Electric Update- No Progress**

**11) Proposed Power Line to Grand Canyon West** see managers' report for minutes in this area

- a) BLM Specific
  - i. Plan of Development-update
  - ii. Vegetation Management Plan -Approved
- b) NEPA/ Environmental/Cultural/Biological
  - i) Cultural Report-Pending Approval
  - ii) Biological Report-Approved
  - iii) Visual Impact Assessments-Update
  - iv) Environmental Assessment Report-draft has been submitted
  - v) Tierra Change order-Update—approved by Council
- c) Tucson Electric Power System Facility Study Dolan Springs to Grand Canyon West.
  - i) System Facility Study –Awaiting approval by HTUA and Hualapai Council - \$100,000
- d) Transmission Line Design Contractor RFP- RFP response review-completed –awaiting HTUA and Hualapai Council approval approximately \$800,000

**12) OPEN**

**13) Fixed-wireless 4G LTE network in Peach Springs-Deploying 2.5 GHZ Webinar**

See managers' report for minutes in this area

**14) Federal Hydro Power/WAPA/Other Power related**

The following presentations were included in the Board Packets

- a) BCP 10 year plan Summary Purely informational –no Board action required
- b) Market Prices A review of market prices showed a strange anomaly where off-peak energy was higher than on-peak energy. Mr. Cyr explained that peak time in the Arizona market was typically from 11 to 9 but the definition of peak could vary depending upon location

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and what market. For example peak load on Hualapai Reservation occurs in winter and the peak load in Phoenix occurs in August.

**c) CRSP and Parker Davis –Blended Transmission rate proposal**

Mr. Cyr explained that each transmission project had a specific transmission rate associated with it. WAPA is looking to combine the Parker Davis Transmission rate with the CRSP transmission rate. The combined rate should be less and eliminate what is known in the industry as a “pancake” rate. A pancake rate results when two or more transmission fees must be paid to transmit power from point a to point b. A commonly used comparison is that each State has a license plate requirement (pancake) where a US postal stamp will cover your costs thru every state.

**15) Other Matters**

**a) Update on tribal council actions – Kevin**

See managers’ report for minutes in this area regarding Board re-appointments  
Mr. Davidson reported census has been completed at the 100% level

**b) AT&T fiber optic easement and status of negotiation – Kevin**

The survey is ongoing and should be completed prior to next Board meeting

**c) Micro grid webinar**

The Board was provided with information regarding an upcoming webinar on micro-grids

**d) Announcements**

**16) Set time and location for next meeting**

November 24, 2020 9:00 AM Cultural

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Hualapai Cultural Center



**17) Adjourn**

Meeting was adjourned at 10:45 AM motion by Mr. Montana second by Lana Keller Robinett.



## **HUALAPAI TRIBAL UTILITY AUTHORITY BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

**NOVEMBER 30, 2020 – VIA ZOOM**



HUALAPAI TRIBAL UTILITY AUTHORITY BOARD MEETING MINUTES

NOVEMBER 30, 2020

VIA ZOOM



1. CALL TO ORDER

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER BY SECRETARY, LANA KELLER ROBINETT AT 9:23AM

2. ROLL CALL

**BOARD MEMBERS**

CHARLIE VAUGHN, CHAIRMAN – ABSENT

JOE MONTANA, VICE CHAIRMAN – ABSENT

LANA KELLER ROBINETT, SECRETARY – PRESENT IN PERSON

JASON DAVIS, TREASURER – PRESENT IN PERSON

RORY MAJENTY – PRESENT IN PERSON

**SUPPORT PERSONNEL AND GUEST(S)**

BILL CYR, GENERAL MANAGER – PRESENT VIA PHONE

KEVIN DAVIDSON, PLANNING DIRECTOR – PRESENT IN PERSON

3. REVIEW AND APPROVE MINUTES

a) NOVEMBER 24, 2020 BOARD MEETING – HELD NOVEMBER 30, 2020 VIA ZOOM

MOTION TO APPROVE MINUTES BY MR. RORY MAJENTY AND A SECOND BY MS. LANA KELLER ROBINETT (3-0-2)

4. APPROVAL OF INVOICES

a) BBC CONSULTING – GENERAL MANAGER SERVICES

MOTION TO APPROVE BBC CONSULTING NOVEMBER INVOICE OF \$4,789.20 BY MR. RORY MAJENTY AND  
SECOND BY MR. JASON DAVIS (3-0-0)

b) TIERRA RIGHT OF WAY

MOTION TO APPROVE; TIERRA RIGHT OF WAY OCTOBER INVOICE OF \$993.23 BY MR. RORY MAJENTY AND  
SECOND BY MR. JASON DAVIS (3-0-0)

**HUALAPAI TRIBAL UTILITY AUTHORITY BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

**NOVEMBER 30, 2020**

**VIA ZOOM**



**5. MANAGER'S REPORT**

**2021 BUDGET**

**DOE COST REDUCTION**

**SOLAR ENVIRONMENTAL PERMITTING**

**ANNUAL REPORT**

**KEY INDUSTRY TERMS**

**THE BOARD WAS BRIEFED ON THE ABOVE ITEMS BY MR. CYR AND MR. DAVIDSON**

**AT THIS JUNCTURE, MR. MAJENTY RECOMMENDED THAT DUE TO THE ABSENT BOARD MEMBERS, IT WOULD BE BEST**

**TO TABLE THE REMAINING ITEMS TO THE NEXT MEETING**

**THE MEETING WAS ADJOURNED AT APPROXIMATELY 10:30AM**

**6. FINANCIAL REVIEW**

**a) 2020 BUDGET REVIEW – EXPENDITURES TO DATE**

**b) APPROVE 2021 BUDGET**

**c) APPROVE GENERAL MANAGER CONTRACT**

**7. GCW SOLAR**

**a) DOE COST REDUCTION**

**b) COMMUNITY SURVEY AND KWLP RADIO INTERVIEW**

**c) GCW ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW – PLANNING**

**8. INDUSTRY TERMS**

**9. MOHAVE ELECTRIC UPDATE – NO PROGRESS**

**10. PROPOSED POWER LINE TO GRAND CANYON WEST**

**a) BLM SPECIFIC**

**i. PLAN OF DEVELOPMENT – UPDATE**

**ii. VEGETATION MANAGEMENT PLAN – APPROVED**

**b) NEPA/ ENVIRONMENTAL/CULTURAL/BIOLOGICAL**

**i. CULTURAL REPORT – PENDING APPROVAL**

**HUALAPAI TRIBAL UTILITY AUTHORITY BOARD MEETING MINUTES  
NOVEMBER 30, 2020  
VIA ZOOM**



ii. BIOLOGICAL REPORT – APPROVED

iii. VISUAL IMPACT ASSESSMENTS – UPDATE

iv. ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT REPORT – DRAFT HAS BEEN SUBMITTED

c) TUCSON ELECTRIC POWER SYSTEM FACILITY STUDY DOLAN SPRINGS TO GRAND CANYON WEST

i. SYSTEM FACILITY STUDY –AWAITING APPROVAL BY HTUA AND HUALAPAI COUNCIL - \$100,000

ii. TRANSMISSION LINE DESIGN CONTRACTOR RFP- RFP RESPONSE REVIEW-COMPLETED –AWAITING HTUA  
AND HUALAPAI COUNCIL APPROVAL APPROXIMATELY \$800,000

11. 2020 DRAFT HTUA ANNUAL REPORT

12. PEACH SPRINGS WIRELESS NETWORKS – ELIMINATION OF MURALNET

13. FEDERAL HYDRO POWER/WAPA/OTHER POWER RELATED

14. OTHER MATTERS

a) UPDATE ON TRIBAL COUNCIL ACTIONS – KEVIN

b) AT&T FIBER OPTIC EASEMENT AND STATUS OF NEGOTIATION – KEVIN

c) ATEA ANNUAL MEETING

d) ANNOUNCEMENTS

15. SET TIME AND LOCATION FOR NEXT MEETING – WITH ALL BOARD MEMBERS

16. ADJOURN

THE MEETING WAS ADJOURNED AT APPROXIMATELY 10:30AM



**2020 ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE  
HUALAPAI TRIBAL UTILITY AUTHORITY (HTUA)**