

**CITY OF LONG BEACH
UTILITIES COMMISSION
MINUTES**

**THURSDAY, JANUARY 5, 2023
LONG BEACH UTILITIES DEPARTMENT
1800 EAST WARDLOW ROAD
BOARD ROOM, 9:00 AM**

Gloria Cordero, President
Naomi Rainey, Vice President
Gina Maguire, Secretary



Frank Martinez, Commissioner
Robert Shannon, Commissioner

Christopher J. Garner, General Manager

Richard Anthony, Principal Deputy City
Attorney

FINISHED AGENDA AND FINAL MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER

President Cordero called the meeting to order at 9:00am.

FLAG SALUTE

Ryan Hiney led the flag salute.

ROLL CALL

Commissioners Frank Martinez, Robert Shannon, Gina Maguire and Gloria

Present: Cordero

Commissioners Naomi Rainey

Absent:

PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no comments from the public.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President Cordero presented the President's report after the General Manager's report. President Cordero congratulated and thanked staff on the transition of the Gas and Water utilities and coming together as one under "we".

GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

Chris Garner reported that the City is faced with very high market prices for natural gas which has a major impact to Long Beach customers. Full-court press is being conducted to inform the customers.

Commissioner Shannon made a motion, seconded by Secretary Maguire, to schedule a special meeting within the next week to discuss the high natural gas market price.

REGULAR AGENDA

1. [23-001WA](#) Recommendation to approve December 19, 2022 Board meeting minutes.

A motion was made by Commissioner Shannon, seconded by Commissioner Martinez, to approve recommendation. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 4 - Frank Martinez, Robert Shannon, Gina Maguire and Gloria Cordero

Absent: 1 - Naomi Rainey

2. [23-002WA](#) Recommendation to consider the establishment of a temporary committee consisting of two members of the Board of Utilities Commissioners (Board) for the limited purpose of communicating with the General Manager regarding the utility consolidation recently approved by Long Beach voters, and if so established, authorize the President of the Board to immediately make appointments thereto.

President Cordero spoke.

A motion was made by Commissioner Shannon, seconded by Secretary Maguire, to approve recommendation with President Cordero as Chair and Commissioner Martinez as member. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 4 - Frank Martinez, Robert Shannon, Gina Maguire and Gloria Cordero

Absent: 1 - Naomi Rainey

3. [23-003WA](#) Recommendation to review invitation for a Board sponsorship of the 2nd Annual Long Beach Black Restaurant Week to be held on January 22-29, 2023 in Long Beach, California.

Commissioner Martinez spoke.
Commissioner Shannon spoke.
Commissioner Martinez spoke.
Richard Anthony spoke.
President Cordero spoke.
Secretary Maguire spoke.
A dialogue ensued.
Chris Garner spoke.
Dean Wang spoke.

A motion was made by Commissioner Martinez, seconded by Secretary Maguire, to approve a sponsorship in the amount of \$1,000. A substitute motion was made by Commissioner Shannon, seconded by President Cordero, to receive and file. The substitute motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 3 - Robert Shannon, Gina Maguire and Gloria Cordero

No: 1 - Frank Martinez

Absent: 1 - Naomi Rainey

4. [23-004WA](#) Recommendation to authorize the General Manager to execute the Second Amendment to Agreement WD-3577 to exercise a one-year contract term extension with The Gualco Group to provide state advocacy and lobbying services, in an amount not to exceed \$95,000.

Diana Tang introduced Jack Gualco who presented the report.
Commissioner Martinez spoke.
President Cordero spoke.
Commissioner Shannon spoke.

A motion was made by Commissioner Martinez, seconded by Commissioner Shannon, to approve recommendation. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 4 - Frank Martinez, Robert Shannon, Gina Maguire and Gloria Cordero

Absent: 1 - Naomi Rainey

5. [23-005WA](#)

Recommendation to:

- A. Authorize the General Manager to execute an Agreement with Sensus USA, Inc. 1) in an amount not to exceed \$748,810 for one-time equipment, system, and professional services costs and 2) in an amount not to exceed \$36,308 for ongoing annual software, hosting, and support fees subject to a maximum annual increase of 3 percent.

- B. Authorize revision to Section 206.6 and Appendix A of the Long Beach Water Department's Rules, Regulations and Charges Governing Potable Water, Reclaimed Water, Sewer Service, and the Water Conservation and Water Supply Shortage Plan (Rules) pertaining to charges for remote service restoration.

Dean Wang presented the report.

Chris Garner spoke.

Commissioner Martinez spoke.

Commissioner Shannon spoke.

Dean Wang spoke.

Richard Anthony spoke.

A dialogue ensued.

A motion was made by Commissioner Martinez, seconded by Commissioner Shannon, to approve recommendation. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 4 - Frank Martinez, Robert Shannon, Gina Maguire and Gloria Cordero

Absent: 1 - Naomi Rainey

6. [23-006WA](#) Recommendation to adopt Specifications WD-33-22 for the Cathodic Protection Improvement of Recycled Water Systems Project - Phase 5 (REO-0204) and authorize the General Manager to sign a construction contract with Farwest Corrosion Control Company, Inc., in the amount of \$462,870.

Jinny Huang-Uy presented the report.
Chris Garner spoke.

A motion was made by Commissioner Martinez, seconded by Commissioner Shannon, to approve recommendation. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 4 - Frank Martinez, Robert Shannon, Gina Maguire and Gloria Cordero

Absent: 1 - Naomi Rainey

7. [23-007WA](#) Recommendation to authorize the General Manager to execute the First Amendment to Agreement WD-3612 with HDR Engineering, Inc., for the Port of Long Beach Water System Transfer Study Project (EO-3549), by \$958,570 to an amount not to exceed \$3,901,977.

Jinny Huang-Uy presented the report.
Commissioner Martinez spoke.
Chris Garner spoke.

A motion was made by Commissioner Martinez, seconded by Secretary Maguire, to approve recommendation. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 4 - Frank Martinez, Robert Shannon, Gina Maguire and Gloria Cordero

Absent: 1 - Naomi Rainey

8. [23-008WA](#) Recommendation to authorize the General Manager to execute an Agreement with Lee & Ro, Inc., to provide construction management and inspection services for the J. Will Johnson Tanks Roof Repairs Project (EO-3630), in the amount not to exceed \$313,949.

Ryan Hiney presented the report.
Commissioner Martinez spoke.
Jinny Huang-Uy spoke.
A dialogue ensued.
Chris Garner spoke.

A motion was made by Commissioner Shannon, seconded by Commissioner Martinez, to approve recommendation. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 4 - Frank Martinez, Robert Shannon, Gina Maguire and Gloria Cordero

Absent: 1 - Naomi Rainey

9. [23-010WA](#) Recommendation to review invitation for a Board sponsorship of the City of Long Beach State of the City Address to be held on January 10, 2023.

Commissioner Martinez spoke.
Chris Garner spoke.
Secretary Maguire spoke.

A motion was made by Commissioner Shannon, seconded by Commissioner Martinez, to approve a sponsorship in the amount of \$10,000. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 4 - Frank Martinez, Robert Shannon, Gina Maguire and Gloria Cordero

Absent: 1 - Naomi Rainey

CONSIDER STANDING COMMITTEE REFERRALS

Finance Committee meeting is scheduled for February 2, 2023.
Commissioner Martinez requested a Closed Session on safeguarding the facilities.

NEW BUSINESS

A motion was made by Commissioner Shannon, seconded by Commissioner Martinez, to excuse the absence of Vice President Rainey from the January 5, 2023 Board meeting. The motion carried unanimously.

CLOSED SESSION

10. [23-009WA](#) Pursuant to Paragraph (b)(1) of Section 54957 and Section 54957.6 of the California Government Code regarding Public Employee Performance Evaluation, Terms of Employment and Compensation: General Manager

The Board recessed into Closed Session at 10:20am.
The Board reconvened at 11:29am.

ADJOURNMENT

President Cordero adjourned the meeting at 11:29am.