



**Utilities Policy Advisory Committee (UPAC)  
Wednesday, June 5, 2024, 8:00 a.m. – 9:30 a.m.**

Blue River Board Room,  
121 S. Tejon Plaza of the Rockies or Microsoft Teams

[Click here to join the meeting](#)

<b>8:00 a.m.</b>	<b>1. Call to Order</b>	
<b>8:05 a.m.</b>	<b>2. Approval of December 6, 2023 UPAC Meeting Minutes</b>	Decision
<b>8:10 a.m.</b>	<b>3. UPAC Bylaws Update</b>	Discussion
<b>9:00 a.m.</b>	<b>4. Citizen Comment</b> Citizens can provide comment in person, by joining the meeting from computer or by phone using the link above. If you would like to speak during the citizen comment period, please sign up to speak through <a href="mailto:BoardSubmissions@csu.org">BoardSubmissions@csu.org</a> prior to the meeting.	Discussion
<b>9:10 a.m.</b>	<b>5. Committee Member General Discussion</b>	
<b>9:30 a.m.</b>	<b>6. Adjournment</b>	

Next meeting: July 3, 2024

Note: UPAC Bylaws, Rule 6: Customer and Public Comment: (b) At the discretion of the Chair, or the majority of the Committee Members present, customers and members of the public will be allowed to comment or ask questions concerning items discussed at regular meetings or concerning matters discussed at special meetings. Comments or questions by individuals will be limited to five minutes each, and all customer or public comments will not exceed twenty minutes on any agenda item unless time is extended by the Chair or majority of the Committee Members present.



**Minutes**  
**Utilities Policy Advisory Committee (UPAC)**  
**Wednesday, December 6, 2023**  
**Blue River Boardroom, 5<sup>th</sup> floor, 121 S. Tejon St., Colorado Springs, CO**  
**and Microsoft Teams Virtual Meeting**

**Committee members present in the boardroom or via Microsoft Teams:** Chair Larry Barrett, Vice Chair Hilary Dussing, Gary Burghart, Scott Smith, Chris Meyer, Katherine Danner, Michael Borden and Scott Callihan

**Committee members excused:** David Watson

**Staff members present in the Boardroom or via Microsoft Teams:** Al Wells, Marcela Espinoza, Bethany Schoemer, Tristian Gearhart, Tara McGowan, Nicole Means and Christian Nelson

**City of Colorado Springs staff present in the boardroom or via Microsoft Teams:** David Beckett and Renee Congdon

**1. Call to Order**

Chair Larry Barrett called the meeting to order at 8:02 a.m. and called the roll.

**2. Approval of October 4, 2023, UPAC Meeting Minutes**

Committee Member Scott Smith made a motion to approve the October 4, 2023, meeting minutes and Vice Chair Hilary Dussing seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**3. Selection of UPAC Officers**

Vice Chair Dussing made a motion to vote for Mr. Barrett as UPAC Chair and Committee Member Smith seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Chair Barrett made a motion to vote for Ms. Dussing as UPAC Vice Chair and Committee Member Smith seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**4. Ethics, Open Meetings and Colorado Open Records Act (CORA) Review**

Mr. David Beckett, Senior Attorney at the City Attorney's Office, stated the following presentation is given yearly. UPAC members are subject to the City's Code of Ethics to ensure independent, objective judgment and ethical behavior, transparency and honesty. Mr. Beckett provided an overview of the UPAC Bylaws and the City Code of Ethics and explained the responsibilities and morals members are subject to as a part of UPAC.

Mr. Beckett discussed CORA stipulations and explained any records made, maintained

or kept are public record and can be requested by anyone. It is Colorado Springs Utilities' responsibility to manage and retain records in accordance with document retention practices.

Mr. Beckett described open meetings as gatherings discussing UPAC or Utilities' public business with three or more committee members present. Open meetings require a notice to the public no less than 24 hours prior. He stated UPAC has a right to hold closed "Executive Sessions," however, UPAC may not adopt any proposed policy, position, resolution, rule, regulation or other formal actions during these sessions.

**5. Citizen Comment**

None.

**6. Committee Member General Discussion**

The committee discussed the Jan. 10, 2024, meeting will be cancelled due to the joint meeting with UPAC and the Utilities Board scheduled for Jan. 16, 2024, to discuss the end of the Cost Recovery Mechanisms Assignment.

**7. Adjournment**

Chair Barrett adjourned the meeting at 9:01 a.m.

**Next meeting:** Feb. 7, 2024, at 8:00 a.m.



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**UTILITIES POLICY  
ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**BYLAWS**

Revised and Approved by the Utilities Board Effective August 17, 2022

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**COLORADO SPRINGS UTILITIES  
UTILITIES POLICY  
ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
BYLAWS**

**RULE 1. - COMMITTEE  
AUTHORITY AND PURPOSE**

(a) The Utilities Policy Advisory Committee (“UPAC” or “Committee”) was recognized by Colorado Springs Ordinance No. 03-204, as amended by Ordinance No. 13-81.

(b) The Committee is authorized to provide recommendations to the City Council, acting as Utilities Board (“Utilities Board”) regarding the various overall strategic operating and financial policies for Colorado Springs Utilities (“Utilities”). The Committee may receive information about operational activities, but does not have review or approval authority over activities carried out in furtherance of established policies. The Chief Executive Officer of Utilities (“Chief Executive Officer”) is solely responsible for the definition and implementation of activities and subsidiary policies as needed to carry out policy direction adopted by the Utilities Board. Questions as to whether those activities are consistent with established policies will be determined by the Utilities Board.

(c) The Utilities Board will direct the Committee to study specific issues or policies and provide recommendations to the Utilities Board, as appropriate. Assignments will include timelines that require completion prior to general municipal elections involving City Council Members.

UPAC must complete the assignment in the timeline approved by the Utilities Board.

(d) The Chair or Vice Chair of the Utilities Board will serve as a liaison between UPAC and Utilities Board. The UPAC liaison will be the Utilities Board’s direct point of contact with UPAC, communicating direction from Utilities Board to UPAC and providing guidance and support to UPAC so that Board expectations are met.

**RULE 2. - COMMITTEE  
COMPOSITION AND CONDUCT**

(a) The Committee is composed of seven regular members appointed by the Utilities Board for staggered terms. All members are limited to a maximum of three consecutive three-year terms. Up to two Committee members may reside outside of the corporate limits of the City of Colorado Springs, so long as either (1) the member resides within Utilities service area for at least one utility service, or (2) the member resides in El Paso County and works at business or organization premises located inside the corporate limits of the City of Colorado Springs.

(b) The Committee, when considering all of its members, shall comprise balanced professional, business, and community perspectives.

(c) Members of the Committee serve without compensation for their services but may be reimbursed for actual expenses, in accordance with Utilities policies and procedures.

(d) Committee members are subject to the provisions of the City of Colorado Springs Code of Ethics (City Code §§ 1.3.101 *et seq.*), and should employ independent objective judgement in providing policy advice and recommendations to the Utilities Board. Without limitation of the foregoing, the following Rules of Conduct shall apply to Committee members:

(1) If a Committee member chooses to seek employment with Utilities, that member shall notify the Chief Executive Officer and the Utilities Board of the application, and the member applying for employment shall be excused from attending Committee meetings and participating in Committee deliberations while the employment application is pending. The Utilities Board may authorize an alternate member (see Rule 2 (i) for description of an alternate member) to serve in place of the regular member who is applying for employment with Utilities. If the Committee member is not selected for employment with Utilities, that member shall be reinstated to full Committee participation. If the Committee member accepts employment with Utilities, the Committee member promptly shall resign from the Committee.

(2) Committee members are not precluded from offering or providing products and services to Utilities under Utilities' applicable procurement procedures or from offering or supplying products or services to contractors providing products or services to Utilities.

However, Committee members should not offer or contract to supply products or services to Utilities or Utilities' contractors that conflict with the Committee member's responsibilities as a member of UPAC. Committee members shall not use their position on UPAC to influence the procurement decisions of Utilities or its contractors. In the event any Committee members desires to provide products or services to Utilities or a contractor for Utilities, that Committee member shall notify the Chief Executive Officer of the proposed offering. The Chief Executive Officer shall consult with the Chair of the Utilities Board concerning the proposed offering. Provided that the Chief Executive Officer, after consultation with the Chair of the Utilities Board, determines that the proposed products or services offering does not conflict with the Committee member's responsibilities, the Committee member may proceed with offering the products or services and may contract to provide such products or services to Utilities if selected under Utilities' applicable procurement procedures or to a contractor for Utilities. If the Chief Executive Officer, after consultation with the Chair of the Utilities Board, determines that the proposed products or services offering does conflict with the Committee member's responsibilities, the Committee member may choose to resign from the Committee and to continue to pursue the offering or the Committee member may choose to

refrain from pursuing the offering, in which case the Committee member may continue participation on the Committee. This restriction shall apply to Committee members and any company or organization employing the Committee member.

(3) In the event any Committee member has questions or concerns under the City of Colorado Springs Code of Ethics about the propriety of any action the Committee member is contemplating, the Committee member shall contact ~~an attorney in~~ the City Attorney's Office ~~Utilities Division or the City Attorney~~ for guidance.

(e) Regular attendance of Committee members is expected in order for the Committee to function effectively.

(f) Upon recommendation by the Committee, the Utilities Board may remove any members of the Committee who fail to attend three or more regular meetings each year.

(g) Upon request of the Chair of the Committee or the Chief Executive Officer, the Utilities Board may remove any member who violates ethical or confidentiality requirements.

(h) Should a vacancy exist for retirement, resignation, removal, etc., the Utilities Board will appoint an eligible replacement member to fill the remaining term.

(i) The Utilities Board may appoint alternate members of the Committee to gain experience and observe the Committee's deliberations and actions. Alternates may participate in the discussion of the Committee; shall not

participate in Executive Sessions; shall not vote in any matter as an alternate; and shall not substitute for a regular Committee member except when authorized by the Utilities Board under the provisions of Rule 2 (d). For this reason, alternate members shall also comply with the requirements of Rule 2 (d) (1)-(3). Alternate members will be eligible for appointment by the Utilities Board to the Committee as a regular member whenever a vacancy occurs for which the alternate member is qualified.

### **RULE 3. - COMMITTEE OFFICERS**

(a) The officers of the Committee are the Chair and Vice-Chair. The Chair shall be elected by a majority vote of the Committee members following nomination(s) by a member or members of the Committee, which nomination(s) must be seconded. The Vice-Chair shall be elected in the same manner as the Chair. If a nominee fails to get elected, nominations shall be reopened. The Chair and Vice-Chair shall have a voice and shall vote in the selection of the officers of the Committee. Committee members shall not serve more than two consecutive years as Chair and not more than two consecutive years as Vice-Chair. The Committee shall elect the Chair and Vice-Chair for the next calendar year at the Committee's December meeting of the previous year.

(b) The Chair shall chair all meetings of the Committee and shall be the spokesperson for the Committee in communicating any recommendations to the Utilities Board. The Vice-Chair shall serve as the Chair when the Chair is absent or unavailable. If both the Chair and Vice-Chair are absent from a regular



or special meeting, the Committee shall designate its most senior member present who is willing to serve to chair that meeting, or in case there are multiple members present with equal seniority willing to serve, the Committee shall designate a chair by majority vote of members present.

(c) The Chief Executive Officer or a designee shall serve as secretary to the Committee.

#### **RULE 4. - SUB-COMMITTEES**

The Chair will appoint Committee members to such sub-committees as are established from time to time by the Committee to assist in carrying out its responsibilities. If a sub-committee consists of three or more members, Rule 5 shall apply.

#### **RULE 5. - MEETINGS**

(a) The Committee shall designate the times and expected duration of regular meetings by motion and majority vote as necessary from time to time.

(b) The place of the regular meetings of the Committee shall be specified in the meeting notice and the agenda.

(c) Special meetings of the Committee may be held at such time and place as stated in the notice of the meeting. The Chair may, or, upon the request of three Committee members shall, call special meetings of the Committee by notice to each of the Committee members in writing, which notice shall state the purpose for which the meeting is called. The notice shall be served at least 24 hours prior to the time of such meeting. The notice shall be served personally or

by email to each Committee member at the email address shown of the secretary's records.

(d) A majority of the regular members of the Committee shall constitute a quorum.

(e) The Committee by majority vote of members present may recess a regular or special meeting to a time specified in the motion therefore.

(f) Public notice of all regular and special meetings of the Committee shall at all times meet governing legal requirements.

(g) The format of the agenda, order of business, designation of agenda topics therein and the Committee's annual planning calendar shall be determined by the Committee.

(h) The Chief Executive Officer shall be responsible for preparation of a draft agenda for each regular Committee meeting. The draft agenda shall be reviewed by the Chair who shall have final authority as to the items included on the agenda.

(i) Agendas with attachments for regular meetings will be distributed to Committee members by 5:00 p.m. on Wednesday of the week preceding each regular meeting.

(j) Committee members may request agenda items be included on an agenda by contacting the Chief Executive Officer's Office or the Manager of Strategic Planning and Governance ~~or the UPAC liaison~~. The cut-off time for requesting additional agenda items for regular meetings shall be 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday of the week preceding the

regular meeting. For good cause, the Chair may authorize additional agenda items to be placed on the agenda for an upcoming meeting after the standard deadline provided that public notice of such additional agenda item(s) is given in accordance with legal requirements and provided notice thereof is given to Committee members in the same manner as required for a notice of special meeting under Rule 5 (c).

(k) At all regular and special meetings, the Chair, acting chair, Chief Executive Officer, or Chief Executive Officer's designee shall announce agenda items prior to Committee consideration of each item.

(l) Any Committee members desiring to speak or to make a motion shall address the Chair as "Mr. (or "Madam") Chair," and the Chair shall thereupon pronounce the name of the Committee member entitled to the floor. Committee members addressing the Committee shall confine themselves to the issues being discussed.

(m) A Committee member's attendance at a Committee meeting may be achieved electronically and/or telephonically with the prior approval of the Committee Chair.

#### **RULE 6. - CUSTOMER AND PUBLIC COMMENT**

(a) Committee meetings are generally expected to involve discussion between the Committee and Utilities staff.

(b) At the discretion of the Chair, or the majority of the Committee members present, customers and members of the public will be allowed to comment or ask questions concerning items

discussed at regular meetings or concerning matters discussed at special meetings. Comments or questions by individuals will be limited to ~~five~~three minutes each, and all customer or public comments will not exceed ~~twenty~~thirty minutes on any agenda item unless time is extended by the Chair or majority of the Committee members present.

(c) Customers and members of the public may address the Committee in person, electronically, or telephonically.

#### **RULE 7. - COMMITTEE ACTIONS**

(a) The Committee may take formal action only by motion and vote. However, no Committee action can be taken on any such matter until it is placed on an agenda for a regular meeting or is a subject of a special meeting.

(b) Motions shall be approved by the majority vote of the quorum, except that the affirmative votes of four members of the Committee are required for adoption or revision of Committee recommendations to the Utilities Board including adoption or revision of the Bylaws. If the Committee does not unanimously agree to a recommendation supported by at least four members of the Committee, dissenting members shall have the right to communicate their views to the Utilities Board as an addendum to the recommendation of the Committee.

(c) A voice vote will be used for all Committee items requiring a vote, with any dissenting votes or abstentions recorded in the minutes of the Committee meeting at the request of any Committee member. An additional roll

call vote may be used as necessary for clarity or in the event a Committee member is participating electronically and/or telephonically.

#### **RULE 8. - MOTIONS PROCEDURES**

(a) When a motion is made and seconded, it may be restated by the Chair or by the Chief Executive Officer before a debate and again before the final vote.

(b) ~~Roberts Rules of Order~~ Parliamentary Law and Practice for Non-profit Organizations shall govern the consideration of motions and transaction of business by the Committee.

#### **RULE 9. - MINUTES AND RECORDINGS**

(a) The Chief Executive Officer will be responsible for keeping minutes of all Committee meetings. Minutes of the previous regular meeting and any special meetings occurring in the previous month shall be included in each Committee member's agenda packets for distribution prior to each regular meeting and the Committee will review and approve the minutes as part of its regular meeting agenda.

(b) Copies of the minutes shall also be provided to members of the Utilities Board.

(c) All regular and special Committee meetings will be recorded, and the audio recordings will be archived.

(d) Minutes of Committee meetings shall be archived and then posted on Colorado Springs Utilities' website, for a

minimum of three (3) years, in order to be available for public access.

#### **RULE 10. - EXECUTIVE SESSION PROCEDURES**

(a) The Chief Executive Officer and an attorney in the City Attorney's Office Utilities Division shall prepare the agenda for an Executive Session of the Committee meeting. The agenda shall include those items that may be discussed in closed session.

(b) In compliance with the Colorado Open Meetings Law, prior to convening an Executive Session, the Chair shall announce the general topics of the Executive Session as set forth below. If two thirds of the Committee members present consent to an Executive Session, the item may be discussed in a closed Executive Session. If two thirds of Committee members do not consent to an Executive Session, the items may be discussed in open session or withdrawn.

(c) No adoption of any proposed Committee action, recommendation or policy advice to the Utilities Board shall occur in Executive Session. However, Committee members may receive information and provide direction in Executive Session for consideration as provided by law in the following areas as they affect the responsibilities of the Committee:

(1) Purchase, acquisition, lease, transfer, or sale of any real, personal or other property interests.

(2) Conferences with the City Attorney or other attorneys for Utilities, for the purposes of

receiving legal advice on specific legal questions, issues or matters.

(3) Matters required to be confidential by federal or state law or rules and regulations.

(4) Specialized details of security arrangements or investigations.

(5) Determining positions relative to matters that may be subject to negotiations, developing strategy for negotiations, and instructing negotiators.

(6) Consideration of any documents protected by mandatory nondisclosure provisions of the Colorado Open Records Act or other information which is considered confidential or proprietary and, thus, would not be subject to the disclosure requirements of the Colorado Open Records Act.

(d) All discussions and documents provided in Executive Session are confidential and proprietary information, and Committee members shall not use such confidential information for purposes other than their responsibilities as a Committee member. Further, Committee members shall not release any confidential or proprietary information to any third party without the express consent of the Chief Executive Officer.

(e) To the extent required by law, executive sessions will be recorded and the audio recordings will be archived. All such recordings shall be confidential records.

(f) Nothing herein shall restrict the Committee from deciding to hold an Executive Session regarding any other agenda item provided such decision meets the criteria set forth in subparagraph 10 (c) above and the required notice has been provided.

(g) Prior to entering into any Executive Session, Committee members participating electronically or telephonically shall ensure that no other individual not authorized to participate in the Executive Session is present or able to hear the matter discussed as part of the Executive Session.

#### **RULE 11. - EXPENSE REIMBURSEMENT**

(a) Committee members and alternates are encouraged to participate in a variety of educational and training programs in order to make them more experienced in matters involving the utility industry and to gain insight ~~into~~ developing trends in the industry. Generally, Committee members and alternates should attend educational and training programs pertinent to their area of expertise or customer segment. At least once per year, the Committee shall review available educational and training opportunities to determine which activities would assist Committee members and alternates in participating in the work of the Committee.

(b) Expenses incurred by Committee members and alternates for educational and training programs relating to their duties as Committee members and alternates can be reimbursed. Such reimbursements shall be in accordance with guidelines established in the current

Utilities policies and procedures and these Bylaws.

(c) The appropriate Staff of Colorado Springs Utilities will coordinate necessary travel arrangements and will approve reimbursement requests.

#### **RULE 12. - ADOPTION AND MODIFICATION OF BYLAWS**

(a) Adoption or modification of Committee Bylaws requires approval of the Utilities Board.

(b) Committee members or the Chief Executive Officer can suggest modifications to Bylaws by placing the matter as an agenda item at a regular Committee meeting.

#### Rule 13. Application of Board Bylaws and City Council Rules

(a) In the event these UPAC Bylaws do not address a matter or issue, and such matter or issue is addressed by the Utilities Board Bylaws, the Committee shall apply the Utilities Board Bylaws when considering such matter or issue. In the event neither these UPAC Bylaws nor the Utilities Board Bylaws address a matter or issue, and such matter or issue is addressed by the Rules and Procedures of City Council, the Committee shall apply the Rules and Procedures of City Council when considering such matter or issue.

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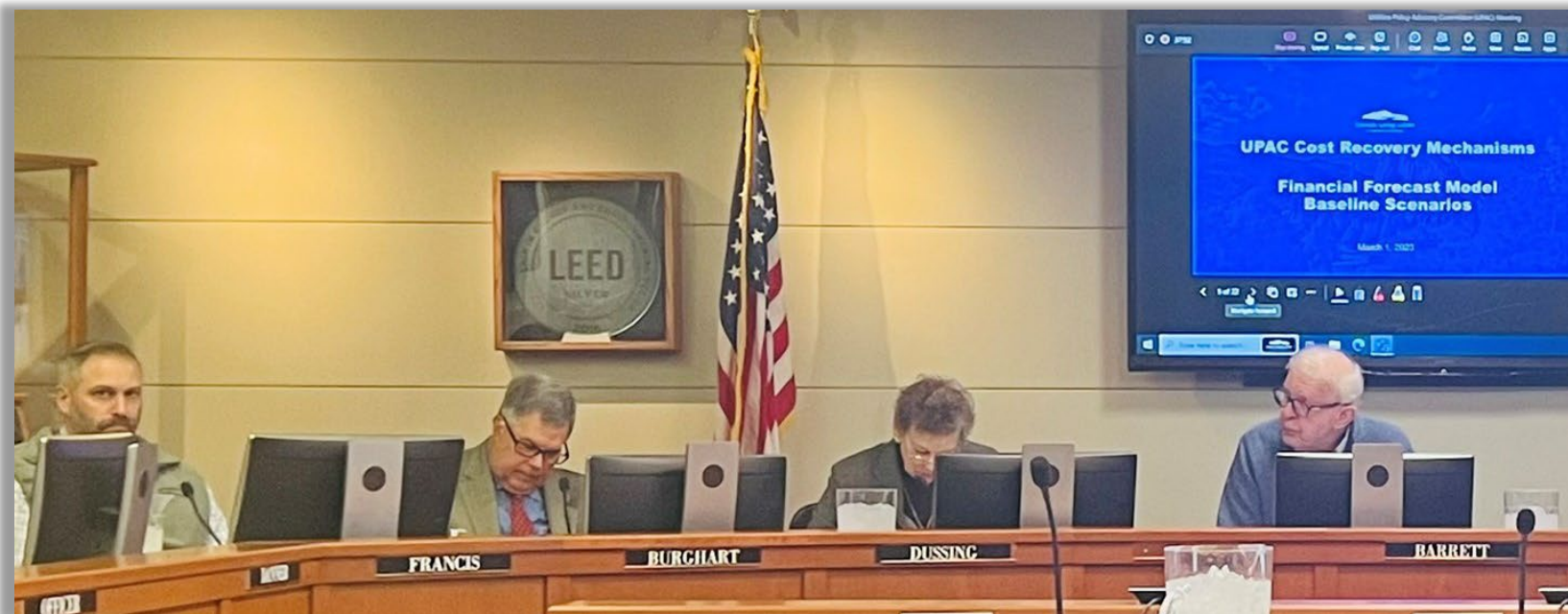
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# UPAC Bylaws Updates

Bethany Schoemer, Strategic Planning and Governance  
Specialist

# Utilities Policy Advisory Committee (UPAC)

**Rule 1 (b):** The Committee is authorized to provide recommendations to the City Council, acting as Utilities Board (“Utilities Board”) regarding the various overall strategic operating and financial policies for Colorado Springs Utilities (“Utilities”). **The Committee may receive information about operational activities, but does not have review or approval authority over activities carried out in furtherance of established policies.** The Chief Executive Officer of Utilities (“Chief Executive Officer”) is solely responsible for the definition and implementation of activities and subsidiary policies as needed to carry out policy direction adopted by the Utilities Board. Questions as to whether those activities are consistent with established policies will be determined by the Utilities Board.



# Proposed Bylaw Changes



Adding language to ensure an assignment is completed within the timeframe of the Utilities Board that approved the assignment.



Establishing a UPAC liaison to provide support, guidance, direction to UPAC as they move through an approved assignment. This liaison will either be the Chair or Vice Chair of the Utilities Board.



# Role of UPAC Liaison

- Chair or Vice Chair of Utilities Board
- Bring forward ideas for UPAC assignments to the full Utilities Board
- Provide guidance, direction and support to UPAC during assignment
- Will work with Springs Utilities staff to ensure UPAC has the materials needed during an assignment

# Other changes to Bylaws

- Administrative clean up

## Rule 13. Application of Board Bylaws and City Council Rules

(a) In the event these UPAC Bylaws do not address a matter or issue, and such matter or issue is addressed by the Utilities Board Bylaws, the Committee shall apply the Utilities Board Bylaws when considering such matter or issue. In the event neither these UPAC Bylaws nor the Utilities Board Bylaws address a matter or issue, and such matter or issue is addressed by the Rules and Procedures of City Council, the Committee shall apply the Rules and Procedures of City Council when considering such matter or issue.

# Next Steps



**May 17**

Strategic Planning Committee:

*Discussion*



**June 5**

Utilities Policy Advisory Committee:

*Discussion*



**June 18**

Utilities Board Meeting:

*Approval*

