

**CITY OF TRUTH OR CONSEQUENCES
PUBLIC UTILITY ADVISORY BOARD
MONDAY, JUNE 16, 2025**

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

Regular meeting of the Public Utility Advisory Board of the City of Truth or Consequences, New Mexico to be held in the City Commission Chambers, 405 W. Third, Truth or Consequences, New Mexico, on Monday, June 16, 2025 at 3:30 pm.

CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order by Vice-Chairman Dornbusch.

ROLL CALL:

Jeff Dornbusch, Chairman
Don Armijo, Vice-Chairman Absent
Gil Avelar, Member
Chris Sisney, Member

ALSO PRESENT:

Gary Whitehead, City Manager
Traci Alvarez, Assistant City Manager
Katy Martinez, Deputy Clerk
Bo Easley, Electric Department Head
Jamie Foreman, Water-Wastewater Superintendent

1. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Chairman Dornbusch made a motion to approve the agenda.
Member Avelar seconded the motion.
Motion carried unanimously.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

- a. Regular meeting of March 17, 2025.

Chairman Dornbusch made a motion to approve the minutes.
Member Sisney seconded the motion.
Motion carried unanimously.

3. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC: (3 Minute rule applies)

There were no comments at this time.

4. REPORTS FROM THE BOARD:

Chairman Dornbusch: I go this publication in the mail and I just want to let you guys know I think this is the neatest thing that has happened since I moved here. I think this is going to be great for the city's response to the public.

5. REPORTS FROM STAFF:

Bo Easley Electric Department Head: We are getting really busy. The TND study should be finishing at the end of the month and they will bring their presentation to the commission.

The electric car charging station behind Denny's we got a signed utility easement from the property owner. We will start building that line in the ground.

We had meetings last week with the Love's truck stop that is fixing to start going here.

The Paloma Springs Nursing home they are going to revamp the nursing home on the electric side. There isn't very much that we are going to be doing there.

The guys have been busy around town replacing poles and pulling poles when Windstream, TDS and Ethos gets off of them.

I have one open position we will be having interviews this Wednesday. I hope we can get that position filled.

At 910 N Silver we are building a new single-phase line there. The guys got 2 poles set today we have 3 more to go.

Chairman Dornbusch: The poles that are being replaced are they in bad shape?

Bo Easley Electric Department Head: Yes, there is quite a few of them. I don't know if you noticed but we did 3 in front of the Veteran's wall, on Marshall we have some of the poles contracted out there. We also replacing some back there.

Chairman Dornbusch: It's really necessary to replace them all.

Bo Easley Electric Department Head: yes, sir.

Member Avelar: The communication company are they almost done?

Bo Easley Electric Department Head: No, they still have quite a bit to do.

Jamie Foreman Water-Wastewater Superintendent: On the water report we have fixed 66 leaks in town over the last 3 months. We currently have between 8 and 10 active water leaks that we are aware of. The water lost report was at 42% average for the last 3 months however May was our lowest that we have seen in 2 years at 28%. We are accomplishing our goal with fixing major leaks in town.

On the wastewater report we had a subcontractor with NMED come out. He took a look at the plant he found some deficiencies that we are aware of that need to be fixed. He has given us a report with suggestions on how we are going to go about fixing them. The headworks, the clarifiers and our grit chamber are the biggest ones. He spent about 6 hours out there giving on site training to all of our wastewater crew. One of his suggestions was closing the clay drying beds. That is something NMED would like to see done they don't want any ground water infiltration. We are looking at converting those or finding a different way to do the drying beds.

Chairman Dornbusch: What is going on with the headworks?

Jamie Foreman Water-Wastewater Superintendent: The headworks machinery failed in 2019 so we are currently having to do it manually. That is one of the things we know we need to get fixed. We are working on getting it fixed. I believe we are working with a grant to get it fixed.

Member Avelar: Do you know what the static water levels are at the wells?

Jamie Foreman Water-Wastewater Superintendent: Not at the top of my head but we have them reported yearly. The Drinking Water Bruel they are all on that site. I can pull them for you and get them to you.

Chairman Dornbusch: Water testing is it time for that again?

Jamie Foreman Water-Wastewater Superintendent: We test year-round. We our bacteria testing monthly and then the state comes in and pulls arsenic randomly though out the year. We did just do a water sanitary survey. There were some deficiencies found in that. Most of them where small things like screens needing replaced on vents. We are working o getting those fixed.

City Manager Whitehead: When I came on board the city had gone through some change in the department we lost the director. My first meeting was with the environment department over the wastewater treatment plant. They identified these findings that they had. I think they are the ones that set up this consultant coming in. Off of that I needed to figure out a quick process. I don't know wastewater and wastewater treatment the mayor had indicated that Jesse Cole might be interested in doing a contract with is and coming back on board. As I investigated the plant it was pretty evident to me that Jamie Foreman had been really kind of filling in for the lack of leadership and the crew seemed to be responding well. We did put a process together by which Jamie could be the foreman. She is now the acting superintendent of the plant. She did receive her level 2 in water certification and her obligation is to get her level 2 in wastewater and start her process for level 3. We have entered into a contract with Jesse Cole for a monthly service. Jesse Cole is technically the operator of the waste water treatment plant and the water system. He has 4 by 4. He has both certifications. Jesse's obligation to us is to be on sight 6 days a month so that he is providing guidance to Jamie. He is providing guidance to the operations telling us what services needed to happen. He is providing services for on call for instance over on Elm Street apparently, we couldn't find the valve to turn the water off properly for a while that's why it took a while to get that repaired. We were going to shut down a quarter of the town and get that fixed but Jesse was able to consult with us and we worked and we were able to do that. Unfortunately, Jesse is out right now but we are still in communication. Jesse is the operator Jamie is the superintendent over both sides. Very soon we will be looking to identify a foreman for both water and wastewater. We will have a good management tree to take care of those things as we operate both plants. Jamie is doing a great job the staff is responsive. We are breaking a few bad habits and she is teaching me quit a bit. I'm very impressed with her knowledge and I hope that you saw that when you were on site with us. Her understanding of the general dynamics of what happens there is pretty good, so I can trust it and rely on it.

I want to talk a little bit about the water loss report and this could be just a dialog but that number seems to be high. When we went through the water survey the inspector wasn't overly alarmed at that large number of 40%. He kind of indicated that 25 to 40% is the norm of all water systems, again not being a water expert, I would assume that if at my house I was losing 40% of my water from my pipes and I was paying for that I would find that considerable. I'm not sure how we are assessing it. I'm don't know if its truly coming from just leaks. There is a part of me that understands inventory. I'm a little bit concerned that we are not tracking the water that we are producing, that we are actually storing in our tanks. I'm wondering if there is not a mathematical calculation that's missed. If I have 10,000 gallons this month and I use 20,000 gallons but I pump 30,000 gallons and not I have 20,000 gallons in storage at the end of the month, am I giving myself credit or am I counting that as just a loss. I don't know that. I think we are assessing it based on production and then what we treat. That seems to be a theory because everybody this time of year would be watering and so there would be no way to say those two things could be equal. Jamie and I will continue to grow and figure out as we get some more training and potentially get somewhere where we can understand water loss a little bit better. Maybe its not as bad as the number sounds. What are you experiences and thoughts with that Gil?

Member Avelar: I always though it was the difference between what was produced and what was sold.

City Manager Whitehead: We looked at that number and that number is smaller than what we treat but its still significant. Its still 30 plus.

Chairman Dornbusch: When you have new meters it's going to increase the amount in water but not wastewater you still going to have the drip from swamp coolers, sometimes people leave the hose dripping on a tree. That kind of lose is almost impossible to pin point. The numbers that come out of the wells and the number that is sold should pin point. You want to sell as much as possible. There is a lot of reasons why that doesn't happen. People us water for other purposes so even the figuring in the sewer average its not really accurate because there are people even in the winter time that water their plants, wash their cars or do things where the water doesn't go down the drain. There are also people like myself that have grey water systems so my water doesn't go down the drain. On the wastewater side you have the sold water part of it is going down the drain but there is also infiltration especially in the hot water district the water is not leaking out of the pipe its leaking into the pipe. That goes down to the plant and it's counted as treated water. So, how do you stop infiltration? You don't.

City Manager Whitehead: There are a lot of things to consider. I get that it's an important number, but I don't know if we are missing it and reporting too high a number, and it's not as bad as we think. I hope so. To move past that, let me talk about the water meters. Last week, we have concluded that we are going to move to the Landus & Gear water meter system. The water department really wanted a master meter, which would be the brass style meter, they didn't want to go with the vinyl or plastic. Landus & Gear can provide that, but we will be on one network. We have made that decision, we have a CDBG grant that's open, we will be able to buy about 1,000. The number was a little bit lower, but the price point that came in from Landus & Gear is very good. They gave s a price point of just under \$900,000 to buy 3,300 meters, which would do the whole city. What we've agreed to with them is that they will hold that price for two years, and let us buy in increments as we need. We've got project CDBG which would be about 1,000. We have the two projects that are coming online for water, so we will be able to start adding a few pieces there, and potentially, we will be able to start buying meters from the system where Jamie and the crew can go out and start replacing them. Bo has graciously reminded us that the Utility department agreed they will put the infrastructure in if we went with one system. So, we are going to make the agreement with Landus to buy the routers. We will be working with Utilities to install the routers, so hopefully within the next few months, we will have the system in place, we will be starting to train the Utility department on how that will work, it will come through one system, and we will start over the next couple of years being able to systematically replace all the water meters throughout the system and get to a fully automated water meter system. I think the crew feels like everybody was fairly comfortable with that decision, so hopefully we can get that moved.

Chairman Dornbusch: These new meters, will they be requiring that the meter cans be cut out for the wiring?

City Manager Whitehead: We don't know that yet. Our engineer, Mark Nassey, who is dealing with the water project, has reaching out now Landus & Gear that we've made the decision to find out what means he needs to address in his engineering for the meter can. He didn't actually bring up that point, but he did say he needs to understand what provisions he needs to make.

Chairman Dornbusch: I brough it up because will it damage the meter can if people are parking on them?

City Manager Whitehead: Right, or driving over it, breaking it, yeah. We will see how that goes.

Member Avelar: Do you want to give directions, Bo, where you want these collectors at?

Bo Easly Electric Department Head: They will let us know like they did with the electrical ones.

City Manager Whitehead: I spoke to them because I was thinking there was an installation, and they're indicating to me, you and I haven't talked, this happened this Friday, but the Utility crew should be able to install the routers. He described it simply as 'just routers', with not a big installation. It's not a significant amount of money, I think it's \$10,000-\$12,000 for the next set of routers that we need. So, with that, we can move into the water maps that you see in front of you. Again, an overview would be that we currently have approximately \$50 million secured for four different projects. We will be starting with the project we call WSPI-1, I think shovel-ready is on the top here, but if you can flip to page 2 and 3, this would be what we call the WSPI-1 project, and its primary focus would be to replace the pressure-relief valves throughout the system, and adding new additional water lines in the north part of town. With that, I will let Traci describe the project a little bit more in-depth and then answer any questions.

Assistant City Manager Alvarez: The WSPI-1 project is being funded by USDA. We are almost ready to go out to bid. We had some turnover at the USDA level with project management. He is auditing and updating all his files. Once he concurs, he has everything ready to go then USDA will give their concurrence and we will go out to bid. We are hoping to see this potentially bid out by early August.

Chairman Dornbusch: Will this USDA come with a proviso that we have a 5% increase in our water rates?

Assistant City Manager Alvarez: When we first went out for our MSD project that's when the USDA mandated that we needed to do a water rate study, we had already done the wastewater one. Our CAC did the water rate study and with a proposed increase they gave a couple of different potentials where you could increase that, what the minimum was. It was the city commission that ultimately determined a 5% across the board. That wasn't mandated by USDA. We had a minimum recommendation and the proposed percentages were 3%, 4% and 5%, I believe the commission opted at that time to go ahead and implement the 5% because we had not raised rates in a long time. We are currently in process of doing a very in-depth water and wastewater rate study. We are at the tail end of that. When USDA did theirs, they are only looking at what our rates are in regards to what their debt is. The one that we are having done now is looking at the entire system both on the waste water side and the water side for not only full debt but also for maintaining, restocking and redoing. That will be coming up pretty soon.

City Manager Whitehead: We spent a considerable time with the consultant on this current rate study to decide as Traci explained how do we maintain what we have. With this USDA projects we are taking on significant debt. Our debt load on this is 15 million dollars. We are cash flowing right now but again this rate study is looking at what we need to do to maintain that, grow and begin to start saving money on the front end where we could realistically put some money away and then have enough money for additional debt service in 5 to 6 years. Even though we are going to do this 50 to 60 million we are not getting the whole city. We will run into the next set of problems shortly. The second project that is close and ready to go to bid is what we call Shovel Ready. I just want to remind you these are just titles they are not indicating that this particular group was shovel ready it's just what we called it. Some of the money came out of Capital Out Lay that is a common term and so it using 2 different pots of funding. What we are doing with shovel ready is really repackaging a lot of the work that we could not get done in the MSD project. I'm going to let Traci tell you about the different projects that are going on with Shovel Ready.

Assistant City Manager Alvarez: The shovel ready is ones where we have short falls on some of our other water projects that we were funded. Those are technically all designed which is why they are called shovel ready but they have to be repackaged all into one big document. We will be addressing Cook Street for a main transmission line. We will be looking at McAdoo and Daniels Street section for a water line replacement. That was one that was supposed to be funded with the MSD project. Cook Street was also MSD. We have an area on 9th by Pershing Street that was going to be our Drinking Water Project that we were short funded on. We have 8th and Silver I believe that was Drinking Water as well. Another area is going to off Second Street I believe that was our booster station project that was a line that we

couldn't do with that project as well. Then we have Date Steet and Riverside that was another one of our MSD projects. Its kind of a little bit every where but that is simple because its covering short falls in all these other different areas.

Member Avelar: Do you have engineering ready for those projects?

Assistant City Manager Alvarez: They are completely designed we still have to go through the engineer. Each funding source might have a specific requirement on over seeing the design. When we get into anything that is over seen by NMED they are very particular with their packaging documents and because these all come from different pots of money, they have to take all of them and put them all together as one project because right now its pieces of various different one so there is some engineering that has to be done and review and approval at NMD by Steven Deal for approval to proceed.

City Manager Whitehead: USDA has its own set of guidelines. If they were engineered especially if they came out of MSD, they were engineered for USDA now they just have to be reviewed to make sure they are in order for the NMED its little things like that. A couple things I want to point out if you take a look at the South Broadway line that is coming from Cook Street its going over to Morgan. This map is a public document so you can show it. We want to be able to show this where the public can read the little small print and have the information. If they looked at that they would think that we are going to tear up South Broadway and they just paved it. The DOT required that we move the water line out of road way and put it on to the shoulder so we will just be doing the work in the shoulder we won't be doing any damage to the road way. This one also has a new storage facility at Cook Street so there will be another storage tank there.

Assistant City Manager Alvarez: This one is being funded by 2 pots of money it was our NMFA Colonies fund as well as Capital Outlay.

City Manager Whitehead: As you look at the next two projects you can see all these pieces how they are going to connect into the engineer's next step. This is one piece and there is going to be another piece that is going to connect and move down.

We would go to what we are going to call WISPI2 is going to connect Hyde Street, Cook Street, down Veater and back over to Morgan to create a redundant system and back up. Traci is going to give some dialog one that. This is all going to lean into the more critical piece that we are most interested in getting repaired.

Assistant City Manager Alvarez: This is another USDA project. This is for our PER2 which is why we call it the WISPI2 project. This is going to cover some main line loops.

City Manager Whitehead: This is also on Riverside. The MSD project that is on the Shovel Ready map that is connecting Riverside now will piece into that and move on down Riverside further. The last project on this particular would be what we call Critical Water. I think it the piece that we are most interested. This would be taking care of all the service lines that go into the Veater and that particular area of town from the Veterans Home all the way to Williamsburg.

Chairman Dornbusch: Will that require replacing all the pipes?

City Manager Whitehead: We will be replacing all the pipes. 3,300 feet of pipe. It's about a \$19 million project.

Chairman Dornbusch: And we will have to pay for the asphalt, sidewalks, all that?

City Manager Whitehead: Correct.

Assistant City Manager Alvarez: And then with each one of these projects, it will be part of the project, too, to bring those all up with the AML meters. Even though we're only replacing a certain amount with CDBG, any meter that has to be taken care of on any of these projects, those meters will be done at that time as well.

Chairman Dornbusch: That comes out of the 1000?

Assistant City Manager Alvarez: Yes.

City Manager Whitehead: This would be out of the second 1,000. The first 1,000 would come from the CDBG grant alone. That's its own individual project, they've identified it, they've done the work, they've got the spots where they want to go with that. This would be the next batch.

Member Avelar: The tank on Cook Street is the only tank that's going to be built for this project?

City Manager Whitehead: That's correct.

Member Avelar: Are they getting anything out there by New School Road?

Assistant City Manager Alvarez: I haven't heard of identifying needs for anything more in the upper zone or middle zone.

City Manager Whitehead: When I read through the PER, the water study that was done, it indicated that all the tanks on the North part of town were in good repair, they had been rehabbed, and they found no issues or concerns with those tanks.

Member Avelar: They were discussed quite a while ago, I just didn't realize they were in good shape.

Chairman Dornbusch: There's a scheduled cathodic protection on those tanks.

City Manager Whitehead: According to the PER there is, yes.

Chairman Dornbusch: Once you change out those tanks, they've never been for a while

Jamie Foreman Water-Wastewater Superintendent: We're working on getting the inspection done in July. We have them inspected once a year. They're inspected, cleaned, and repaired once a year.

City Manager Whitehead: The last project that we would present to you is what we call the HUD 24/25. This is significant water lines moving from the North side of town through 8th street, so you can take a look at that.

Assistant City Manager Alvarez: So, this HUD funding in FY 23 and in FY 24 (23 is back on one of the other pages here that combines), that was money that Bruce very much advocated for from Heinrich's office that we received. So, we have the grant agreement for both the 23 and the 24. The FY 25 is still pending, so even though we have labelled that we want to combine this, the only thing I would say is that it is very much subject to change, given that we don't know what's going to happen when we move forward. I don't have anything in writing, and if I don't have it in writing (other than a newspaper article), we don't have the money until then.

Chairman Dornbusch: This looks pretty ambitious, replacing the water line on 6th avenue all the way from Pershing to Kruger. It looks like a pretty big project.

Assistant City Manager Alvarez: Yeah, it'll be a big one, but they all will be, you know?

City Manager Whitehead: Well, it's 5,500 feet. We asked our legislators this year, we didn't focus on water, we've not asked, I feel like we've got a whole bucket to get through here, and then we'll start working on what we want to call Wastewater. That's what the Commission put on our ICIP to be the number one priority, would be to start working on Wastewater lines and finding ways to systematically try to start fixing the Wastewater side.

Chairman Dornbusch: Is there still talk of sending some of the Wastewater to Elephant Butte?

City Manager Whitehead: Only in conversations between myself and the mayor. That's only just beginning. That idea would be, if we needed to take the Vac system offline, could we do it by creating a gravity feed that we could then service to that Wastewater treatment plant? It's just in an early infancy stage of thinking about how we would do that. We are going to spend a little money on the Vac system. We've tried to create some backups. We have some funds to do some improvements. We've started working on a strategy, I've shared with you, that we'd like to get a 5-7-year window between the Vac and the Wastewater treatment plant so that we can have some time. We have about \$2 million, so that's our general focus right now, is to think about how we can use that \$2 million to buy ourselves 7 years at the outset, and then be able to think about a complete renovation. That would be trying to replace the Vac Station. It seems like that technology is just not in favor of anybody.

Member Avelar: Going to gravity?

City Manager Whitehead: If we could go to gravity, but if we did, you know the Wastewater plant for Elephant Butte sits right there on the Cuchillo creek, it just sits there. So, if we could figure out how to go backwards, come up with a joint powers agreement, or some way that we could do that. What they liked about the idea is that they could end up with more affluent water, which then they could process to the golf course. They are getting hit from the golf course, and the golf course would like the affluent water. So, there could be a meeting of the minds, if you will, to solve for both equations. If we could get enough line, we could send them some affluent water. We make enough of it.

Chairman Dornbusch: They could pay for treatment and for transportation.

City Manager Whitehead: I'm willing to sell. Chairmen, members of the board, those are the water projects that we have in the hopper, that we are working diligently on, on a daily basis to bring around, so I thought we'd bring those for you, and stand for questions.

Assistant City Manager Alvarez: I did have one quick thing to add; all of our projects are replacing existing lines that we have, increasing their size, with the exception of one. If you look on the second page of your WSPI-1 document, at that map, if you look over by Smith Road, and it drops down over behind the old Pine Knot. That's actually going to be a new line there, and it will significantly increase the fire flow in that area.

Chairman Dornbusch: Do you know if that is currently a 6- or 8-inch line?

Jamie Foreman Water-Wastewater Superintendent: Those are 8-inch lines. They are currently 6 inches but we will go to 8.

Chairman Dornbusch: Sounds really good, I am really glad to see that we have a plan and are moving forward with this, because it seems like it's been a couple of years just watching it deteriorate in front of our eyes.

City Manager Whitehead: I appreciate that. The magic didn't happen when I got here, I want to give Traci some credit, and really the previous commission, Bruce, they deserve a lot of credit. They did a lot of work trying to find money. I think it's hard when you're doing damage control, trying to keep it all going, so we are just really fortunate we have some time to work together and tell the story better. Hopefully that is what I've brought to the table, the ability to organize and get it going, but they've done the work, this was really on their watch and your watch before we've gotten to this point.

Chairman Dornbusch: City connect, it's a great idea. It will help when people have questions like, "Why aren't they fixing this water leak?" well, there's more to it than just the water. Or, "I called in two days ago and it's still running down the street." They'll get an understanding of what's going on behind the scenes. It's not like we are being neglectful of our duties to the citizens by letting it run for another two days for reasons no one really understands except the people who are trying to fix it.

City Manager Whitehead: I think people forget, myself included, that we have to get locates, we can't just go tear up a road. I have to give Jamie a lot of credit. They put together a system for measuring what the level of impact they need when there's a water leak. If they pull up and it's barely coming out, not running down the street like a gusher, they're going to put that in, call for locates, put it on the schedule, try to get to it. They have capacity to deal with a full-blown water leak, like what happened on 9th street a month ago when it blew out. So, it's hard to tell that story, and hopefully the connect can help people see that, and we are trying to tie that into a better article in the newspaper. We've purchased a quarter page in the newspaper every week. We will put that same concept in the newspaper as well, the newspaper has agreed to come interview me or the staff, so that we can tell our story of what we're doing, so citizens can see that. This week it'll be WSPI-1, next week it might be shovel-ready, the week after it could be Foch Street, every week there will be a little story about what we're doing so we can keep everyone informed. Ultimately, we are trying to drive everybody to our website, where all these projects will be individually listed with their budgets, timeframes, everything. A citizen that is curious to know should be able to find some information and understand on their own. It doesn't mean they have to like it, but at least they can see it. Then we can feel confident that we have done everything we possibly can to be transparent, to help people understand what we're doing.

Chairman Dornbusch: Yeah, because in the past, I've been asked questions about, "What's the city doing here?", and for the people who don't understand how time consuming it can be to get a water leak fixed, having this information gives the community an understanding of why it may be taking so long. Or why we haven't started working on it right away. So, the more information you give the public, the better it is.

City Manager Whitehead: Thank you. Let me share a little bit with Bo while we have him, then we will wrap up, Mr. Chairman, if you're ready to go. On the electrical side, just excited to be working with Bo. We both have committed to finding some leadership stuff for both he and I to attend this year, potentially move the system up a little bit. I think they've been doing a great job, I've enjoyed seeing what we're doing. We are replacing a lot of lines, there's a lot of good work being done, I think we are excited about the electrical study, and once we get that document in our hands, we should be able to clearly see a road map that we can do the same thing we are doing here on this side, and we will be able to tell that story. I haven't spoke to Bo since last week, but we did ask the commission to accept the third transformer on as our top 5 items for the Infrastructure Capital Improvement Plan (ICIP). So, I think over the next year, or year and a half, we will be serious about adding a third transformer to the system. Bo has been concerned about that, and I think we need it. We are excited about what we can do with the electrical department as well.

Chairman Dornbusch: What about another substation?

City Manager Whitehead: I keep saying that, but I got it wrong. A substation, that's the word, I was hoping you would help me there.

Chairman Dornbusch: Well, transformers are in the substation.

City Manager Whitehead: Yeah, the big plant, the big square box. Bo, you want to talk about your vision for that and how it would look?

Bo Easley Electric Department Head: Back in 2015, the CB report, they wanted to build another substation in Williamsburg, but it seems like all our future growth is on the North end of town. I do know we have some property closer to the golf course, 115 is already there on a fixed line? If we can procure some property there and build a second substation or a transformer there for our future growth. The Love's Truck Stop is coming in everything on the other side of Kopra there can be a lot of growth there that would benefit the city. It would take some of the load off the Cedar circuit. Now that the electric car charging stations are coming in behind Denny's, and then the Love's Truck Stop that's going to put more load on Cedar.

Member Avelar: What about the solar people?

Bo Easley Electric Department Head: They have a short on there panel somewhere that keeps burning their inverter.

Member Avelar: They are going file bankruptcy and leave us high and dry.

Bo Easley Electric Department Head: They would have to come get all their panels off of our property.

Assistant City Manager Alvares: I just have one other quick update, I know it's not a utility, but I thought I would give you this news anyways. We received an official award letter from the Water trust Board that we got just under \$8.9 million for the channel improvement construction for the Cantrell Dam. We received funding and have completed all the design to breach the dam, which is just doing all the channel improvements, etc. This was just an award letter, it'll probably be August, September, or October before we get the actual grant agreements executed and start moving towards that.

Chairman Dornbusch: Yay!

City Manager Whitehead: We have a lot of things going on.

Chairman Dornbusch: Sounds like it. Busy.

Assistant City Manager Alvarez: A couple of roadway/streets funding that just came through, so we will be executing those grant agreements at the next commission meeting. They got an LGRF award which'll be Ash Street, from Date to 2nd. Then the Municipal Arterial Program, the MAP program, was supposed to be for Pershing Street, from Main Street around 2nd to Date, we requested that full funding. They don't always give us the full funding, and we didn't receive all the funding, so we have cut back that project a little bit to fit within the funding amount, but that was afforded as well.

6. ADJOURNMENT:

Chairman Dornbusch made a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Member Avelar seconded the motion.

Motion carried unanimously.

PASSED AND APPROVED ON THIS 21st DAY OF JULY 2025.



Jeff Dornbusch, Vice-Chairman