

**Utility Committee**  
**March 2, 2009**

The Lakeland Utility Committee met in the Commission chambers. Committee Members Dave Curry, George Lindsey, Terry Simmers, Paula Druen, and Tom Joyner were present. Stacy Campbell-Domineck was out of town. Commissioners Glenn Higgins, Justin Troller, Jim Verplanck, Howard Wiggs, Gow Fields, Edie Yates, and Mayor Fletcher were present. LE General Manager Jim Stanfield, City Manager Doug Thomas, City Attorney Tim McCausland, and City Clerk Kelly Koos were also present along with staff.

Mayor Fletcher called the meeting to order at 1 p.m.

2:20:41      13:04:38      Jim Stanfield reviewed the agenda.

Alan Schaffer introduced the new manager of System Control, Rich Smith. Alan also updated the Utility Committee on the Lineman's Rodeo Competition held in Orlando. LE had two teams participate. Both teams ranked in the top 10.

**Lakeland Electric Compliance Overview for the Utility Committee**

James Howard, Manager of Electric System Compliance, gave a presentation regarding the status of Lakeland Electric's regulatory compliance programs. A copy of that presentation is on file in the City Clerk's Office. He reviewed the Compliance Hierarchy from the Federal level down. He then reviewed LE's compliance program. Some estimated compliance costs for LE were:

- Relocation of System Control - \$4M-\$6M
- Compliance Administration (FY09) - \$200K
- Plant Control system upgrades and hardening - \$170K
- SCADA upgrades and hardening - \$75K
- Other – Training, Security & Facility enhancements, etc.

He then reviewed Penalties and Sanctions.

**HomeWIRE program**

David Kus updated the Committee on how LE would terminate this program. Progress would continue the program without LE. LE recommended no refund since Progress would continue the program.

**FMEA Bill Comparisons**

Jim Stanfield announced the FMEA bill comparisons that came out in January 2009, showed LE's total price for 1000 Kwh hours was lower than some other municipalities, Gulf Power, Progress Energy and TECO.

**Memo re: Task Authorization with Stanley Consultants, Inc. for Coal Handling Modifications**

Tim Bachand described this project for the Utility Committee. This was a 3-phase project. The Commission approved the first phase in fall 2007. It was the conceptual design for truck unloading automation. This latest effort would finalize the ability to unload coal from the train trestle, and the design of conveyors.

**Recommendation:** Commissioner Verplanck moved to recommend approval to the City Commission. George Lindsey seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

**Memo re: Approval of Consulting Services Agreement with Accenture, LLP for a Smart Grid System**

Randy Dotson presented this item to the Utility Committee. They were asking for approval for Accenture to be a consultant on the Smart Grid System. This project was going to affect many departments within the City, not just LE. Accenture would assist with interviews of those departments. They would help write the specification and prepare the RFP. They would also help evaluate the bid responses. The implementation of the Smart Grid System would happen after the evaluation of the bids. The Smart Grid System will allow the customers to manage their own bill. It would provide data to LE to understand what the load was on a specific line. This was an electric and water program. Water would be able to determine if there were leaks in the home. The Customer would not have to wait a month. They requested approval to use Accenture as a consultant on this project. Six firms bid on this program.

**Recommendation:** Commissioner Verplanck moved to recommend approval to the City Commission. Edie Yates seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

**Memo re: Agreement with Trend Core, LLC d/b/a AppTheory for Redevelopment of Lakeland Electric's Website**

David Kus presented this item to the Utility Committee. There were two companies from Tampa and one from Lakeland. The Lakeland firm did not provide a fixed price. All seven other bidders gave a fixed price as requested.

The Committee was concerned about giving the dollars to a firm from Georgia. They asked about considering local folks. Maybe there should be a way in the future for less experienced firms to collaborate with other firms. Dave explained that LE did encourage that collaborating.

Additional services that would be available to the customer on-line were payment arrangements, order electric service on or off, update account information, check

the status of a service order, perform their own energy audit, and see their bill detail (graph usage and look at highs/lows)

The Committee discussed how the City noticed potential bidders for jobs.

**Recommendation:** George Lindsey moved to recommend approval to the City Commission. Commissioner Verplanck seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

Tim McCausland reviewed the Settlement Agreement with Mineral Resource Technologies, Inc. The Commission approved that settlement on the Consent Agenda.

The meeting adjourned at 1:52 p.m.

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Ralph L. Fletcher, Mayor

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Kelly S. Koos, CMC, City Clerk