



# MINUTES

## Special Board Meeting- Public Hearing

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1:00 PM - Wednesday, May 31, 2023

Community Room

The Frankfort Plant Board held a Special Board Meeting- Public Hearing on Wednesday, May 31, 2023 at 1:00 PM in the Community Room.

### ATTENDANCE:

Stephen Mason, Board Secretary/Treasurer  
John Cubine, Board Chair  
John Snyder, Board Vice Chair  
Kathryn Dutton-Mitchell, Board Member  
Jason Delambre, Board Member  
Gary Zheng, General Manager  
Ryan Henry, IT Director  
David Billings, Director of Water Operations  
Harvey Couch, Marketing Video Content Coordinator  
Katrina Cummins, Finance Director  
David Denton, Chief Financial Officer  
Vent Foster, Chief Operations Officer  
Cassie Estill, Customer Service Supervisor  
April Rhodes, Customer Service Supervisor  
Adam Hellard, Cable/Telecom Superintendent  
Scott Hudson, Electric Superintendent  
Cathy Lindsey, Communications & Marketing Director  
Kathy Poe, Executive Assistant to GM  
Hance Price, Assistant GM Administration/Staff Attorney  
Leigh Ann Phillips, Support Services Director  
Travis McCullar, Chief Electric Engineer  
Deron Rambo, Network Operations Center Director  
Jennifer Hellard, Purchasing Agent  
Nichell Brown, Human Resource Director  
JC Lyons, Safety Director  
Shane Holt, Asst. Cable/Telecom Superintendent  
Brandon Powers, Water Treatment Plant Superintendent  
Brian Bourne, Water Distribution Superintendent  
Mike Harrod, Telecom Engineering Manager  
Sharmista Dutta, Water Engineer  
Zachary Hubbard, Cable 10 Producer/Director

# 1 CONDUCT PUBLIC HEARING

## 1.1 Conduct Public Hearing regarding Community Solar Rates and Tariffs.

This Hearing will come to order. My name is John Snyder; I have been requested by the Board to conduct this Hearing. With me today are Board Members and Staff of the Frankfort Electric and Water Plant Board. We are here to receive comments regarding Community Solar Rates and Tariffs. This Public Hearing was advertised in accordance with the Regulations for Public Notification and appeared in the Wednesday, May 24, 2023 edition of The State Journal newspaper.

To conduct this hearing in an organized fashion, we have asked that anyone wishing to comment register via email with Kathy Poe (kpoe@fewpb.com) or Cathy Lindsey (clindsey@fewpb.com).

This Hearing will be conducted informally and voluntarily by the Frankfort Electric & Water Plant Board in order to accept comments on the above item. Both oral and written comments will be accepted. Any and all persons present who wish to make a statement will be afforded an opportunity to do so. If you have a written statement to accompany your oral presentation, a copy of the written statement should be provided to the Board prior to your presentation. Oral presentations should be limited to no more than 3 minutes. If necessary, I will interrupt and request the presentation to be completed due to this time limit. I may ask questions of any person presenting oral comments where it is necessary to clarify the nature or substance of the comments.

The Board reserves the right to answer questions at a later date. It is the job of the Board to fairly consider various points of view and information. We want public input and involvement and I hope you do not find our standard procedures restrictive.

Additional oral comments and written comments will be accepted and considered if they are submitted no later than the end of normal business hours on Monday, June 26, 2023. To submit a comment, please contact FPB at 352-4372, or on our website [www.fpb.cc](http://www.fpb.cc).

**Before we open the floor for comments, Travis McCullar will provide a summary of the details.**

Mr. Snyder convened the public hearing and opened the floor for public comment.

Mr. McCullar summarized the details of Community Solar Rates and Tariff language.

Mr. Andy McDonald provided the Board with written comments and discussed those comments and questions.

Staff was directed to prepare a written response to Mr. McDonald's comments and provide that written response to Mr. McDonald prior to the June 27, 2023 board meeting.

Mr. Snyder adjourned the public hearing.

1.2 **Conduct Public Hearing regarding Changes to Electric Rates and Tariffs.**

This Hearing will come to order. My name is John Snyder; I have been requested by the Board to conduct this Hearing. With me today are Board Members and Staff of the Frankfort Electric and Water Plant Board. We are here to receive comments regarding Electric Rates and Tariffs. This Public Hearing was advertised in accordance with the Regulations for Public Notification and appeared in the Wednesday, May 24, 2023 edition of The State Journal newspaper.

To conduct this hearing in an organized fashion, we have asked that anyone wishing to comment register via email with Kathy Poe (kpoe@fewpb.com) or Cathy Lindsey (clindsey@fewpb.com).

This Hearing will be conducted informally and voluntarily by the Frankfort Electric & Water Plant Board in order to accept comments on the above item. Both oral and written comments will be accepted. Any and all persons present who wish to make a statement will be afforded an opportunity to do so. If you have a written statement to accompany your oral presentation, a copy of the written statement should be provided to the Board prior to your presentation. Oral presentations should be limited to no more than 3 minutes. If necessary, I will interrupt and request the presentation to be completed due to this time limit. I may ask questions of any person presenting oral comments where it is necessary to clarify the nature or substance of the comments.

The Board reserves the right to answer questions at a later date. It is the job of the Board to fairly consider various points of view and information. We want public input and involvement and I hope you do not find our standard procedures restrictive.

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**Before we open the floor for comments, Travis McCullar will provide a summary of the details.**

Mr. Snyder convened the public hearing and opened the floor for public comment.

Mr. McCullar and Mr. Adam Young of 1898&Co. summarized the details of proposed electric rates and tariff changes.

No members of the public registered or requested to comment.

Mr. Snyder adjourned the public hearing.

**1.3 Consider Award of RFP 2023-3 Easement Preparation. (Adam Hellard to Discuss)**

Staff recommends approval of RFP 2023-3, Easement Preparation, to Team Fishel. The invitation was sent directly to three companies and publicly advertised. Team Fishel provided the lowest bid and met all of the requirements in the RFP specifications. Once approved, staff plans to utilize Team Fishel to prepare the utility easements needed for the Franklin County Broadband Expansion project. It is estimated that 800 easements will be required at a total cost of \$77,560.

***John Snyder moved to approve contingent on written approval from Franklin County Fiscal Court. Stephen Mason seconded the motion. CARRIED. 5 to 0.***

**1.4 Consider Award of Bid Invitation #1783 for Replacement of the HVAC system at the Telecom Building to McAnelly Heating and Cooling, Inc. in the amount of \$65,300.00. (Leigh Ann Phillips will discuss)**

Staff prepared a bid for the replacement of the HVAC system at the Telecom Building. The current system consists of multiple units of various sizes, and is original to the building from 1993. One of the units is completely down and all other units have been worked on several times over the last few years but continue to fail.

The bid invitation was sent to nine vendors with two responses received. After reviewing all bids, staff recommends awarding to McAnelly Heating and Cooling, Inc., as they are the lowest bid meeting specifications. This was included in the current FY 22-23 budget on page 19, line 585 (Telecom HVAC & Insulation \$100,000)

***Jason Delambre moved to Award Bid Invitation #1783 for replacement of the HVAC system at the Telecom Building to McAnelly Heating and Cooling, Inc. in the amount of \$65,300. Kathryn Dutton-Mitchell seconded the motion. CARRIED. 5 to 0.***

## 2 ACTION ITEMS:

### 2.1 Review and Discuss the Proposed Fiscal Year 2024 Budget and Financial Plan Through Fiscal Year 2028.

Mr. Denton explained the structure of the Frankfort Plant Board as a Special Purpose Government Entity and budget requirements under KRS 65A. He noted that FPB continued to be in good financial position and maintained an "A" rating through Standard and Poors. He discussed rates, allocation of funds, funding summary, and the level of growth across the three lines of business.

Mr. Denton discussed debt service and possible future borrowing, as well as customer class breakdown. Mr. Snyder added comments regarding depancaking, county broadband buildout assumptions are predicated on Franklin County Fiscal Court agreeing to new terms, and possible adjustments needed if assumptions change.

Department heads from Electric, Water, and Telecom departments discussed capital budgets, projects, and budget drivers. Mr. Denton explained budget assumptions made for each department. Mr. McCullar discussed the Home Energy Audit.

The Board directed staff to leave the budget item for Energy Audits at \$40,000 and increase individual audit allocation to \$2,500. Staff explained what would be covered in this amount. The Board further discussed the status of the Clubhouse, funds allocated for renovations. and possibility of opening up for public rental.

Mr. Denton reviewed the Departmental budgets in the general administration section. He discussed costs for renovating the Clubhouse. He noted \$125,000 was included in this FY 23-24 budget for the renovations. He further noted that a COLA increase of 6% on July 1 was included in this draft budget as well as the 2% and 2% in July and January per FPB policy for those employees under midpoint.

After Board and Staff discussion, Staff was directed to leave the Clubhouse renovation at \$125,000, increase the energy audit funds to \$2,500 for each household, assume 6% COLA for all employees effective July 1, and hold on 2% and 2% pending additional information from staff and potential special meeting to make final recommendation on those employees below midpoint.

## 3 REQUEST PERMISSION TO HAVE CHAIR CALL FOR A CLOSED SESSION

### 3.1 Request permission to call a Closed Session pursuant to KRS 61.810(1)(c) to discuss pending or proposed litigation regarding employee benefits matter; and KRS 61.810(1)(g) to discuss a specific proposal that if openly discussed would jeopardize the siting, retention, expansion or upgrading of a business.

***John Snyder moved to Request permission to call a closed session pursuant to KRS 61.810(1)(c) to discuss pending or proposed litigation regarding employee benefits matter; and KRS 61.810(1)(g) to discuss a specific proposal that if openly discussed would jeopardize the siting, retention, expansion or upgrading of a business. Jason Delambre seconded the motion. CARRIED. 5 to 0.***

**4 CLOSED DOOR SESSION**

**4.1 Come out of Closed Session.**

***John Snyder moved to Come out of Closed Session. Kathryn Dutton-Mitchell seconded the motion. CARRIED. 5 to 0.***

**5 ACTION ITEM: POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING CLOSED DOOR DISCUSSION**

**5.1 Action Taken.**

***John Snyder moved to direct staff to proceed as directed on the two matters discussed in closed session. Kathryn Dutton-Mitchell seconded the motion. CARRIED. 5 to 0.***

**6 ACTION ITEM: ADJOURNMENT**

**6.1 To Adjourn.**

***John Snyder moved to Adjourn. Jason Delambre seconded the motion. CARRIED. 5 to 0.***



Board Chair



Board Secretary/Treasurer