# CRISP COUNTY POWER COMMISSION CORDELE, GEORGIA

2:00 P.M. May 23, 2023

The regular monthly meeting of the Crisp County Power Commission was held on the above-mentioned date and time in the Power Commission Board Room at 202 South Seventh Street.

There Were Present:

Ray Hughes
John Pridgen
Alissa Wilkerson
James Dowdy
Rusty Slade
Larry Felton
Mark Crenshaw

Others Present:

Chris Hewitt, General Manager Ladreka Daniels, Secretary Rick Lawson, Attorney Sam Farrow, Commissioner Ronnie Miller, Plant Manager

Clint Branch, Tech Services Manager

Rick Vaughn, Staff Engineer

Becky Fitzgibbons, Office Manager

Angela Craft, Customer Service Supervisor

Troy Gilliam, Resource Manager

Chad Young, IT Director

Blake Manning, Operations Manager

Grant Buckley, IDC Director

Clark Harrell, County Administrator Gary Youngblood, ECG Representative

Absent:

James Nance

Media Present:

Derwin Palmer, WSST-TV

#### Call To Order

Chairman Hughes called the meeting to order and welcomed all present. Commissioner Felton will be sitting as voting member in the absence of Commissioner Nance.

#### **Minutes**

A motion was made by John Pridgen, seconded by Rusty Slade, and unanimously carried to approve the minutes of the regular April meeting.

## Review of April 2023 Financial Statements

Operating Revenues	\$3,451,914.69
Operating Expenses	\$4,348,085.05
Net Revenues	(\$873,812.20)
Net Revenues (After Adjustments)	\$728,353.80
Year to Date Net Revenues	(\$4,113,388.93)
Year to Date Net Revenues (After	\$2,345.319.79
Adjustments)	
Total Funds On Hand	\$4,920,252.48

Manager Hewitt reported sales for April were less than the same month last year in the Commercia and Industrial class primarily due to West Fraser and Goldens Foundry being down for maintenance and greater in the Residential Class. Total revenue from sales for the month were greater than the same month last year by 4.3%. Sales were below the budgeted amount for the month for large industrial and on budget for non-large industrial. Total KWH sales is 7.4% below the YTD Budget. Due to mild weather, there were 147 heating/cooling degree days for the month (4.3% above) average compared to 141 in April 2022 and 14.6% below the long-term monthly average.

Manager Hewitt reported hydroelectric production was 9.8% less than the long-term average and 8.5% greater than the same month last year. SEPA generation was 8.4% above budget. Hewitt reported again that Unit #2 is still out of service for maintenance; however, we have received all of the parts for the repairs to be completed and hopefully we will start re-assembly of the unit with in-house staff.

It was reported that cash available for operations as of April 30<sup>th</sup> was \$4.92 million which is a decrease of \$387,227 from the prior month and includes the transfer of \$2 million from the MCT account last month. The available cash is lower than our recommended reserve level of \$7.9 million - \$9.5 million. We do not expect any large expenditures for the ash removal project or Pateville Sub, Manager Hewitt sought approval, if necessary, to transfer \$2M from the MCT to bring available cash back up close to our recommended minimum amount. Hewitt reported the MCT balance is now \$22.4 million as of 05/19/2023. He reported we budgeted \$12 million transfers for the year and so far, we have transferred \$6 million. He reported we will monitor the account as we are approaching summer rates with hopes that the numbers will stabilize as the weather warms up.

A motion was made by John Pridgen, seconded by James Dowdy and unanimously carried to approve a \$2 million transfer from the MCT account, if necessary.

A motion was made by Alissa Wilkerson, seconded by Rusty Slade and unanimously carried to approve the April Financial Statements.

## Hydro #2 Budget Adjustment Approval

Manager Hewitt reported Unit #2's parts have all been delivered and commencement of re-assembly has begun. We are at the point of needing to verify that the rotor is still perfectly centered within the stator windings due to the milling work that was performed to make sure the embedded components are level. Hewitt reported our staff has never performed a re-centering of a unit and we feel having a contractor to come in and complete this part of the job while training our staff for any future rebuilds will be beneficial. Hewitt

Page **555** is requesting a budget modification in the amount of an additional \$50,000. If everything is checked and found to still be centered, the cost will be considerably less than the additional \$50,000.00

A motion was made by James Dowdy, seconded by Alissa Wilkerson and unanimously carried to modify the budget by \$50,000.00

### Health Insurance Plan Recommendation

Manager Hewitt reported the open enrollment period for the Local Governmental Health Plan will be June 1 to June 30, 2023 for any employee wishing to make changes to their enrollment that will become effective with the beginning of the new plan year on July 1, 2023. The Plan received notice of premium levels from ACCG/Blue Cross Blue Shield for the 2023/2024 plan year which included a 16% increase across the board. The County opted for Cigna and the Plan decided to change from ACCG/Blue Cross Blue Shield with a 10.1% increase to premium levels for all tiers. Most plan provisions will remain the same with the exception of specialty drugs and ER co-pays. It was recommended that the cost increase be passed along to employers and employees using the current cost sharing methodology.

Hewitt briefly reported on the reasons we merged with the County such as being self-insured, etc.; however, he reported those reasons no longer exist because demographics are very different of both the County and CCPC. He reported we will be considering options to break away from the past insurance relationship with the County. We are hoping this will help with our budgeting process as we can have it moved to a calendar year budget instead of mid-year.

A motion was made by Larry Felton, seconded by John Pridgen and unanimously carried to approve the change in insurance carrier and premiums in the recommended manner for the local government health plan.

## **Pension Actuarial Report**

Manager Hewitt reported he and Becky Fitzgibbons had a telephone conference with ACCG regarding our Pension Actuarial Report. Considering several factors, he reported the 2023 recommended contribution is \$738,639 (up from \$631,627 in 2022). The new contribution amount will be \$36,644 per month for the remaining months of 2023. We will also use some of our accumulated contribution credits to make up the difference.

A motion was made John Pridgen, seconded by Larry Felton and unanimously carried to approve the new pension contribution amount of \$36,644 for the remaining months of 2023.

## Second Amendment to Solar Power Purchase Agreement

Manager Hewitt gave a brief history on the original PPC that was executed by each Solar Participant during 3Q 2021 which included a copy of the Solar Power Purchase Agreement between MEAG Power and Pineview Solar LLC (the Solar Developer). In mid-2022, MEAG Power and the Solar Developer negotiated a first amendment to the Solar Power Purchase Agreement that was presented to and agreed to by each Solar Participant as of 1Q 2023. Due to the Solar Developer not being able to acquire financing for the project

based on the current price of \$29.06 per MWh, fixed for the contract term of 15 years, the Solar Developer requested a second amendment to the Solar Power Purchase Agreement including an increase in the price to \$37.75 per MWh, fixed for a 15-year term. Other changes addressed in the proposed amendment include: a modification to the notice to proceed date to July 31, 2023, increase the pre-construction credit support to \$3 million in lieu of \$1.5 million, and eliminate the purchase option.

Hewitt reported the amendment also confirms the Commercial Operation date of November 1, 2024 and the contract price adjustment based on the delivered cost of panels for the project included in the first amendment. MEAG Power staff recommended to the Board at its April 20, 2023 meeting approval of the amendment and continuing with the solar purchase. Walmart has been contacted and has agreed to accept the pricing under their renewable energy customer agreements (RECAs) with the Participants. The Solar Developer has already provided the additional \$1.5 million in security provided for under the amendment and MEAG Power holds the total \$3 million in security. Hewitt reported Attorney Lawson has looked over the amendment and Walmart has agreed to absorb all cost. If we approve, the County will approve at its June meeting and the amendment must be submitted by June 30, 2023.

A motion was made by James Dowdy, seconded by Rusty Slade and unanimously carried to approve the execution of the Second Amendment to the Power Purchase Contract (PPC) between Municipal Electric Authority of Georgia and the Crisp County Power Commission and Crisp County.

## GA Lineman Rodeo Report

Manager Hewitt turned to Blake Manning for the GA Lineman Rodeo Report. Manning reported had great support from fellow employees, family, and friends. He reported we had eight (8) apprentices to compete out of a total of 126. Zach Musselwhite received 3<sup>rd</sup> place in his event and we also placed 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>, and 6<sup>th</sup> places in other events. Manning mentioned the Rodeo held the awards ceremony this year which had been cancelled due to Covid several years prior. He reported our guys really enjoy the event and are looking forward to participating in the future years.

## Report on MEAG May 2023 BOD Meeting

Manager Hewitt reported at the MEAG Board meeting there was a presentation on the projected forward price curves. Both natural gas and wholesale market prices remain below budgeted expectations due to continued strong gas storage levels and mild weather. Both are expected to remain low through the remainder of 2023. Nuclear units ran 0.4% above budget. Unit #2 at Plant Hatch was offline for a short outage and Unit #1 at Plant Hatch will undergo minor repairs over the weekend. Coal generation decreased 10.5% due to the nuclear units running on budget. Coal is at 68 days of storage with 70 days being the max. Forced burns will be conducted to manage coal inventories until placed back to an economic dispatch status. The Wansley combined cycle plant ran 12.3% above budget due to the low gas prices. MEAG expects higher than budget generation for the remainder of 2023 because of low gas prices.

SEPA was 8.4% above budget due to wet weather. Off-system purchase volumes were 21.7% below budget due to low market prices. Total power resources were 75% non-emitting for April 2023 and 60% non-emitting for the tolling 12-month period. Total

Page 557 G energy sales were 6.3% less than April 2022 and 7.7% below budget for the year with continued mild weather being the primary factor.

Manager Hewitt reported on the corporate affairs that are happening around our local areas and on federal and state levels. The dates for the APPA National Conference (June 16<sup>th</sup>-June 21<sup>st</sup>), GMA Annual Convention (June 23<sup>rd</sup>-June 27<sup>th</sup>, and the MEAG Power 2023 Annual Meeting (July 10<sup>th</sup>-July 12<sup>th</sup>). Hewitt presented the Board with a report and slide presentation on the progress of Vogtle Units 3 & 4.

**Current Projects** 

- Ronnie Miller reported the gas turbine will be fired-up on Thursday or Friday of this week and if all goes well, they hope to begin generating on June 1<sup>st</sup>. He reported all parts for Unit #2 are in. Crews have 1 gate left to be resurfaced. Ash Pond project should be completed by September.
- ❖ Rick Vaughn reported there were a total of 73 outages that affected 7,355 customers with a total of 7,504 interruptions. He reported excluding the storm on 04/13/2023 there were 63 outages that affected 5,794 customers with a total of 5,934 interruptions.
- Clint Branch reported the Pateville sub control hose and transformer has been delayed to the 1<sup>st</sup> thru mid-June. Crews continue to work on the site to have it ready before those deliveries. Osmose began their inspections last Tuesday and should be complete in July.
- Troy Gilliam reported he's trying to get the buoys out before the holiday weekend especially the regulatory buoys.
- ❖ Blake Manning reported his crews continue to perform daily work. They have been working on a pole change out at the new car wash site in front of Walmart. He also reported there will be several spans of 3-phase overhead going to underground at Jamestown Road/Williams Road. He was asked about the positions that has not been filed since some employees retired. Blake reported they are needed and will get the jobs open to the public for entry level positions.
- ❖ Grant Buckley gave a brief report on the unemployment rate and he mentioned the industry prospects we have in Cordele/Crisp County due to our current industries that are promoting growth.

#### **Other Business**

None

## Meeting Adjourned

Chairman Hughes announced that there was no further business to come before the Commission and declared the meeting adjourned.

Chairman

Secretar

Approved this

day

2023