



JASON E. MUMPOWER
Comptroller

MINUTES
of the
UTILITY MANAGEMENT REVIEW BOARD SPECIAL CALLED MEETING
August 24, 2022
9:30 am

Greeting:

Chairman Knotts detected a quorum and called to order the meeting of the Utility Management Review Board (“UMRB”) in the IT Training Room on the 3rd Floor of the Cordell Hull Building in Nashville, TN at 9:30 a.m. (CDT).

Board Members Present and Constituting A Quorum:

Betsy Knotts, Chairman
Tom Moss, Vice-Chairman
Anthony Pelham
Steve Stone
Kevin Botts, participated virtually
Rebecca Hunter, participated virtually
Dan Coley, participated virtually
Bruce Giles, participated virtually

Board Members Absent:

Phillip Combs, Alpha-Talbott Utility District Manager

Staff Present:

Ross Colona, Comptroller’s Office
Meghan Huffstutter, Comptroller’s Office
Nate Fontenot, Comptroller’s Office
Ben Johnson, Comptroller’s Office

Counsel Present:

Seth May, Comptroller’s Office

Others present and Addressing the Board

Doug Overbey, Attorney, Owings, Wilson, & Coleman
Steve Southerland, TN Senator
Jean Suh, Audit Review Manager, Comptroller of the Treasury
Mike Dunavant, Senior Counsel, Comptroller of the Treasury
Blair Beaty, Senior Counsel, Department of Environment and Conservation

South Fork Utility District

Mr. Colona gave a brief overview to the board of the current standing of the utility.

Mr. May gave the staff summary and explained staff recommendations: that the Board withdraw its order to commence a contested case hearing and authorize counsel to pursue a dismissal of the matter without prejudice.

Mr. Moss moved to accept staff recommendations. Mr. Coley seconded the motion. Ms. Knotts clarified what the recommendation was repealing on the original order, after which the motion was passed unanimously.

East Sevier County Utility District

Mr. Colona described the current standing of the utility and explained the staff recommendations.

1. Board staff shall investigate the District to address the financial, technical, and managerial capacity of the entity to comply with the requirements of any applicable federal and state laws or regulations.
2. Board staff shall, with the full authority of the Board, issue subpoenas for the District's manager, governing body, any other necessary staff, to appear in-person before the Board if the District does not comply fully with the Board's investigation.
3. Board staff shall update the Board as to the status of this investigation at its next meeting on December 8, 2022.

Before the motion was moved, Mr. Overbey addressed the board on behalf of his client, Appalachian Resort LLC on English Mountain. Mr. Overbey gave a brief history of the resorts contract and connections with the Utility District. Mr. Overby went on to provide the board with the various issues that his client had faced in trying to obtain consistent service from the utility.

Mr. Moss moved to accept staff recommendations. Mr. Stone seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

Adjournment

Chairman Knotts moved that adjourned the meeting at 9:45 am. Mr. Moss seconded. The motion carried unanimously.