

PUBLIC WORKS COMMISSION  
MEETING OF WEDNESDAY MARCH 23, 2022  
8:30 AM

Present: Evelyn O. Shaw, Chairwoman  
Ronna Rowe Garrett, Vice Chairwoman (VIA WEBEX)  
Donald L. Porter, Secretary  
Wade R. Fowler, Jr., Treasurer

Others Present: Elaina L. Ball, CEO/General Manager  
Telly Whitfield, Assistant City Manager  
Chris Davis, City Council Liaison  
Antonio Jones, City Council Member (VIA WEBEX)  
Media

Absent: Jimmy Keefe, Cumberland County Commissioner, Liaison  
Scott Meszaros, Hope Mills Town Manager

## REGULAR BUSINESS

Chairwoman Evelyn Shaw called the meeting of March 23, 2022, to order.

## APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Upon motion by Commissioner Donald Porter, seconded by Commissioner Wade Fowler, the agenda was amended to include Consent Item III-G. The amended agenda was unanimously approved.

## PRESENTATION

### 2021 BEST-IN-CLASS EMPLOYER AS RECOGNIZED BY GALLAGHER

Presented by: Bobby Russell, HR Officer

Mr. Russell stated this award is for being in the top quartile of large and mid-size employers. The Fayetteville Public Works Commission is being recognized for providing innovative, creative organizational structures, workforce policies and total rewards, which includes engaged and motivated employees. It is also being recognized in excelling and supporting employees' physical, emotional, career and financial wellbeing.

Mr. Russell stated out of 4,000 companies who participated in receiving this award. , PWC is one of the top companies to receive it.

Mr. Russell introduced his team.

Jennifer Bullard – Senior HR Advisor

Brittany Sisco – HR Advisor – Water Resource Division

Kim Long – HR Advisor – Electric Systems Division

Adrian Clark – HR Advisor – Administrative Division and Executive Group

Rhonda Fokes – Customer Care and Finance Division

Diane Coffman – HR Benefits Coordinator

Olivia Hall – Occupational Development Manager  
Deanna Talton – Occupational Health Nurse

## CONSENT ITEMS

Upon motion by Commissioner Wade Fowler, seconded by Commissioner Donald Porter, the Consent Items were unanimously approved.

- A. Approve Minutes of meeting of March 9, 2022
- B. Adopt PWC Resolution # PWC2022.09 – Resolution to Adopt PWC’s Small Local Supplier Program
- C. Adopt PWC Resolution # PWC2022.10 - Resolution Approving an Extension to March 17, 2023, of the Waiver of Utility Connection Charges for Customers in Annexation Phase V, Area 24A

As a result of severe ongoing national supply chain disruptions for materials needed by PWC’s retail customers in Annexation Phase V, Area 24A to establish service connections to PWC’s system, staff recommends that the Commission adopt a resolution extending by six (6) months the period for which Utility Capacity Charges will be waived pursuant to Section XIE.1 of the Service Regulations for timely customer connections until March 17, 2023.

**COMMENTS:** Staff recommends the Commission grant a six month extension of the Utility Capacity Charge waiver until March 17, 2023, for retail customers in Annexation Phase V, Area 24A.

- D. Adopt PWC Resolution # PWC2022.11 - Resolution Approving Purchase and Sale Agreement for North Carolina RECs by and between the Fayetteville Public Works Commission and ELECTRICITIES OF NORTH CAROLINA, INC.

The Fayetteville Public Works Commission seeks to purchase from ELECTRICITIES OF NORTH CAROLINA, INC. North Carolina RECs to be used to comply with PWC’s future obligations under G.S. 62-133.8. G.S. 160A-274 requires Commission approval of this purchase transaction.

**COMMENTS:** Staff recommends approval of the proposed Purchase and Sale Agreement for North Carolina RECs by and between the Fayetteville Public Works Commission and ELECTRICITIES OF NORTH CAROLINA, INC. in order to procure sufficient North Carolina RECs for our future compliance obligations.

- E. Approve bid recommendation to award bid for the Annual Contract for Commercial Underground Distribution Construction to Pike Electric LLC, Mount Airy, NC, the lowest, responsive, responsible bidder, in the total amount of \$2,312,999.00, and forward to City Council for approval.

This contract will provide commercial underground distribution construction for repairs, maintenance, and other electric underground distribution services. The award will be for an initial period through June 30, 2022, and may be extended for an additional five periods, of one year each, upon mutual agreement by both parties.

Funding for this project will be from Electric Construction, Commercial Underground Distribution Construction for repairs, maintenance, and other electric underground distribution services. The costs incurred under this contract will depend upon the type and quantities of individual work units that are completed during any given year.

Bids were received January 13, 2022, as follows:

<u>Bidders</u>	<u>Total Cost</u>
Pike Electric LLC, Mount Airy, NC	\$2,312,999.00
Carolina Power & Signalization, Inc., Fayetteville, NC	\$2,925,100.00
Directional Services, Inc., Hope Mills, NC	\$3,143,950.00
Lee Electrical Construction Inc., Aberdeen, NC	\$3,203,556.50
Primoris, T&D Services, LLC., Fort Worth, TX	\$3,577,174.00

**Note:** The evaluated costs shown are based upon unit prices submitted by the bidders against estimated quantities of work. Actual costs for work performed will vary in any particular year and may be higher or lower than the evaluated costs.

**COMMENTS:** Notice of the bid was advertised through our normal channels on October 26, 2021, with an original bid opening date of November 16, 2021. Addendum No. 1 was issued on October 27, 2021, to provide clarifications to prospective bidders for contract documents. Addendum No. 2 was issued on November 5, 2021, to respond to questions received by prospective bidders, address contract document revisions, and extend the bid opening date to November 23, 2021. Addenda Nos. 3- 4 were issued on November 18, 2021, to provide clarifications to prospective bidders for contract documents and extend the bid opening date to December 14, 2021. Addendum No. 5 was issued on December 10, 2021, to provide revisions to contract documents. Addendum No. 6 was issued on December 13, 2021, to extend the bid opening date to January 6, 2022, and to permit an additional deadline for questions from prospective bidders. Addendum No. 7 was issued on January 3, 2022, to provide responses to questions received by prospective bidders, revisions to contract documents and to extend bid opening date to January 13, 2022. Addendum No. 8 was issued on January 6, 2022, to provide responses to questions from prospective bidders. There were five (5) bids received. The bids were evaluated by the Electric Construction Department.

**SDBE/Local:** Pike Electric LLC is a North Carolina firm based in Mount Airy, NC. They anticipate utilizing MWBE suppliers: Hightowers Petroleum of Ohio for fuel and Tyndale USA of Pennsylvania for flame-retardant clothing for an estimated combined spend of approximately \$35,000. Pike anticipates using the following local firms on an as-needed basis: Black's Tire and Automotive Service; Cumberland Septic Service; Fastenal; Guaranteed Supply Company; Jiffy Lube; Long Leaf Lawn & Garden Center; NAPA Auto parts; Taylor's Automotive; United Rentals; and local hotels for lodging.

- F. Approve bid recommendation to award bid for the purchase of one (1) 230/66kV Auto Transformer at POD #1 to WEG Transformers USA, Washington, MO, the lowest, responsive, responsible bidder, in the total amount of \$2,897,747.00, and forward to City Council for approval.

This project will be funded primarily from FY2023 funding in the Capital Improvement Program, CIP1000434. Work associated with drawings, costing approximately \$270,818.00, will commence in FY22 and will require a budget transfer or budget amendment to cover work performed in FY22.

Bids were received February 17, 2022, as follows:

<u>Bidders</u>	<u>Total Cost</u>
***WESCO Distribution Inc. Clayton, NC	\$2,439,921.00
**Virginia Transformer Corp., Roanoke, VA	\$2,641,228.66
*Siemens Energy, Inc., Raleigh, NC	\$2,686,700.00
WEG Transformers USA, Washington, MO	\$2,897,747.00
HICO America, Pittsburgh, PA	\$2,977,922.00
HYUNDAI Electric America Corp, Norcross, GA	\$3,113,700.00
JSHP Transformer, San Jose, CA	\$3,205,410.00
Delta Star, Inc., Lynchburg, VA	\$4,267,806.00

**COMMENTS:** Notice of the bid was advertised through our normal channels on January 3, 2022, with an original bid opening date of January 27, 2022. Addendum No. 1 was issued on January 20, 2022, to provide responses to bidders' questions and to extend the bid opening date to February 17, 2022. Addendum No. 1, in part, advised that all bidders must provide valid pricing for a period of at least sixty (60) days following the bid opening date. Addendum No. 2 was issued on January 21, 2022, to provide clarification to the bid extension date and Addendum No. 3 was issued on February 9, 2022, to provide a clarification to the technical specifications. Eight (8) bids were received during the bid process and the award is recommended to the lowest responsive, responsible bidder, being WEG Transformers USA of Washington, MO 63090.

\*\*\*The Instructions to Bidders for this purchase provided that "Those bids not received on PWC Materialman's Proposal Form contained herein will be considered non-responsive. The forms shall be filled out completely. Any omissions may cause the entire Proposal to be rejected." The Materialman's Proposal Form required bidders to provide, along with other information, the percent of failure of the last 100 power transformers at the factory testing and, separately, the percent of failure of the last 100 power transformers after installed in the field. The form also requested the bidder to identify other utilities that had made recent purchase of units of the same design as that proposed by the bidder for the subject purchase. In addition, the bidding documents advised that all bidders must provide valid pricing for a period of at least sixty (60) days following the bid opening date. The bid submitted by WESCO Distribution Inc. did not fully complete the Materialman's Proposal Form as the company did not provide information concerning the percent of failure or prior utility purchases. Moreover, the bid submitted by WESCO Distribution Inc. stated that "this proposal will remain valid for a period of 30 days after submittal." Therefore, the bid submitted by WESCO Distribution Inc. does not substantially conform to the bid specifications. As such, PWC staff determined that the bid submitted by WESCO Distribution Inc. is non-responsive.

\*\*The bid submitted by Virginia Transformer Corp. likewise did not provide information concerning the percent of failure or prior utility purchases. Similar to the above, this information was material to the evaluation of the bids and the purchase to be made. Therefore, the bid submitted by Virginia Transformer Corp. do not substantially conform to the bid specifications. As such, PWC staff determined that the bid submitted by Virginia Transformer Corp. is non-responsive.

\*The bid submitted by Siemens Energy, Inc., among other issues, (1) changed the Milestone Payment Schedule, (2) indicated that the validity and firm price of the bid expired after March 14, 2022 (contrary to the sixty (60) day requirement to hold the bid valid), and (3) added several terms and conditions that were not contemplated in the bid package. Therefore, the bid submitted by Siemens Energy, Inc. does not substantially conform to the bid specifications. As such, PWC staff determined that the bids submitted by Siemens Energy, Inc. is non-responsive.

**SDBE/Local:** WEG Transformers USA, Washington, MO is not classified as a SDDBE, minority or woman-owned business.

**ADDED ITEM:**

**G. Approve the System Agreement with Bloom Energy Corporation as a Sole Source Purchase**

The Fayetteville Public Works Commission has negotiated with Bloom Energy Corporation ("Bloom") the attached System Agreement, comprised of a Master Purchase, Installation and Service Agreement and a System Order containing various schedules and exhibits, to be effective March 31, 2022. Pursuant to the System Agreement, PWC will purchase, and Bloom will sell, install, and provide comprehensive operation and maintenance services for a twenty (20) year term for a 1.5 MW fuel cell system and ancillary gas conditioning equipment designed to generate electricity from waste biogases, include directed swine waste biogas, for compliance with G.S. 62-133.8. Staff recommends approval of the agreement as a sole source purchase consistent with G.S. 143-129(e)(6) and referral to the City Council of the City of Fayetteville for its approval in accordance with Charter Section 6A.20. Opinion letters from two independent professional engineers supporting the sole source purchase recommendation are also attached.

Comments: Staff recommends the Commission approve the System Agreement with Bloom Energy Corporation as a sole source purchase and refer the matter to the City Council for its approval.

END OF CONSENT

## EV MASTER PLAN DISCUSSION

Presented by: Mark Brown, Chief Customer Officer

Janelle Rockett, Key Accounts Agent, Development & Marketing

Ms. Ball stated this presentation is a continuation of our discussion around our updated strategic plan and key initiatives we have to advance our strategic plan. Electrification of transportation is taking the world by storm. The team is doing a terrific job of building an electric vehicle master plan for the community.

Mr. Brown stated we had a cross-functional team that represented all the different areas of the Commission. Mr. Brown stated Janelle Rockett has a significant background working with electric vehicles, having worked for Tesla before she came to PWC.

Ms. Rockett thanked the Commission for the opportunity to speak to them today. She stated she will update the Commission on some of the electric vehicle trends; share information regarding the current landscape as it relates to electric vehicles; the formation of the EV Team and how they approached their assignments; recommendations and next steps.

Ms. Rockett stated electric vehicles as we know of them have been around since the 1990s. Technically they have been around since the turn of the last century, and 2021 was a landmark year for transportation electrification in the United States. In the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter of last year electric vehicle sales more than doubled vs. the first three quarters of 2020 to reach over 1M vehicles. Hybrid sales were up 76% to 830,000 vehicles representing 5% of electric vehicle market, in addition battery electric vehicle sales also jumped 83% to 434,879, and represented 3% of the market.

Part of the uptick in sales is due to market saturation. Almost every manufacturer has at least one hybrid and or one fully electric vehicle model. There are at least 60 models available for sale in the U.S.

Here in Cumberland County we can track EV registrations. In December of 2021 we registered 3,500 total fully electric and hybrid vehicles, which represented about 1.65% of vehicles. Across the nation it was 1.9%. The trend continues to track upward despite limitations from a global supply network. As additional vehicles become available and as prices reach parity with gas vehicles, more people are purchasing electric vehicles.

In 2019 there were 10,000 electric vehicles sold in NC. In 2020 there were 35,000 vehicles sold.

From an owner's perspective fueling is drastically different from ICE vehicles. 70-80% will charge at home, utilizing a Level 1 or Level 2 (110 or 240 outlet). Most charge to 100% every day, just like charging your cellphone at night.

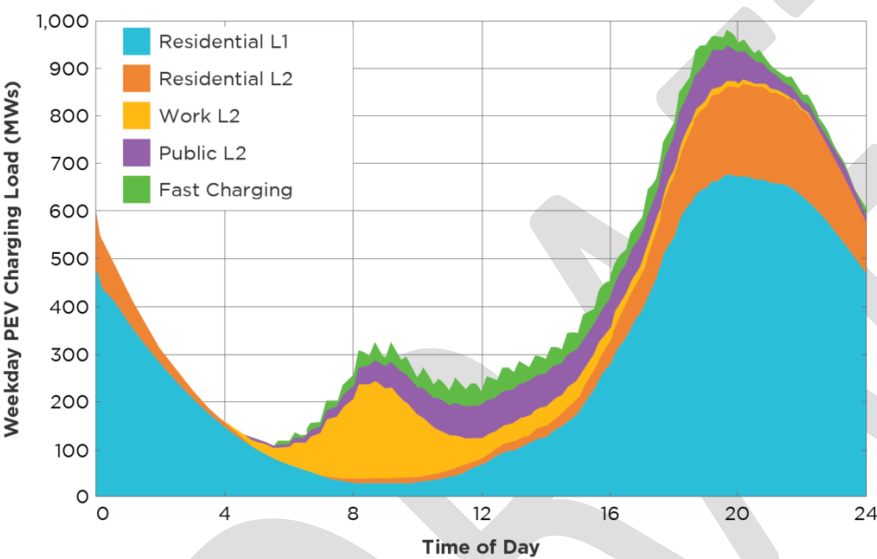
Ms. Rockett stated some of the ownership obstacles are multi-family housing which may be limited, and range anxiety. Will the single charge get the EV owner to their destination?

Nationwide, cities, and utilities are involved. Just this past winter the \$7.5B Federal Infrastructure Bill was passed, which allocated funds for installing chargers on high traffic corridors. Charlotte, Raleigh, Durham, Greenville, and Wake Forest all have city-owned or city-sponsored charging stations available to their general areas. In February 2021, Charlotte announced a \$1M investment in a city-owned charging network, they went from 63 charging stations last year to over 300 last month.

In response to Commissioner Wade Fowler’s question some charging stations are free and some are not. Ms. Ball stated PWC has four stations, which were provided through a grant, that are free. She stated it is her recommendation that as we move forward there needs to be compensation. As we see this transition people will replace their fuel budget with their electric budget, and it is significantly lower.

Ms. Rocket stated in Fayetteville and Cumberland County there are areas that are ready for electric vehicles. PWC has partnered with a company, Blast Point. They have identified three areas that are ready for electrical vehicle adoption.

Multiple studies have been done, both stateside and internationally, and every study has come up with the same graph. Unchecked Electric Vehicle charging has a drastic impact on the grid. EVs represent the single largest load opportunity since the 1950s air conditioning explosion. However, unchecked EV charging could lead to grid constraints, increased system peaks and could lead to unplanned upgrades and other expenditures. Discussion ensued.



Ms. Rockett went on to state the Commission expressed the need for PWC to look into EVs and EV charging. As a result a cross-departmental EV Team was formed in August 2021. Weekly Meetings included information from internal partners, NewGen, BlastPoint and EV charging service vendors. Team members included:

Mark Brown (Sponsor)	Lisa Barbee	Chris McArthur	John McColl	Marcus McLaurin	Keven Meltzer	Maureen O'Connor
Janelle Rockett	Angelia Rutherford	Tim Stankiewicz	Carla Supples	Josie Titus	Joel Valley	Steve West

She stated the team brainstormed possible approaches.

**Education and Support**

Ms. Rockett stated these are the team's suggestions.

**We suggest PWC act as a trusted advisor for customers looking into and owning an EV.**

- Data shows consumers visit their utility website less than 5% of the time when researching.
- PWC could provide preliminary information and share additional sources and links to other pages for additional investigation. Additional discussion ensued.

**We suggest PWC use multiple platforms to communicate with customers**

- Via PWC's website, [www.faypwc.com](http://www.faypwc.com)
- Via PWC's phone app
- Physical collateral for events in the community
  - *Potential obstacle with information/content*
    - *CCR requires support for content creation and scheduled updates*
    - *Marketing & Development will partner third party (i.e. NCCETC, Apogee) for website resources (ex. calculator)*

**We suggest PWC add the following EV information to the website**

- Quick link on PWC homepage
- Savings calculator
- Charging cost calculator
- Incentive programs
- Vehicle information and selector guide
- Local charging installation partners
- Charging vendor options
- Charging station map

**Charging and Infrastructure**

**We recommend that PWC does not own any charging station equipment or assets**

- Charging equipment ownership is complex
- Requires constant attention and maintenance to meet customer satisfaction standards
- Vendors offer lease or subscription-based approaches for installed public charging
  - Vendors would own day-to-day operations, maintenance, field customer questions/complaints
  - Vendors would set up customer charges to reflect PWC rate structure

**We recommend that PWC install EVSE on PWC property**

- Work with charging vendor to pursue CaaS (charging as a service) solution for PWC property
  - PWC campus parking, including visitor, customer, and employee
  - PWC fleet building
  - Butler Warner generation plant

**We recommend that PWC partner with other entities in the service territory and act as liaison to customers looking to install EV charging on their property**

- Potential partners include
  - Multi-family housing
  - Retail businesses
  - Office parks
    - Partnership approach would allow PWC to identify points of potential added system load

**We recommend that PWC partner with the City of Fayetteville and Cumberland County to assist with charging installation**

- Identify areas that would help facilitate adoption and add community value
  - Downtown
  - Municipal buildings
  - Schools
- Donate or gift four current charging stations
  - *Potential obstacle of current ChargePoint contract*
  - *Current data shows stations would be on Small Power TOU*

**We recommend that charging stations to be considered as endpoints in the grid**

- Suggest PWC allow EVSE to be installed behind existing services
- Suggest new non-residential services added with the specific purpose of EVSE installation and EV charging to be metered separately
  - Customer EV fleets
  - Charging station banks (ex. Tesla)
  - *\*primary meter exception (ex. Amazon Middle Rd)*

**We recommend limiting Residential customer charging installation to Level 1 or Level 2 equipment**

- ▶ We suggest restricting utilizing EVs as a source of energy during power outages due to grid safety concerns

**We recommend that PWC utilize price signals to manage grid demand and avoid higher peak loads**

- Offer optional EV rate for all rate classes
- Follow time-of-use structure for Residential and Small Commercial rate classes
- Follow coincident peak structure for Medium and Large Commercial rate classes

**We recommend PWC offer incentive programs for both Residential and Non-residential customers**

- Charging equipment purchase
- DR program enrollment if supported by equipment
  - *Potential gap with residential charging incentive if customers use standard outlet or NEMA 1450*
- Include all rate classes on EV rate to be eligible for incentive programs

**We recommend PWC revisit EV rates as the charging landscape evolves**

- Not enough information currently to pick appropriate rates or structure for Medium or Large EV fleet
- Potential obstacle with changing rate class classifications (kW max)
- System impact of multiple L3 chargers and charging schedule cannot be quantified
  - Different rate options (i.e., load factor floor) could benefit customers but current data does not exist to calculate and compare options

If recommendations are approved, next steps include development of implementation plan.

Commissioner Fowler asked what percentage of electric vehicles PWC will have in the future. Ms. Fritzen replied that we plan to have 25% EVs by 2027. Additional discussion ensued regarding the impact of PWC going green.

Staff and Commission discussed possible charging station scenarios.

Chairwoman Shaw thanked Mr. Brown and his team for this in-depth information.



## GENERAL MANAGER REPORT

### **APPA Reliable Public Provider (RP3) Award**

Ms. Ball stated for the 6<sup>th</sup> consecutive year, PWC has been awarded the APPA Reliable Public Provider Diamond Level Award. We scored 100 out of 100 points, and there is only one other utility in the US who had this score. She stated this comes down to the great work in design, operation, and great customer service for the utility to provide some of the highest level of reliability in the United States.

### **Asset Works**

We recently went live with a new software system, which is a Fleet Management System. This was a smooth transition due to the work by our Fleet, Project Management, and Technology teams.

### **Approval of Bloom Energy Contract**

Ms. Ball thanked the Commission for walking on and approving the Bloom Energy contract on Consent. She also thanked the City for assigning the Synterra TEXFI Agreement. These are all related. She stated we intend to prove by this pilot program the ability to remove Trichloroethylene and other chlorinated compounds that have been in the site for over 20 years. The waste to energy project has several aspects to it, but the TEXFI remediation is a key component. It is a huge risk for the community. Not only has the plume expanded, but it will also over time threaten the Cape Fear and it is sitting next to our clear well at Hoffer. Specific to this contract, it is an innovative, first of its kind type of technology, which will take three waste gas streams, utilizing a fuel cell technology to generate electricity.

It is a clean generation technology, utilizing a proprietary fuel cell technology, so when you see the contract, you will see some items redacted. It is to protect Bloom Energy's technology. There are a number of companion benefits about this project. We will need to partner very closely with the City and the County. From the County's perspective we believe it will provide revenue diversity and another offtake opportunity for the landfill waste gas. It is also going to vastly reduce, and in some cases, eliminate flaring operations before PWC's digester as well as the County.

The City and PWC property will be de-risked by the remediation of this groundwater contamination that was left by the TEXFI operation. So this is risk mitigation for contamination of the Cape Fear basin as well as our clear well at Hoffer. We are bringing clean energy to our system as well as providing backup power to Hoffer. It will require close cooperation between the City, the County and PWC.

Ms. Ball thanked Mr. James West, and Mr. Keith Lynch. They have been working on this project for years, and especially over the past months.

She stated when this is completed, we will take the number one polluted site in North Carolina that is owned by the City of Fayetteville, and PWC and convert it into the first of its kind technology and project in the United States.

### **Grays Creek**

The PWC and County teams have been working on a bulk water agreement for supply to the Grays Creek area. Ms. Ball stated they began these discussions in July of last year. She thanked Mr. Noland and Mr. West for their hard work in trying to effectuate a bulk water agreement. There are a handful of technical matters

that the groups are working on. They had a meeting last week with the County staff and their consultant last week to affirm the volume capacities and the projections. In an effort to expedite a contract to allow the County to begin using their ARP funds on the project, PWC drafted and sent over a binding letter of intent in the form of an Interlocal Agreement this past weekend for the County's consideration. We had already been working on a contract for several month, but we were trying to short-circuit this and allow them to move much quicker. This binding letter of intent would bind both organizations to the project, but would also allow sufficient time to complete the remaining work which will be placed into a definitive agreement. The term of the agreement we have been discussing with the County is over a 40 year term. It is a significant commitment. We want to make sure both teams at the City and County get it right for the customers in the district.

Ms. Ball stated she also read in the paper there is some interest in running sewer service to Shaw Heights. From a County perspective, PWC is happy to discuss it, and the City may want to participate in the discussion as well. She asked the team to begin looking at it since we read about it in the paper. .

### **Golf Tournament**

Several of our Officers and Electric team members are organizing a golf tournament on Good Friday to benefit the Alzheimer's Association as well as medical treatments for a very dear community member. Ms. Ball stated there is a new treatment that is predicted to slow the onset of Alzheimer that was approved by the FDA, however Medicare and Medicaid decided they would not cover the cost of the treatment for patients under 65. The cost of these treatments is approximately \$18,000. Please reach out to Carolyn Justice-Hinson, Bobby Russell, or Mark Brown if anyone is interested.

Commissioner Fowler stated he thinks it is exciting we are looking at new and innovative technologies to take care of problems that exist. He believes it is a wonderful opportunity for the City, County, and the utility to work in concert to alleviate a huge problem in the ground contamination, but also how to use the gas that is being promoted by the landfill.

Commissioner Shaw stated she is happy and a bit subdued that we have been working on the Grays Creek matter for as lengthy a time as has been described, knowing full well all the health impediments to people in the area, especially the children and the school which is what we have been addressing. She stated she knows the staff has been working hard on the matter and she will take it upon herself to nudge the County Commissioners and her County colleagues. Since we put forth written documents (n 2021) and we are almost at Easter in 2022 we would like a bit more traction and speed for the welfare of the citizens in that area. We can't do everything in one swoop, but we should be able to manage collaboration to the extent that we address the water for the school.

Ms. Ball stated she appreciates the comments, and the PWC understands that these water quality and industrial pollution matters have been a priority for her. Whenever we receive any communications to treat them with urgency. Commissioner Shaw stated the only to address issues is to know they are issues from the other party.

### **COMMISSIONER/LIAISON COMMENTS**

#### **Council Member Chris Davis**

Council Member Davis asked about the timeline for the new technology implementation. Ms. Ball stated she visited with key folks at the City at the staff level at the end of last year. The action PWC took today was a time-sensitive matter for the end of the month. The two key areas we will need collaboration from the City on are replatting the property the City owns to build continuous lines of property to the Cape Fear, as well as

supporting an application we will file at the NCUC. We know both actions will take some time, but we would like to effectuate it in the next quarter or two, at most. What we needed to do today, and what was voted on and approved was the time-sensitive matter. Ms. Ball stated the City's Legal Team is working with us on the re-platting. Also, on Monday we offered to attend the closed session, though we were not needed to come, we answered the four questions that were presented to us.

#### **Commissioner Ronna Rowe Garrett**

Commissioner Garrett stated she appreciates when Ms. Ball brings the team together and recognizes awards. She is also excited about the Bloom Energy Agreement.

Commissioner Garrett stated she has been on the board almost a year, and one of the issues she wanted to be made abreast of was Grays Creek. She is also concerned about the lack of progress in dialogue, and she will reach out and nudge her colleagues on the County Commission regarding it. These are the things we can make a difference in our community. There is a path for success for both.

#### **Commissioner Wade Fowler**

No additional comments.

#### **Commissioner Donald Porter**

Commissioner Porter stated when he came on the board, he was made abreast of Grays Creek, and the need to get water to the residents of Grays Creek. It concerns him that this process has been slow.

He also addressed Women's Appreciation Month, and experiences during his earlier days in the military with a female commander.

#### **Commissioner Evelyn Shaw**

Commissioner Shaw echoed the sentiments that have been addressed to the team members who have garnered recognition with the awards. She stated "Mr. Rynne, your team, for the 6<sup>th</sup> year in a row receiving the APPA RP3 Diamond award. This recognition is just a testament of your consistent continuity of excellence". She tells the young people who she mentors, she has an expectation of excellence, and she is never disappointed.

She also addressed Mr. Mark Brown. She is so excited about his team's presentation concerning electric vehicles.

The Commissioners are just excited about the new and innovative ideas that have been either brought to us by our CEO, and recognized that the team members around her have innovative ideas, taken them along with hers, and moved this organization forward to the extent that the Commissioners can now go out and talk about innovation much more than they did in the past. All of the CEOs in the past were really good, and she takes absolutely nothing from them, however the world has changed so much in the past 3 to 4 years that we must change with it, or we will be left behind. She is appreciative as a commissioner and as a citizen that when Ms. Ball brings information to them, she is comfortable parroting it with comprehension.

Commissioner Shaw also thanked Ms. Fritzen and her team on the new software in Fleet.

- A. Monthly Cash Flow Report - February 2022
- B. Recap of Uncollectible Accounts – February 2022
- C. Investment Report - February 2022
- D. Payments by Payment Type – February 2022
- E. Purchase Order Report – February 2022
- F. Financial Statement Recaps – February 2022
  - Electric
  - Water/Wastewater
- G. Position Vacancies
- H. Wholesale Power Cost Adjustment
- I. Approved N.C. Department of Transportation Encroachment Agreement(s):
  - Encr. # 18847 – install 12” RJDI sewer main @ I-295 south of the intersection of Grenadine Dr (SR4020) and Merganser Pl (SR4025)

**CLOSED SESSION PURSUANT TO NC GENERAL STATUTES 143-318.11(A)(3) TO DISCUSS LEGAL MATTERS**

Commissioner Wade Fowler motioned to enter into closed session pursuant to NC General Statutes 143-318.11 (a)(3). Motion was seconded by Commissioner Donald Porter, and unanimously approved at 9:57 am.

Upon motion by Commissioner Ronna Garrett, seconded by Commissioner Donald Porter, the Commission returned to open session at 10:38 a.m.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, upon motion by Commissioner Wade Fowler, seconded by Commissioner Donald Porter, the meeting adjourned at 10:38 am.