



**AGA Guam Chapter
General Membership
Meeting Minutes**
Wednesday, January 22, 2020 at
12:00pm.
Hilton Resort & Spa Koko Room

Debbie Ngata
President
Pilar Pangelinan
President-Elect
Frances Danieli, MBA, CB, CGFM
Immediate Past President
Shannon Bartonico, CFE
Treasurer
Fierce Catoc, CPA
Treasurer-Elect
Llewelyn Terlaje, CGFM, CGAP, CFE
Secretary

Attendance Count - Members:43; Non-members:6

- I. Meeting called to order at 12:07 PM by President Debbie Ngata.
- II. Guest Speaker Presentation:
John M. Benavente, GPA General Manager presented on "Powering the Future: Guam's Energy 2020." Mr. Benavente shared the latest initiatives of GPA to have safe and reliable power, affordable power, and environmentally friendly power. A synopsis of his presentation is as follows:
 - New Ukudu Power Plant - The plan to establish a new power plant started because of the new US EPA regulations and penalties were accruing in the hundreds of millions. There is also a need for the increased load growth because the military buildup and a need to increase integration of new renewable energy. The plant was built since 1975 and it has become difficult to even get 60% of its capacity without a lot of maintenance. There would be challenges meeting load growth in the next three years and without the new plant, load shedding would impact rate payers. Mr. Benavente shared graphs and charts of the power supply and system reliability of the various plants. Some of the key features the new plant will provide is a 30-day on-site fuel storage, 7-day on-site water storage, will utilize GWA waste water for cooling, and allow for hiring opportunities for GPA employees who may be impacted by the impending retirement of Cabras 1 & 2. GPA purchased 60 acres, which only 25 acres will be utilized to be environmentally friendly to the neighbors in the area. A fee is being paid for 25 years and then ownership will revert to the government afterwards.
 - Future Rates – Rates has not increased since 2013. With the new power plant, rates will reduce in 2023. Total cost to run GPA is \$378 million, where customers are charged the base rate of \$0.103/kwh and fuel costs is \$0.13/kwh. With Solar PV Production, fuel costs will be avoided.
 - Plant Decommissions & Infrastructure Elimination – Obsolete power generation plants will be decommissioned. This will provide opportunities for revenue generation sources for the land assets these plants are sitting on. For example, a wharf can be constructed and can attract tourism and other economic activity away from Tumon. Then revenue can be utilized to reduce rates.
 - Other Major Initiatives Ongoing - Other initiatives include the following:
 - Net metering program – The PUC ordered GPA to not make any change to the current program. It also ordered for GPA and PUC to agree on an independent consultant to determine the cost and benefits of Net Metering Program including the benefits distributed generation may have in the distribution system. The PUC will entertain the report when completed and will address the matter further at that time or once the total NEM KW capacity reaches about 26MW.
 - Streetlight conversion to LED - GPA completed installation of an 3,750 LED streetlights in FY 2019. Total streetlights replaced to date is about 10,000. This leaves a balance of about 7,000. This could allow DPW to request for additional lights while maintaining its current budget level. Once completed, GPA would reduce DPW's bill by about \$1.2M annually.



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- Vegetation management – In FY 2019 GPA started a Village Maintenance Pilot Program with Participating Mayors. T&D Line Crews & Contracting Services conduct trimming and clearing for the safety of the public, prevent damage to the power system, and prevent power outages.
 - GPA's personnel staffing - Although GPA was budgeted for 500 FTEs, they currently have 466 FTEs. With the new power plant they anticipate to reduce FTEs to 400. In the next 5-10 years 57% of GPA's workforce is eligible for retirement.
 - Growth Opportunities – There is sufficient capacity for future load growth, which can also support renewable energy. Continuous improvement can result in more reliable power, more resilient grid, and lower energy costs.
 - Questions - A question was asked about underground distribution. Mr. Benavente stated 25% of the island has converted to underground distribution. The plan or standard is to prepare to have the distribution system underground and a budget of \$5M per year is needed.
- III. Approval of Minutes:
- a. October minutes – Maripaz Perez moved to approved the minutes subject to corrections. Pilar seconded the motion. All were in favor and the October minutes were approved.
 - b. November and December minutes were tabled.
- IV. Treasurer's Report – Treasurer's Reports were tabled.
- V. President's Report
- a. Debbie announced member anniversaries for December and January.
 - b. A reminder of the PDT requirements will be emailed to the membership.
 - c. Debbie thanked all those who volunteered for the December community service events - Guam Museum and Salvation Army Bell ringing.
 - d. There is a free Ethics training on February 27th to be held at UOG.
 - e. For the CGFM committee, the next Coffee Klatch will be on February 26th.
- VI. Other Matters/Open Floor
- a. Lunch Raffle – Pilar Pangelinan won the raffle.
 - b. AGA 5K Shirts were raffled off
- VII. Reminder: Next Meeting – Wednesday, February 26, 2020
- VIII. Adjourn Meeting – Lorbea Palaming moved to adjourn the meeting and was seconded by Amacris Legaspi. All were in favor and meeting was adjourned at 1:13 PM.

Official Minutes prepared by: Llewelyn Terlaje
AGA – Guam Chapter Secretary