

City of Bel Aire Utility Advisory Committee Minutes  
Wednesday, January 11, 2023

1. Called to order at 3:00 pm
2. In attendance: Dan Broyles, Terry Ercolani, Antonio Kit, Bill Moss, Art Tenbrink. Also, Mayor Benage
3. Approval of agenda: Bill motion, Dan second. Approved.
4. Approval of Dec. 14, 2022 meeting minutes: Bill motion, Dan second. Approved.
5. New business
  - a. UAC membership review
    - i. UAC now back up to five members with the addition of Antonio Kitt
    - ii. Reviewed UAC member information. Bill Moss (not Dan Broyles) was voted as the Vice Chair at last December's meeting.
  - b. Stage 1 Water Watch
    - i. Art handed out information regarding the State 1 Water Watch that Bel Aire has entered (along with the city of Wichita)
    - ii. The trigger for Wichita entering this is probably due to Lake Cheney being below pool level for over one year; Bel Aire's trigger for entering Stage 1 is because one of our water providers (Wichita) has entered Stage 1
    - iii. Stage 1 requires education, management, and regulation actions. The regulation actions at Stage 1 are advisory. Bel Aire will make occasional news releases at various media outlets to promote water conservation. Management actions for the city include fixing leaks promptly and curtailing certain activities (such as hydrant flushing and street cleaning).
    - iv. Wichita may bring back savings/rebate for water saving devices
  - c. 2022 UAC Annual Report and 2023 Goals and Objectives
    - i. Art prepared the UAC 2022 Annual Report
    - ii. Discussed Item 11 regarding sprinkler backflow. The backflow device inspection requirement is for every two years. There may be documentation issue (with the city) as to whether a homeowner has a sprinkler system but the system is disconnected.

- iii. The 2022 Annual Report was reviewed and approved by all UAC members during the meeting. The report will be sent to Melissa Krehbiel, City Clerk
- iv. Art prepared the 2023 Goals and Objectives
- v. Discussed Item 8, UAC field trip during 2023. Suggestions were:  
Hutchinson recycling center, water reclamation center, new water plant (to be completed in 2024), existing water treatment plan and renovation.  
Chosen by the group: Hutchinson recycling center.
- vi. The 2023 Goals and Objectives were reviewed and approved by all UAC members during the meeting. The report will be sent to Melissa Krehbiel, City Clerk

#### 6. Roundtable discussion

- a. Dan, Terry, Antonio, Art: no report
- b. Bill discussed potential for paving streets in Aurora neighborhood. In the 1970s, this was discussed among the residents. Some objected due to loss of landscaping. Survey information might be available from those past discussions with residents; this might be useful for the current residents to review.
- c. Mayor Benage:
  - i. Bel Aire will request water rights review at the state level. Water rights changes would allow different usage criteria to be created and this may help to reduce overall water usage. The CCUA has water rights, but these must be managed appropriately (for example, pump only a certain amount of water out of each well). It was noted that 85% of Kansas water usage is for farm/agriculture and 15% for urban needs.
  - ii. Answered questions regarding brush drop-off site. Bel Aire discontinued this site for various reasons. Setting this back up would require compliance with fire codes that could add \$100,000 to the cost. Partner with Kechi for their brush site? Maybe Park City? The mayor will discuss this with Kechi personnel. It was noted that the twice-per-year trash and limb pickup program (Curbside Clean Up) replaced the past drop-off programs, with positive results from the community.

7. Next meeting: UAC meeting February 8, 2023, 3-5 pm at City Hall Senior Center.  
Accepted by the UAC members present.
8. Old, continuing, future business: discussed 2023 events schedule. Tristan talked with Art regarding Curbside Clean Up. The following dates for 2023 have been decided on:  
May 20 and October 7.
9. Adjournment of meeting: Bill motion, Terry second. All approved. Meeting adjourned at 5:00 pm