CRISP COUNTY POWER COMMISSION CORDELE, GEORGIA

2:00 P.M. April 23, 2024

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: Alissa Wilkerson, Chairwoman

John Pridgen Rusty Slade William Edwards Mark Crenshaw James Dowdy Larry Felton

Others Present: Chris Hewitt, General Manager

Ladreka Daniels, Secretary Rick Lawson, Attorney

Sam Farrow, County Commissioner

Rick Vaughn, Staff Engineer

Blake Manning, Line Division Manager Becky Fitzgibbons, Bus. and Fin. Manager

Ronnie Miller, Production Manager Troy Gilliam, Resource Manager Clint Branch, Tech Services Manager

Chad Young, IT Director Grant Buckley, IDC Director

Clark Harrell, County Administrator

Absent: James Nance, County Commissioner

Media Present: None

Call to Order

Chairwoman Wilkerson called the meeting to order and welcomed all present. Larry Felton will be sitting as a voting member for James Nance.

Minutes

A motion was made by James Dowdy, seconded by Rusty Slade and unanimously carried to approve the minutes of the regular March 2024 meeting.

Review of March 2024 Financial Statement

 Operating Revenues
 \$3,298,927.50

 Operating Expenses
 \$4,771,085.69

 Net Revenues
 (\$1,358,628.56)

Page 609 Net Revenues (After Adjustments)	\$962,121.51
Year to Date Net Revenues	(\$3,463,912.04)
Year to Date Net Revenues (After Adj)	\$3,154,894.70
Total Funds On Hand	\$1,617,583.70

Manager Hewitt noted that sales for March were overall lower than the same month last year. Revenue from sales was slightly less than the same month last year by 1.2%. Sales were below the budgeted amount for the month with total sales 10.8% below budget. Total MWh sales are now 9.4% above the YTD budget. Weather for March was below the long-term average and below this time last year. He reported HDDs for the month of March 2024 were 195 (18.4% below) compared to 239 (22.3%) in March of last year and the long-term monthly average of 250.

River flows in the Flint for March were above average but production was below the period for last year and the long-term average. Hydro-electric production was 31.9% less than the long-term average and 27.5% less than March of last year. Currently, Unit #2 is out of service due to re-assembly.

It was reported that cash available for operations as of March $31^{\rm st}$ was \$1,617,584 which is a decrease of \$41,409 from the prior month. The available cash is lower than our recommended reserve level of \$7.9 million \sim \$9.5 million. We recommend a transfer of from the MCT not to exceed \$2million, if necessary.

A motion was made by Rusty Slade, seconded by William Edwards and unanimously carried to authorize a transfer from the MCT, not to exceed \$2M, to our General Fund, if necessary.

A motion was made by Larry Felton, seconded by James Dowdy and unanimously carried to approve the March 2024 Financial Statements.

Deferred Compensation 457(b) Enhancement Addition

Hewitt reported we were notified by ACCG that we are now able to offer an additional plan to our current 457(b) plan at no additional cost to our plan funding. The addition of the Roth 457(b) plan will allow participants to make post-tax contributions. Once a participant is ready to retire, the contributions and earnings are tax free if the participant is age 59 ½ and their account has been active for at least 5 years. This differs from our pretax 457(b) in that those contributions and earning are taxed when withdrawn.

A motion was made by John Pridgen, seconded by Rusty Slade and unanimously carried to approve Adoption Agreement Amendment #1 to the ACCG 457(b) Deferred Compensation Plan.

Consideration of Employee Compensation Changes

Manager Hewitt reported the change in the cost of living for 2023 was 3.5% based on information from the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS)/CPI Rate. He recommends a 3.5% cost of living with a merit increase up to a 1% average to be disbursed to employees in accordance with the Commission's Wage and Salary Plan.

A motion was made by Rusty Slade, seconded by John Pridgen, and majority ruled to approve the 3.5% cost of living increase with a merit increase up to a 1% average distributed in accordance with an employee's review, effective the first full pay period in May.

2023 MEAG Year End Settlement

Hewitt reported the 2023 MEAG Year End Settlement was approved by the MEAG Power Board and totals \$24.5 million. Crisp's portion is \$1,632,572. As discussed, he recommends the YES be deposited into the MCT as it is currently drawing more interest than our general fund.

A motion was made my John Pridgen, seconded by Larry Felton, and unanimously carried to deposit the 2023 MEAG YES into the MCT.

Report on MEAG April 2024 BOD Meeting

Manager Hewitt reported the fixed and variable costs were under budget by about \$0.72 per kWh for the month and \$0.99 per kWh under budget YTD. By projects, fixed and variable costs were under budget by \$12.3M. By categories, fixed costs were under budget by \$13.8M. Natural gas prices are remaining low and are expected to continue that trend for the remainder of the year. The average prices for March was \$1.51/MMBTU. Spot market tends to trend the same as the gas prices.

Hewitt reported the nuclear units ran 8.8% below budget. Hatch Unit #1 was de-rated due to re-fueling outage for February; however, it returned to service on 3/10/2024 and was back to 100% on 4/2/2024. Vogtle Unit #2 was de-rated to 70% from 3/17-3/21/2024 due to a heater drain pump; however, it has now been at 100% since 3/21/2024. All of the other units ran at 100% output for the month. Coal generation is running 6.2% above budget due to Georgia Power running the units. MEAG is no longer monitoring the coal storage and these units are on economic dispatch status. The Wansley Combined Cycle Plant ran 2% below budget (33.2% utilization) due to a planned outage from 3/7-3/24/24 for maintenance; however, it was back in operation on 3/25/2024.

SEPA was 7.3% above budget due to increased rainfall over the last few months and is expected to remain at budgeted levels for the remainder of the year. Off-system purchase volumes were 129% above budget or \$6.59M above budget. Total power resources were 65% non-emitting for March 2024 and 62% non-emitting for the rolling 12-month period. The total MEAG energy consumption was 15.7% greater than March 2023 and 0.3% below budget for the year. Off-system sales YTD are running 106.4% below budget for \$8.22M below budget.

Manager Hewitt gave a report on the corporate affairs that are happening around our local areas and on federal and state levels. He reported the MEAG Power CEO Roundtable will be held in Cordele on Thursday, May 9th. The APPA National Conference will be held June 7th – June 12th and the MEAG Power Annual Meeting will be held July 28th – July 31st. He presented a slide presentation on the Vogtle Project update and progress.

- Clark Harrell expressed his thanks to the crews for their hard work during the tornado that occurred on April 3rd.
- ❖ Grant Buckley reported on the unemployment rates and gave a brief summary of the existing and potential new businesses throughout the city and county.
- ❖ Becky Fitzgibbons reported the annual audit went well and we are awaiting the actuary report. She reported the newsletter will be going out next week..
- Ronnie Miller reported the original spalling repair proposals was budgeted at \$1M; however, the estimated costs are only around \$250,000. Crews are continuing to work on Unit #2 and wicked gates have been installed. Gate #1 has been disassembled for its resurfacing project. The ash removal project is complete and we are waiting on EPD to give satisfaction certification of closure
- ❖ Rick Vaughn reported we had 30 outages, 2,519 customers that were affected by the outages with 2,522 customer interruptions, and a total of 160,649 customer minutes. He reported the recent tornado that occurred on April 3rd, we had a total of 13 broken poles with 539 customers being affected.
- Chad Young reported he's been working on communication to electronic reclosers throughout the county.
- Troy Gilliam reported docks are being repaired and he's working on getting the buoys placed before the Memorial holiday.
- Clint Branch reported crews are working on the Pateville substation ground grid and the Helena expansion project. He reported Osmose experienced a delay but are not expected to begin the first week of May. Crews are also assisting MEAG Power with transmission pole change-outs along Farmer's Market Road.
- ❖ Blake Manning reported crews continue to stay busy with daily work, Pateville Sub, Helena expansion, and now assisting MEAG Power with transmission pole change outs. He reported they have some irrigation projects. He commended his crews and the county crews on their hard work during the April 3rd tornado.

Other Business

Manager Hewitt reported CleanSpark is interested in coming to Cordele and opening a 30 MW bitcoin mining facility next to Ductile Substation. He reported its initial phase will be for 30MW load with phase two being 60 MW load expansion. They will be a marginal customer for CCPC and will not take away from our base load with MEAG. He presented a simulated bill and reported there will be an approximately \$40M investment for initial phase, creating about 15 jobs. He also reported this a quiet facility and it will not be located near residential areas. He will invite CleanSpark to the next month's board meeting.

After doing research requested by the Board and the major mail issues that we're experiencing, Becky Fitzgibbons reported there are 12,161 active accounts with 2,363 on bank draft and 812 active accounts receiving e-bills. As an incentive to get more customers on bank drank and/or e-bill, she recommends we offer customers a one-time \$10 credit for signing up for bank draft and a one-time \$10 credit for signing up for e-bill per account. Customers would need to remain on bank draft and e-bill for 12 months or forfeit the entire credit (no proration). This would apply to customers that transfer service but not to those that disconnect service. As an incentive to get as many customers signed up, the Customer Service Representative (CSR) that signs up the most bank draft customer and the most e-bill customers during the specified time period will get a \$25 reward for each winner.

A motion was made by John Pridgen, seconded by William Edwards, and unanimously carried to approve a one-time \$10 credit per account for each customer that signs up and remains on bank draft for 12 months and a one-time \$10 credit per account for each customer that signs up and remains on e-bill for 12 months.

Manager Hewitt reported the open enrollment period for Crisp County Power Commission will be June 1 to June 30, 2024 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, 2024. The Plan received notice of premium levels from Cigna and Blue Cross Blue Shield for the 2024/2025 plan year. Blue Cross Blue Shield presented CCPC with an 18 month rate guarantee which included an overall 3.4% premium decrease for medical tiers excepting EE + Children. Most plan provisions will remain the same with the exception of preferred drugs, specialty drugs, family deductible, and out-of-network coinsurance. It was recommended that the cost increase be passed along to employers and employees using the current cost sharing methodology.

Hewitt reported these options are for Crisp County Power Commission only because our demographics are very different from the County (researching their own insurance options separate from CCPC) and this will help CCPC with our budgeting process by moving to a calendar year instead of mid-year.

A motion was made by John Pridgen, seconded by Rusty Slade and unanimously carried to approve the change in insurance carrier and premiums in the recommended manner for the Crisp County Power Commission Plan.

Hewitt reported a need to go into Executive Session to discuss a personnel issue.

A motion was made by Larry Felton, seconded by John Pridgen, and unanimously carried to go into Executive Session to discuss a personnel issue.

Executive Session

No action taken.

At the conclusion of the Executive Session, the Chairwoman called the meeting of the Crisp County Power Commission back into regular order.

Other Business

After reconvening to regular order, there was discussion of the General Manager's annual salary.

A motion was made by John Pridgen, seconded by Larry Felton, and unanimously carried to increase the General Manager's salary.

Meeting Adjourned

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

28th Approved this

day of May

2024

Personally appeared before the undersigned officer authorized to administer oaths, the undersigned chairperson of the Crisp County Power Commission, who in oath, states that he/she presided over the meeting of said organization on the date specified below, that he/she is an adult, competent to testify to the statements herein contained, is laboring under not disabilities and makes this statement to the best of his/her knowledge and belief, aware of the fact that this statement will be made part of the record of said meeting.

A portion of said meeting was closed to the public (held in "Executive Session"), and that the subject matter of the closed portion thereof was devoted exclusively to matters within the exceptions to the "Open Meeting Law" (OCGA section 50-14-1, et seq), and that the specific relevant exception(s) thereof is indicated below by a check mark in the blank immediately preceding said exception.

-	Attorney/client privileged matters concerning pending or potential litigation.
	Tax matters made confidential by a state law.
	Staff meeting held for investigative purposes under duties or responsibilities imposed by law.
	Discussions concerning the future acquisition of real estate or real estate issues.
√	Discussions or deliberating upon the appointment, and employment, compensation, hiring, disciplinary action or dismissal, or periodic evaluations or rating of a public officer or employee.

This _23rd _day of _April_, 2024

Chairwoman, Crisp County Power Commission

Cordele, Georgia

Sworn to and described before me this

_23rd _day of _April, 2024.

Notary Public

My Commission Expines 1

Official Seal