

**Knoxville Utilities Board
Board Meeting
Minutes
Thursday, April 20, 2023
9:00 a.m.**

Call to Order

The Knoxville Utilities Board met in regular session in the Larry A. Fleming Board Room at 445 S. Gay Street, on Thursday, April 20, 2023, pursuant to the public notice published in the January 7, 2023, edition of the *News Sentinel*. Vice Chair Small called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

Roll Call

Commissioners Present: Claudia Caballero, Ron Feinbaum, Cynthia Gibson, Kathy Hamilton, Celeste Herbert, and Tyvi Small.

Commissioner Absent: Adrienne Simpson-Brown

Approval of Minutes

Upon a motion by Commissioner Herbert and a second by Commissioner Gibson, the March 23, 2023 Board Meeting minutes were approved by a roll call vote. The following Commissioners voted "aye": Feinbaum, Gibson, Hamilton, Herbert, and Small. No Commissioner voted "nay".

Old Business

None

New Business

Resolution 1475 – A Resolution Authorizing Knoxville Utilities Board ("KUB") to Apply for Tennessee Emergency Broadband Fund-American Rescue Plan Grants

President Gabriel Bolas recognized Jamie Davis, Vice President and Chief Technology Officer, to provide details of this resolution.

Upon a motion by Commissioner Hamilton and a second by Commissioner Feinbaum, Resolution 1475 (*Attachment 1*) was adopted by a roll call vote on first and final reading. The following Commissioners voted "aye": Feinbaum, Gibson, Hamilton, Herbert, and Small. No Commissioner voted "nay".

April 20, 2023

President's Report

None

Other Business

None

Public Comment

None

Adjournment

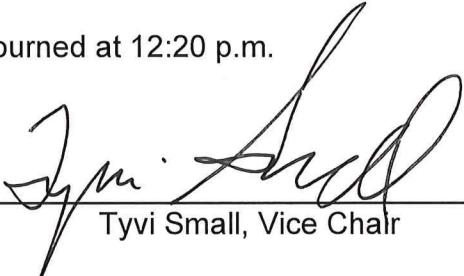
There being nothing further to come before the Board, Vice Chair Small declared the Board meeting adjourned at 9:06 a.m.

FY 2024 Budget Workshop

President Gabriel Bolas provided an overview of KUB's fiscal year 2023 challenges and accomplishments, as well as fiscal year 2024 financial highlights. He then introduced John Gresham, Vice President of Operations, who provided details of the fiscal year 2024 budget for the Electric and Natural Gas Divisions. Kurt Stafford, Director of Engineering, provided details of the fiscal year 2024 budget for the Water and Wastewater Divisions. Jamie Davis, Vice President and Chief Technology Officer, provided an overview of the fiscal year 2024 budget for the Fiber Division. Mark Walker, Senior Vice President and Chief Financial Officer, concluded the meeting with a review of KUB's proposed fiscal year 2024 budget. Mr. Walker advised the Board that resolutions for fiscal year 2023 additional budget appropriations, fiscal year 2024 budget and commitment appropriations, and \$85 million in revenue bonds to fund the proposed budget will be presented for the Board's consideration at the May Board Meeting.

Adjournment

Vice Chair Small declared the meeting adjourned at 12:20 p.m.



Tyvi Small, Vice Chair



Mark Walker, Board Secretary

Attachments

Attachment 1	Recommendation Letter and Resolution 1475 – A Resolution Authorizing Knoxville Utilities Board (“KUB”) to Apply for Tennessee Emergency Broadband Fund-American Rescue Plan Grants	<u>Page(s)</u> 11895 – 11896
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April 14, 2023

Knoxville Utilities Board
445 S. Gay Street
Knoxville, Tennessee 37902-1109

Commissioners:

As you know, the April 20 meeting includes a workshop on the proposed financial budget for fiscal year 2024, however, prior to the workshop, there is one official action item on the Board agenda for your consideration. An overview of the resolution is provided below.

Resolution 1475

KUB previously submitted grant applications under the Tennessee Emergency Broadband Fund-American Rescue Plan to help fund the deployment of broadband services to unserved locations within KUB's electric service territory.

As you will recall, KUB was awarded \$15.3 million in grants for the deployment of broadband services in Union, Grainger, Sevier, and Jefferson Counties.

The contracts from the state awarding the \$15.3 million in grants included a provision for KUB's governing body to adopt a resolution authorizing KUB to file applications for the grants. The need for an authorizing resolution had not been previously communicated by the state.

Upon discussions with the state and our legal counsel, Resolution 1475 has been prepared authorizing KUB to apply for Tennessee Emergency Broadband Fund-American Rescue Plan grants, with such authorization to be retroactive to a date preceding KUB's filing of the grant applications.

A draft of Resolution 1475 is enclosed for your information. I recommend its adoption on first and final reading.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Gabriel Bolas". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Gabriel J. Bolas II
President & CEO

RESOLUTION NO. 1475

A Resolution Authorizing Knoxville Utilities Board (“KUB”) to Apply for Tennessee Emergency Broadband Fund-American Rescue Plan Grants

Whereas, by Resolution No. 1439, this Board authorized KUB to provide broadband services to the fullest extent permitted by applicable Tennessee law; and

Whereas, among the KUB goals for offering broadband service is to make broadband service available to all customers in KUB’s electric utility service area, including rural areas served by KUB in Knox, Union, Grainger, Sevier, and Jefferson counties; and

Whereas, to aid KUB’s goal of deployment of broadband services to unserved locations within KUB’s electric service territory, KUB desires to seek grant funding under the Tennessee Emergency Broadband Fund-American Rescue Plan; and

Whereas, the Board supports the effort to deploy service to unserved locations within KUB’s electric service territory, including the grant of authority for KUB to apply for grants from Tennessee Emergency Broadband Fund-American Rescue Plan; and

Now, Therefore, Be It Hereby Resolved by the Board of Commissioners of the Knoxville Utilities Board:

1. The Board hereby authorizes the filing of applications for Tennessee Emergency Broadband Fund-American Rescue Plan (“Program”) grants for Knox, Union, Grainger, Sevier and Jefferson counties, including all understandings and assurances contained therein, and directs the President and CEO, or his designee, to act in connection with the applications and to provide such additional information as may be required.

2. This Resolution shall take effect immediately upon its passage and shall be deemed by this Board to apply retroactively to July 1, 2021, a date preceding KUB’s filing of applications for Program grants.

Tyvi Small/s
Tyvi Small, Vice Chair

Mark Walker/s
Mark Walker, Board Secretary

APPROVED ON 1st
& FINAL READING: 4-20-23
EFFECTIVE DATE: 4-20-23
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