

**DRAFT AGENDA
TOWN OF LYONS
UTILITIES AND ENGINEERING BOARD (UEB)**

**HYBRID MEETING
LYONS TOWN HALL, 432 5TH AVENUE, LYONS, COLORADO**

August 2, 2023 4:30 - 6:00 pm

Join optional Zoom Meeting

[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88399705828?
pwd=Q3RCemZvK1c4akpiamRaK2IYWQ3QT09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88399705828?pwd=Q3RCemZvK1c4akpiamRaK2IYWQ3QT09)

Note that detailed content, if available, such as presentations is provided in subsequent pages.

- I. Roll Call
- II. Approve Agenda and Minutes from Past Meetings
 - a. Approve Agenda
 - b. Approve July 19, 2023 Minutes
- III. Audience Business
- IV. Staff Report
 - a. Staff – Aaron Caplan
 - b. Board of Trustees Liaison – Greg Oetting
 - c. UEB Chair – Jim Kerr
 - d. Member Updates
- V. Business
 - a. Solar Farm and Battery Storage Project Discussion
 - b. 2024 Budget Process Items for Consideration
 - i. [https://townoflyons.com/FormCenter/Boards-and-Commissions-13/
Town-of-Lyons-2024-Budget-Preparation-Di-118](https://townoflyons.com/FormCenter/Boards-and-Commissions-13/Town-of-Lyons-2024-Budget-Preparation-Di-118)
- VI. Summary of Action Items
- VII. Next Meeting and Requested Agenda Items
- VIII. Adjournment

Persons needing accommodations or special assistance should contact the Town at hr@townoflyons.com as soon as possible, but no later than 72 hours before the scheduled meeting

**DRAFT MINUTES
TOWN OF LYONS
UTILITIES AND ENGINEERING BOARD (UEB)
July 19, 2023, 4:30 - 6:00 pm
HYBRID MEETING**

1 ROLL CALL

Jane Allo, Chris Cope, Lee Hall, Gina Hardin, Jim Kerr, Chris Meline

Staff: Aaron Kaplan

BOT Liaison: Greg Oetting – absent but emailed BoT report

SFC Liaison: Ed Kean

Guests: Diane Dandeneau (local solar/battery expert)

2 APPROVE AGENDA AND MINUTES FROM PAST MEETINGS

- Approve Agenda and Minutes from Past Meetings
 - Approve Agenda
 - Approve June 21, 2023, Minutes
- **Minutes and Agenda approved unanimously.**

3 AUDIENCE BUSINESS

- No audience in attendance.

4 REPORTS

- **Greg Oetting (BoT) - absent but emailed before meeting**
 - The final settlement payments on the lawsuit are happening (probably already done) and you should see a balance in an enterprise account change. We can speak in more detail when the final deposits are made.
 - There was a "material weakness" found in the town's financial audit for 2022. Although it sounds bad, it was much to do about nothing. The auditor and Director Eyestone provided an explanation to the board, and I even spoke directly with the auditor a week or so ago. This sounds like a late payment that was applied to the wrong budget year. It will be addressed with an amended budget.
 - The gentleman from Tierra Consulting was going to give a presentation to the board about TOU electrical rates but could not attend as it was the meeting during the week of the 4th. He will try and make the board meeting the week of August 21st. It might be helpful for someone from the UEB to be present.

- **Aaron Caplan (Town Staff)**

- Regarding the Honeywell settlement, Wright Water was an expert witness for us, but can still advise us on how best to spend the funds. They had estimated that we needed about 4 times as much as we received in the settlement to completely “fix” the WWTP. Now they will help us prioritize the various fixes so that we get the most value with our settlement money.
- Longmont Water had requested that we add redundant backflow prevention at the pump station at Hwy 66 and 55th. This consists of more check valves and pressure sensors. It is approximately \$55K. Bids went out and the contractor has been selected. ARPA funding will help.
- Broadway project. The town is looking at undergrounding all electric for the businesses on the south side of Main St (which back up to Broadway).
- After the pickup truck accident which knocked out power to the town in June, MEAN support contractors looked at the electric boxes from the Longmont substation to Lyons. There are about 30 boxes running along Hwy 66. There are six connections per box. Out of these 180 or so connections, only one was concerning.

- **Jim Kerr (UEB Chairman)**

- Jim will attend the MEAN meeting in Kearney, Nebraska on August 16 and 17.
- Sensus was bought by Xylem Water. In June, our electric data download was interrupted. This is needed for both our TOU study and to send to MEAN. This is used by MEAN to determine our peak usage and to calculate our Fixed Cost of Recovery Charge. For solar installations MEAN uses the much higher solar nameplate value rather than the measured actual peak generated solar. Jim and Aaron will work on getting the data.

- **Member Updates – None.**

5 BUSINESS

- **Solar Farm and Battery Storage Project**

- NREL is funding Lawrence Berkeley National Lab to review our solar farm and battery storage proposal.
- One of the things being considered is how best to build, operate, and maintain the installation. A Power Purchase Agreement (PPA) has been discussed before. NREL/Berkeley confirmed that this is probably the best model for our town. However, DOLA gives grants to municipalities, not companies. We will need DOLA to agree with what NREL/Berkeley said in order to pursue the PPA.
- Gunnison built a solar farm with DOLA funds and was able to use a PPA. We need to understand how they did this and get DOLA to allow us to do the same thing. If not, other models exist.
- Diane Dandeneau recommended looking in Rural Energy for America Program (REAP) grants for solar.

- Jane brought up hydrogen fuel cell storage as an alternative to lithium-based solutions. Jane will look into the cost of hydrogen storage. Unclear whether the DOLA grant would cover hydrogen storage.
- Once we have more guidance from DOLA, we can consider what kind of RFPs we can put together.

- **Mid-year Review of UEB Priorities for 2023**

- Street Lights: Should a study be funded next year? It is unclear if we want to bring this to the BOT.
- Water wastewater rate studies. Should they be completed now that the Honeywell settlement has been finalized? Aaron thought that WWTP upgrades should be done first.
- Grease trap compliance
- The town electric rate is currently priced too low and needs to be increased to cover the the MEAN wholesale cost to the town including the transmission and demand charges. The biggest impact of an increase would be on the WWTP which accounts for 5 percent of the town's electric usage. In some cases such as many of the street lights the town does not meter use.

6 SUMMARY OF ACTION ITEMS

- Aaron to investigate yield and resiliency differences between LM and CBT shares (carried over from last meeting)
- Aaron to speak to Chris at DOLA about Gunnison's PPA process.
- Aaron and Jim to work on getting missing electric data from Sensus/Xylem.
- Jane to provide cost estimates for hydrogen storage.

7 DECISIONS MADE

- Agenda and draft minutes from June 21, 2023, approved unanimously.

8 NEXT MEETING AND REQUESTED AGENDA ITEMS

- August 1 – Field trip to NREL in Golden. Gina, Jane, Jim and SFC members will attend.
- August 2 - next regular meeting
- Joint BOT/UEB workshop to discuss water rates might occur in August
- August 16 meeting will be cancelled because of the MEAN meeting.
- Meeting adjourned at 6:05 PM MDT