



Meeting Agenda

4:30 – 6:00 PM, Wednesday June 8, 2022 Remote Zoom Meeting

UEB Zoom Meeting access link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83201655355?pwd=UVY3ODk0ZEhuc1pBWlJlVQmJSdDJVdz09>

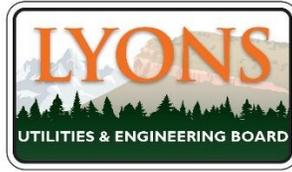
Password: 972968 (New security feature may be required in future)

Or call: +1 346 248 7799

Meeting ID: 832 0165 5355

Password: 972968

1. Amendments to Agenda
2. Audience Business
3. Approve Minutes from May 4, 2022
4. Upcoming Meetings
5. Updates
 - a) Board of Trustees – Greg Oetting
 - b) Staff, Engineering – Aaron Caplan
 - c) UEB Chair – Jim Kerr
 - d) Member Updates
6. Solar Farm and Battery Storage Status
7. Undergrounding Electric Lines



UEB Meeting Minutes, May 4, 2022

Meeting Time and Location: Began at 4:30pm. Held remote via Zoom meeting.

Attendance: Jim Kerr, Lee Hall, Larry Quinn, Jerry Rotz, Chris Cope, Michael Jackson, Chris Meline

Staff: Aaron Caplan

Liaison: Greg Oetting

Guests: None

1. Amendments to Agenda

None

2. Introductions with new BOT liaison Greg Oetting

Greg is glad to be part of UEB.

3. Audience Business

None

4. Approve Minutes from March 30, 2022 and April 20, 2022

Approved Unanimously

5. Upcoming Meetings

a) MEAN Finance Committee Meeting – 12 May

b) MEAN Committee and Board Meetings – 18, 19 May

c) No UEB Meeting 18 May

Jim Kerr attending MEAN meetings in Kearney, NE on 18-19 May

6. Updates

a) Board of Trustees, Greg Oetting

There was an Urban Renewal Authority (URA) meeting to give funds to the St Vrain Market. They are doing about \$0.5M in improvements.

First BOT meeting, priorities were discussed. Fire mitigation is the highest priority. BOT wants to wean the town from grant funding.

Other priorities are getting Eastern Corridor moving and some utility issues were discussed.

Spirit Hound will be covered by Aaron.

b) Staff, Engineering. Aaron Caplan

Spirit Hound was required to dedicate the water share by May 20. They need 2 shares of Lake Macintosh. It has been difficult to find these shares. BOT gave them additional 60 days to find shares and possibly cash in lieu of shares. Town cannot sell off anything that is not surplus so cannot sell town shares. Money should cover 2 shares so that town is not negative. Workshop in June on town water rights. Lake McIntosh water shares are handled by Highland Ditch and they are very specific on their rules and regulations. New website supposedly will be set up by Highland Ditch to market these shares. Monday BOT report gives short water rights summary.

Planet Bluegrass does not need shares until they connect. There could be potential for multiple entities getting shares and splitting to town needs.

Town should probably not take cash unless sale price confirmed.

DOLA still working with town on getting RFP out for solar farm. Town would like to find best deal for intermediary contractor getting tax credits. DOLA wants to pay on invoice basis on work completed. Town must pay 28% of total cost with DOLA paying 72%. Tax credit can be part of that with documentation.

“Collective Sun” or equivalent firm appear to be only way to go based on DOLA requirements. Town needs more than one bid to evaluate.

DOLA is investigating options for the town that meet both town and DOLA requirements.

New staff handling building permits. New code enforcement person. Also new public works staff.

Electric undergrounding at RR and Fire Station is being completed. Hope to UG lines on Broadway and new hotel wants lines put UG. Need to connect all the way back to 3rd and 4th, cannot just do part. Broadway project will take this into account for transformers and infrastructure needs. Cannot go UG all the way to 5th since too costly with lot of conflicts. Have preliminary design, need to estimate cost.

Food trucks are being questioned about need for commissary to deal with food prep and wastewater dumping. Current Lyons code restricts dumping of food truck waste into wastewater system.

Longmont had transformer blow east side a few days ago.

Consultant will assist town in GIS after updated.

c) UEB Chair – Jim Kerr

- Two new solar installations and one year after installation of the smart meters. Still some issues on smart meter data.
- MEAN power supply committee will be looking at battery storage.
- Comp plan framework is weak on utilities. Water supply and wastewater is not mentioned. UEB concerns are not yet included.
- Got hourly data from MEAN to get peaks. For 2021, they are not using the actual data supplied for Lyons. May be starting for April 2022 calculations.
- Met with MEAN on renewable energy. Lyons, Aspen, Glenwood Springs and Gunnison involved and looking at renewable pool. Some have already gone to 100% renewable.

d) Other UEB Members

Larry noted that UEB comments on Comp Plan but not taken into account in the framework. Aaron noted that changes for utilities are planned.

Jerry will be out until middle of June. Jim wants to know if folks are going to be gone.

Boards are allowed to stay on Zoom. UEB will stay for at least summer.

7. Solar Farm and Battery Storage Status

See Aaron description above.

There is no requirement to change the berm height. A 9-foot high limit on the solar farm and battery storage was negotiated with the Carrolls.

8. Undergrounding Electric Lines

Message from Aaron Caplan on April 14, 2022:

“Been getting a lot of requests to upgrade service panels in older buildings and some require upgrading the size of the wire and possibly transformers. I think we should look into requiring any upgrade of electrical service or modifications to any part of the service from the service panel out to the transformer shall underground their electrical service if not already underground.

I think we could put it in 13-1-270 - Modification of existing Connections. I also think we should move this section up to become 13-1-120 because it seems like it would be better before getting into the rest of the discussion on fines and other housekeeping items.”

Jim comments:

In addition we should likely have a UEB position on undergrounding electric lines. Although it can be more expensive cities like Fort Collins are nearly completely undergrounded now. The previous BOT had also directed Aaron move to underground electric lines. Undergrounding electric lines reduces wildfire hazard which appears to be a focus on most of the incoming BOT members. If the UEB agrees to add this focus it should also likely be added to the update of the comprehensive plan.

UEB goals did not include this but should likely be added as part of fire mitigation. Aaron is getting requests for increasing service size. It would be good to get service lines UG if town is working on getting mains UG. New construction is required to be UG.

Owner is responsible for their own service lines currently.

Wildland Urban Interface (WUI) code is being updated. County requires sprinkler systems on new construction but town has so far not adopted this requirement. If this is required at the state level the town will have to adopt.

Other users of poles (eg Lyons Communications, Century Link) would be responsible for poles the town no longer uses due to UG of power. Extra cost for conduit could be considered. On Longs Peak, neither Centurylink nor Lyons Communications wanted conduit so they are responsible for the remaining poles.

UEB will discuss potential code changes in future.

9. Charging for electric meters on new or upgraded installations

Message from Aaron Caplan on April 5, 2022:

I had noticed the building dept bills new houses for water meters, but we do not charge for electric meters. Staff is not aware of a reason. Just wanted to check with UEB to confirm we should add this item to the fee schedule.

There is specific code charge for water meters, but nothing specific on electric meters. Is it part of investment fee? It would help with consistency. Standard meter is probably about \$120.

Aaron will develop potential code for UEB to consider.

10. MEAN 2022 Integrated Resource Plan

https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1LD8i56tyyh5pKPOjmo0xzr24uCq_ovUE?usp=sharing

Jim's extremely brief understanding:

MEAN IRP and Goals

1. 2050 Vision for carbon neutrality
2. All new energy purchases focused on renewables and carbon free
3. Discontinue coal usage as the commitments end

Lyons Potential Goals

1. Achieve carbon neutrality faster than MEAN as a whole.
2. Support MEAN's efforts to adopt a renewable pool through which MEAN members can increase their share of renewable energy by paying a premium.

SDSG questioning the MEAN plan that is planned to be approved at the May meeting. Some want to remove the coal commitments but a matter of cost. The MEAN coal plants are more in Nebraska and questions whether Nebraska or Colorado is responsible for this coal use with electricity used here.

Lyons might be able to increase its share of renewable energy through a future pool. The renewable pool will be structured such that its energy cost will not go below the base MEAN energy cost. Increasing the Town portion of renewable energy will require paying a premium.

In a 2021 survey of MEAN members, only 1/3 of members wanted to increase renewables at a faster rate than 2050 carbon free goal and only 7% were willing to pay a higher price. In Colorado, Aspen and Glenwood Springs have gone 100% renewable and Gunnison is moving in that direction.

Some in town would like alternates to MEAN but bond debt to 2040. Guzman is thought to be an option by some for a larger renewable mix, and same cost or potentially cheaper. New mayor is interested in exploring options.

Glenwood Springs' arrangement with MEAN changes every 10 years. A couple years ago they elected to renew with MEAN partly as they were offered a 100% renewable option.

Meeting ended: 6:03 pm. Minutes Submitted by: Larry Quinn

5. Updates c) Jim Kerr – MEAN Board Meeting Notes from May 19, 2022

1. Central Nebraska Hydro - very promising. MEAN in final running (implied front runner) with negotiations this summer.
2. Nextera Solar project - on hold because of tariff issue.
3. Sergeant Bluff Solar - Outdated solar agreement never implemented. Sergeant Bluff agreed with the outcome to rescind.
4. The 3 Rice units in Sidney, NE - Just a replacement for outdated behind the meter generation emergency units. They are being purchased by Sidney. Behind the meter generation units are limited to 100 hours per year. MEAN looking to pay for required west capacity from these units at a cheaper rate than they are currently getting on the open market. Approved by the Board.

IRP - No one from the public commented. SDSG was a no show. Passed unanimously with the following focus portfolios (not in any order):

1A Natural Gas Combine Cycle – CCS

2 Landfill Gas

7 Hydropower

8 Wind + Battery

9 Solar + Battery

It was assumed that wind and solar would also be considered without batteries. MEAN personnel have heard that battery technology will likely improve significantly in two years.

High Electrification not modeled this IRP since so many more resources required. Will study in near future

Brad Hans view on why MEAN has so much coal. There was a period of 2000-2012 when natural gas was becoming scarce and prices were skyrocketing and significantly higher than coal. When MEAN was pricing out new energy at that time is when they went in on some new coal plants. Then fracking turned everything around and made natural gas incredibly cheap. The problem is that natural gas has once again increased significantly in price. Note that MEAN installed the first wind farm in Nebraska (Kimball).

Within the next couple of years when MEAN has finalized some of the projects they are working on they will set interim 2035 goals.

MEAN AMI project - going Itron route with Dutton meters. They like the Itron software. Itron will train first community implementation and NMPP Power Pool personnel. Power Pool will then train other communities. Potential for Lyons to use MDM backend for cheaper than originally thought when previously talking with Rich Andryski. They are getting infrastructure money to help. Will focus first on communities already signed up. Expect to take 24 months before can support additional communities. They were again talking up their Power Manager software which would be a replacement for Lyons Caselle software functionality. Would likely be much cheaper than Caselle and supposedly better functionality and NMPP Power Pool would support.

Concerning energy markets - Looks like WEIS will be transitioning to SPP Markets + within the next year or so.

8. Undergrounding Electric Lines

Sec. 13-1-270. - Proposed modification of existing connection or tap license.

<https://library.municode.com/>

Add a sub section (f) An owner of an existing electric connection may request that their service be increased to a higher amp service, or another modification to the existing service connection including but not limited to a larger service connection wire. Such request shall require the owner underground their service line at their expense from the transformer to the service panel.

Additional code cleanup - move this section to make it 13-1-110 and move the rest of the subsections down. At this location in the code the code changes from discussing the utility connections to penalties and fees for non payment. Moving 13-1-270 to become 13-1-110 would keep it in a more relevant location of the code. If you look at the Section titles on the left side at <https://library.municode.com/> you can see that 13-1-270 was probably just added to this section at a later date.

Sec. 13-1-27110. - Modification of existing connection or tap license.

- (a) An owner of an existing water or sewer connection permit or tap may request that the permit or tap be relocated, enlarged, upgraded or otherwise modified, or that the owner be provided a credit of all or a portion of the value of the tap to be applied to relocation, enlargement, upgrade or modification. Such request shall be made in writing submitted to the Town Administrator, who shall prepare the request for presentation to the Board of Trustees at a regular meeting of the Board of Trustees.
- (b) The Board of Trustees may, but shall not be obligated to, approve any request for relocation, enlargement, upgrade or modification of a connection permit or tap. Approval shall only be made upon a finding by the Board of Trustees that the request is in the best interest of the Town and that the owner has agreed in writing to such terms and conditions deemed necessary or appropriate by the Board of Trustees.
- (c) Notwithstanding anything in this Section to the contrary, the Board of Trustees shall not approve any credit for a connection permit or tap unless: (1) the owner provides sufficient evidence to the Board of Trustees to establish that the connection permit or tap was properly issued by the Town; (2) the connection permit or tap is currently valid and effective; and (3) the owner is entitled to connection to the Town system upon request.
- (d) Nothing in this Chapter or Section shall be construed to establish a value for any water or sewer connection permit or tap that is greater than the actual value paid by the original applicant at the time of the permit or tap issuance. Other than providing a credit, no monetary reimbursement or payment shall be made to any owner that is in excess of the actual value paid by the original applicant at the time of the permit or tap issuance.
- (e) The Board of Trustees may, but shall not be obligated to, permit a property owner to exchange a larger water system connection for a smaller connection, and the Board of Trustees may, at its discretion, permit a credit or payment to the owner of the difference between the value paid by the owner for such larger water connection or tap and the owner's purchase of the smaller connection or tap.
- (f) An owner of an existing electric connection may request that their service be increased to a higher amp service, or another modification to the existing service connection including but not limited to a larger service connection wire. Such request shall require the owner underground their service line at their expense from the transformer to the service panel.

(Prior code 7-1-27; Ord. 956 § 1, 2014)

Sec. 17-12-30. - Public improvements to be undergrounded.

Water, sanitary sewer, storm sewer, telephone, electric, natural gas and other similar utility lines and services shall be placed underground. Transformers, switching boxes, terminal boxes, meters, roadway lighting, signal devices, gas regulators, distribution feeders, compressor stations or other similar

facilities may be placed aboveground. Utility lines may be placed either within public road rights-of-way within the subdivision in accordance with adopted encroachment requirements or within easements or rights-of-way provided for the particular facilities in accordance with the approved utility service plan.

(Prior code 10-14-3; Ord. 956 § 1, 2014)