



AGENDA

REGULAR MEETING BOARD OF UTILITIES COMMISSIONERS

La Junta, Colorado

March 10, 2026

4:00 p.m.

Council Chambers

Municipal Building

601 Colorado Avenue

CALL TO ORDER

ROLL CALL (City Clerk)

Board Members P/A

Supervisors

Others

Ayala
Berg
Bourget
Thomas
Velasquez

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING (Chairman) (Action)

Regular Meeting February 10, 2026

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION FOR NON-AGENDA ITEMS ONLY *(5-minute time limit per person)*

REPORTS

- A. ARPA Board (Gary Cranson)
- B. Water & Wastewater Treatment (Tom Seaba)
- C. Electric Department (Chris Arguello)
- D. Sanitation (Martin Montoya)

NEW BUSINESS

- A. City Manager Comments
- B. Governing Body Comments

ADJOURN

SUBJECT TO APPROVAL AT THE MARCH 10, 2026 UTILITIES BOARD MEETING

BOARD OF UTILITIES COMMISSIONERS – February 10, 2026

CITY OF LA JUNTA)
COUNTY OF OTERO) SS
STATE OF COLORADO)

A Regular Meeting of the Board of Utilities Commissioners of the City of La Junta, Colorado, was called to order by Chairman Patrick Berg on Tuesday, February 10, 2026, at 4:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers of the Municipal Building.

OATH OF OFFICE TO NEWLY APPOINTED COMMISSIONER. The City Clerk administered the oath of office to newly appointed Commissioner CaSandra Thomas.

Roll was called and the following Board Members were present:

Present: Joe Ayala, Mayor
 Patrick Berg, Chairman
 Mike Bourget, Commissioner
 CaSandra Thomas, Commissioner
 Paul Velasquez, Council Member/Vice-Chair

Absent: none

Also present: Michael Hart, City Manager
 Erin Harris, City Attorney
 Melanie Scofield, City Clerk
 Tom Seaba, Director of Water/WW
 Chris Arguello, Electric Superintendent
 Martin Montoya, Director of Engineering
 Paula Mahoney, Admin. Asst.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

Chairman Berg asked if there were any corrections or additions to the minutes of the Regular Meeting of January 13, 2026. Hearing none, the Chairman asked for a motion to approve the minutes as published.

MOTION TO APPROVE THE JANUARY 13, 2026 MINUTES AS PUBLISHED: Ayala

SECOND: Velasquez

DISCUSSION: There was no discussion

VOTE: The motion carried 5-0

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION

1. There was no citizen participation.

REPORTS

A. ARPA Board (Gary Cranson submitted the following report):

1. Summary of December 2025 Financial and Operating Statements:

- In December, revenue from power sales was less than budget by \$105,664 (5.1%).
- Cost of goods sold was under budget by \$64,860 (5.2%).
- Net operating revenue for December was \$4941817

2. **Year to Date Income Statement:**

- Revenue from power sales was better than budget by \$206,876 (0.8%).
- Total revenues were better than budget by \$525,770.
- Total cost of goods sold was under budget by \$305,838 (1.9%).
- Total A & G expenses are under budget by \$279,975 (4.3%).
- YTD Net Revenue is \$4.8 million (30.0%) better than budget.
- Average of 147 days cash on hand.
- Debt service coverage year to date is 1.42X.

3. **December Operating Report:**

- Member Energy sales were 3.0% less than budget in December and about the same as they were in December 2024.
- Member energy sales YTD are 0.53% better than budget and slightly less than YTD 2024 sales.
- Member demands of 39 mW were slightly lower than December 2024.
- All in cost to members YTD is \$0.09244 per kWh which is 7.6% lower than 2024 and 9.5% lower than 2020.
- The avoided cost rate for January will be \$40.54 per mWh.
- The 2025 YTD blended rate for power is \$42.16 per mWh compared to \$52.32 per mWh in 2024, about 19% cheaper.

4. Next Regular Meeting: February 26, 2026 at 10:00 a.m. at Otero College in La Junta.

B. Water & Wastewater Treatment (Tom Seaba):

1. R.O. Plant

- Routine maintenance: Flushed air valves, cleaned chlorine tanks, checked manganese filter media depth, changed oil & grease in motors.
- Troubleshooting issues with Chlor-Tec; replumbed brine supply lines and poppet valves.
- Washed RO "B".
- Began repairs on well #15; the well needs new pump and additional column pipe, well #5 needs a new column pipe. Video inspection discovered large hole.
- Continue troubleshooting Prairie View tank aviation obstruction lights.
- New employee training.
- Additional facilities and grounds maintenance; meter reading.

2. Distribution

- Repair 4" service break in 1500 block of San Juan Avenue.
- Repair valve at 14th & San Juan Avenue.
- Install valve for water main replacement at Otero College.
- Repair main in 600 block of Lewis Avenue.
- Meter Reading and utility billing office generated work orders, equipment maintenance.

3. Wastewater

- Treated 30.54 million gallons. Removed 33ft³ of screenings and 42ft³ of grit.
- RO concentrate discharge to plant was 9.224 million gallons.
- Jetted 3,926 feet of line for ten emergency calls and nine manhole locate requests.
- PM's on HVAC systems.
- Construction continues on press building.
- Hauled 200,000 gallons of sludge to Industrial Park lagoons.
- Additional facilities and grounds maintenance.

4. Other Notables:

- Submitted loan package to SRF for distribution/lead service line replacement.
- Continued meeting with CDPHE for DSV submittal. Prehearing materials submitted.
- Prequalification meeting for EC grant submission. Grant submission due February 4th.
- CDPHE meeting on new-proposed Lead & Copper rule improvements.
- ABRT meeting with Ag/Muni Subcommittee and joined Lower Ark River Corridor Initiative subcommittee.
- Training with Colorado Rural Water.

C. Electric Department (Chris Arguello):

1. Line Crew

- Daily reads, disconnects, and maintenance.
- Replaced a broken cross-arm during maintenance at Big Potter Park.
- Performed maintenance at the warehouse, bypassing ballast and converting to LEDs.
- Tested the underground wire and energized the cutouts at 322 Santa Fe Avenue.
- Connected the primary jumpers on Himebaugh Street in North La Junta.
- Replaced a street light pole that was hit by a vehicle accident on Hwy 50 by McDonalds.
- Responded to a house fire at 1021 Cimarron Avenue to cut the electric service.
- Six crew members are now enrolled to attend the 2026 Mesa Hotline School in Grand Junction, Colorado.

2. SOLAR Accounts

- There are currently 40 residential and 2 commercial customers with one additional residential customer pending.

3. System Update

- No new updates.

4. Scholarship Application

- Information is available on the City website.

D. Sanitation (Martin Montoya):

1. Cardboard Program: Started picking up last week of January and charging this month. Still plan to go out in person to speak to customers face-to-face. We currently have about fifty customers.
2. Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR): This is funding brought down from the state. They collect the money from the big box companies and enterprises and distribute it to the municipalities in an effort to fund all recycling. the City has put in an application into C3 which is a state organization for recycling. They've accepted the initial application and we are now on the second step.

NEW BUSINESS

A. A Resolution Recommending to City Council the Amendment of the 2026 Budget for the Water Fund. Tom Seaba, Director of Water, Utilities explained that this amendment will pay for the replacement and upgrade of the headgates at our Holbrook Farms. This last summer, the ditch company looked at everybody's headgates to see how they were operating. In very late November, letters were sent stating that people need to have repairs or a replacement done and that it needed to be complete before the beginning of the next irrigation season or they would lock your gate and receive no water. We received two bids for the job and went with Habitat Construction. They were the lower bid and have knowledge of the Holbrook Ditch.

MOTION TO ADOPT RESOLUTION NO. RUB-1-2026: Bourget

SECOND: Velasquez

DISCUSSION: There was no discussion

VOTE: The motion carried 5-0

B. City Manager's Comments

1. There were no City Manager comments.

C. Governing Body's Comments

1. There were no Governing Body comments.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 4:24 p.m.

ATTEST:

CITY OF LA JUNTA

Melanie R. Scofield, City Clerk

Patrick Berg, Chairman

ARPA Board Report. Gary Cranson submitted the following report:

1) **Summary of January 2025 Financial Statement:**

In January, revenue from power sales was less than budget by \$105,664 (5.1%)

Cost of goods sold was under budget \$108,024 (5.9%)

Net operating revenue for January was \$484,728

Total A & G expenses are under budget by \$ 19,833

Net Revenue is \$ 306,710, 30% better than budget

Average of 158 days cash on hand

Debt service coverage year to date is 1.27X

2) **January Operating Report:**

Member Energy sales were \$2.04 million, 3.7% less than budget in January and 8.6% less than they were in January 2025 when sales were \$2.21 million.

Member demands of 43 mW were 4.6% lower than January 2025

All in cost to members YTD is \$0.09102 per kWh which is 7.6% lower than 2024 and 9.5% lower than 2020

The avoided cost rate for February will be \$ 41.89 per mWh

The 2025 YTD blended rate for power is \$41.89 per mWh compared to \$54.58 per mWh in 2025, **about 23% cheaper**

3) **Next Regular Meeting:** May 28, 2026 at 10:00 AM at Otero College in La Junta.

Utility Board Meeting

03/10/2026

Departmental Goings-On

R.O. Plant

- Routine maintenance: Cleaned and inspected caustic sodium hydroxide and scale inhibitor injectors, flushed chlorine lines.
- Diagnosed and repaired finish water pump #2 valve after it failed to shut off.
- Repaired small chlorine leak on manganese filter line.
- Inspected well meter bearings, replacing those on wells 7 and 8. Valve on meter 7 is broken and will be repaired in April.
- New employee training.
- Additional facilities and grounds maintenance; meter reading.

Distribution

- Service replacements on San Juan and Edison.
- Bored in new 8" line at Otero College to move water main out of the way and at proper depth for their drainage project.
- Assist with broken well valve.
- Rebuild 8" gate valve at 14th and San Juan.
- Meter Reading and utility billing office generated work orders, equipment maintenance.

Wastewater

- Treated 31.013 million gallons. Removed 44ft³ of screenings and 50ft³ of grit.
- RO concentrate discharge to plant was 8.668 million gallons.
- Jetted 8,962' of line for 13 emergency calls and 7 manhole locate requests.
- Both clarifiers and UV channel deep cleaned and inspected.
- Hauled 320,000 gallons of sludge to industrial park lagoons.
- Air handlers cleaned and maintained.
- RAS pump #1 moved into lead. Pump #3 cleaned, drained, and oil changed.
- Additional facilities and grounds maintenance.

Other Notables:

- Hired new employee for distribution crew.
- CIRSA inspection of all facilities.
- Filled data requests and clarified scope of work for funding agencies.
- Continue work on Risk and Resiliency assessment.
- Attended water infrastructure roundtable at SECWCD hosted by Sen. Hickenlooper.
- PFAS reporting for CDPHE and EPA.

**CITY OF LA JUNTA
TREATED WATER PUMPING REPORT**

2026 FEBRUARY	DAILY TOTALS	RUNNING TOTAL	RUNNING AVERAGE
1	1,196,510	1,196,510	1,196,510
2	838,055	2,034,565	1,017,283
3	1,116,544	3,151,109	1,050,370
4	784,529	3,935,638	983,910
5	1,181,880	5,117,518	1,023,504
6	751,692	5,869,210	978,202
7	1,084,182	6,953,392	993,342
8	740,248	7,693,640	961,705
9	1,153,253	8,846,893	982,988
10	829,764	9,676,657	967,666
11	798,399	10,475,056	952,278
12	1,119,286	11,594,342	966,195
13	718,726	12,313,068	947,159
14	921,256	13,234,324	945,309
15	732,814	13,967,138	931,143
16	1,133,233	15,100,371	943,773
17	656,908	15,757,279	926,899
18	1,077,494	16,834,773	935,265
19	505,628	17,340,401	912,653
20	1,177,330	18,517,731	925,887
21	589,083	19,106,814	909,848
22	1,016,916	20,123,730	914,715
23	1,205,988	21,329,718	927,379
24	1,698,211	23,027,929	959,197
25	1,024,515	24,052,444	962,098
26	1,485,389	25,537,833	982,224
27	938,790	26,476,623	980,616
28	917,826	27,394,449	978,373

WATER PUMPING REPORT - TOTAL MONTHLY AVERAGE AND ANNUAL DAILY AVERAGE

	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
JANUARY	982,581	951,866	1,008,129	1,017,718	985,506	1,044,009
FEBRUARY	899,325	990,441	944,202	990,572	995,785	1,016,581
MARCH	1,185,289	1,260,958	1,362,603	1,423,137	1,028,287	1,308,317
APRIL	1,951,903	1,675,183	1,531,140	1,763,265	1,682,223	1,868,792
MAY	1,407,158	2,126,396	1,664,063	2,715,473	2,239,430	2,824,709
JUNE	2,443,088	2,684,200	2,792,473	3,373,343	2,626,847	3,329,929
JULY	2,987,266	3,118,577	2,704,002	3,048,099	2,865,161	2,816,800
AUGUST	2,929,069	3,215,891	2,158,243	2,588,089	3,044,966	3,048,754
SEPTEMBER	2,678,312	2,761,297	2,370,071	2,459,879	2,814,694	2,427,889
OCTOBER	1,786,327	2,053,569	1,440,836	1,339,430	1,546,996	1,920,007
NOVEMBER	1,139,791	1,194,828	1,135,276	1,026,190	1,079,446	1,185,766
DECEMBER	919,619	999,685	1,045,058	982,878	1,042,740	1,090,004
Total of Monthly Average	21,309,728	23,032,891	20,156,096	22,728,073	21,952,081	23,881,557
Annual Monthly Average	1,775,811	1,919,408	1,679,675	1,894,006	1,829,340	1,990,130
	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026
JANUARY	1,161,771	1,102,644	1,079,783	932,600	959,158	980,751
FEBRUARY	1,246,955	1,087,932	1,050,626	895,293	923,782	978,373
MARCH	1,207,604	1,115,113	1,068,667	1,022,006	1,161,087	
APRIL	1,841,144	1,840,332	1,899,967	1,810,903	1,846,741	
MAY	1,951,034	2,419,403	2,109,724	2,447,238	1,865,956	
JUNE	2,685,689	2,837,504	2,374,146	2,759,970	2,373,257	
JULY	3,227,453	2,696,154	2,432,048	2,593,624	2,805,768	
AUGUST	3,049,651	2,656,857	2,432,048	2,643,560	2,576,336	
SEPTEMBER	2,656,326	2,506,060	2,126,370	2,452,890	2,293,848	
OCTOBER	1,811,689	1,872,821	1,637,142	1,907,575	1,762,246	
NOVEMBER	1,246,012	1,115,090	970,307	925,572	1,051,996	
DECEMBER	1,077,914	1,094,785	858,878	891,162	905,929	
Total of Monthly Average	23,163,242	22,344,695	20,039,706	21,282,393	20,526,104	1,959,124
Annual Monthly Average	1,930,270	1,862,058	1,669,976	1,773,533	1,710,509	163,260

ANNUAL MONTHLY AVERAGE from 1978-2013	
YEAR	
1978	3,417,038
1979	2,359,628
1980	2,340,723
1981	2,204,668
1982	1,981,657
1983	2,202,084
1984	2,077,328
1985	2,041,761
1986	2,448,842
1987	2,392,992
1988	2,617,253
1989	2,452,398
1990	2,274,213
1991	2,600,497
1992	2,468,108
1993	2,706,996
1994	2,772,865
1995	2,599,979
1996	2,718,012
1997	2,778,802
1998	2,764,985
1999	2,686,897
2000	2,870,918
2001	2,613,727
2002	2,545,514
2003	2,294,070
2004	1,936,373
2005	2,050,567
2006	1,907,597
2007	1,819,832
2008	1,825,493
2009	1,742,560
2010	1,834,444
2011	2,014,490
2012	1,679,675
2013	1,897,788
2014	1,830,944



City of La Junta
Electric Department
P.O. Box 489 - 601 Colorado Avenue
La Junta, Colorado 81050

February 2026 Report

In addition to daily reads, disconnects, and maintenance, the crew performed these additional tasks...

- We had an outage at the hospital that took out about 1,200 customers.
- We responded to a pad-mount transformer that was hit by a vehicle at the Koa.
- We ran a new service at 1521 Grace Ave for a new home.
- We replaced an old Delta transformer with a CSP single-phase pot on 12th and Topeka Ave.
- We replaced a primary pole at 501 Rice Ave.
- We added a 25 kva transformer on 3rd and Lawrence Ave.
- The crew got the Tornado Siren working at 1500 San Juan Ave.
- The crew is doing maintenance at the Rodeo grounds.

Solar Accounts

There was 17,145 Kwh put back onto the system in February, with 40 residential and 2 Commercial customers.

System Update

Attached are the minutes from the last meeting for the Breaker replacement project.

Solar Development

Update from Sandhills Energy (aka Clay Creek, LLC). We will start seeing activity as of May.



Project: City of La Junta SF6 72.5kV Breaker Replacement Project #300037939 Outage Planning Meeting Minutes

Date: March 2, 2026

Time: 11:00AM MST

Minutes by: Marcella Ramirez

Attendees:

Chris Arguello (City)
Joel Justice (ATW)
Damian Berger (ATW)
Jeremy Eldridge (WUE)
Alex Crowl (Eaton)
Masi Mohammed (Eaton)
Marci Ramirez (Eaton)
Paul Sefranka (Eaton)
Freddi Muteba

1) Agenda:

- a. Outage limitations – Sequence and duration
 - a. Breakers
 - b. Relays
- b. Equipment handling: Rigging, removal/disposal
 - a. Breakers
 - b. Relays
- c. Working scheduled – days/hours

2) Other Minutes:

- a. Chris notes: original plan 4AM line outage finalized with visual grounding and air opening visual confirmation, substation brought back on line with providers protection ¼ miles down the line
 - a. Relays – on tri-state protection while these are down
 - b. Original plan was to isolate both breakers at the same time, Damien made a request to do one at a time, if durations are short enough, could potentially do both at once
 - c. Chris notes that the city could have these isolated and grounded prior to installation crew coming on site
 - d. Chris notes that we can do both at the same time if this will help the contractor complete installation faster – including both breakers
 - e. Chris is going to verify with Damien if we can isolate the relays at the same time as the breakers (tri-state would be the protection while these are offline)



Powering Business Worldwide

- b. Fencing – city will remove fencing prior to contractor on site
- c. Rigging – City would like contractor to move breakers into site
- d. Disposal – City will retain the breakers. City will handle disposal of oil.
 - a. Contractor to include scope for anything involved in removal
 - b. City to handle disposal of materials
 - c. Paul asks if the city has oil test reports showing non-PCB oil, Chris confirms the city does have this available
- e. No limits to work schedule once equipment is isolated

La Junta Municipal Light Plant

Monthly Report

MONTH/YEAR Feb 2026

DATA FROM ION METER MONTHLY SCREEN

ION SWD Peak Demand: 13611 Date: 2-3-26 Time: 11:11 AM

ION SWD Min Demand: 5621 Date: 2-16-26 Time: 2:12 PM

ION KWH NET: 5947487

DATA FROM PLANT CONSUMPTION METER SCREEN AND PREVIOUS MONTH REPORT

	CURRENT	- PREVIOUS	= TOTAL
METER 1 KWH READING:	<u>395417</u>	<u>391741</u>	<u>3676</u>
METER 2 KWH READING:	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
METER 3 KWH READING:	<u>464205</u>	<u>458120</u>	<u>6085</u>
PLANT USAGE TOTAL:			<u>9761</u>

FAX COPY TO GINGER

FILE IN MONTHLY REPORT BOOK



Below is the February, 2026 supplemental information regarding the sanitation department.

CUSTOMER INFORMATION

CUSTOMERS	2026	2025	+/-	PERCENT CHANGE
RESIDENTIAL	2,782	2,774	8	0.29%
COMMERCIAL	434	436	(2)	-0.46%
INDUSTRIAL	10	10	0	0.00%
MUNICIPAL	28	28	0	0.00%
	3,254	3,248		

LANDFILL

TONS	2026	2026	2025	2025	+/-	% CHANGE
	February	YTD	February	YTD		
OTERO COUNTY LANDFILL	418.18	852.02	486.87	914.70	(68.69)	-16.43%
SOUTHEAST RECYCLING	14.61	19.08	56.59	92.79	(41.98)	-287.34%
CLEAN VALLEY - CURBSIDE	2.13	5.12	3.04	6.08	(0.91)	-42.72%
CLEAN VALLEY - TRAILER	1.08	2.39	1.36	3.04	(0.28)	-25.93%
	436.00	878.61	547.86	1016.61		

TONNAGE	
OPEN TOP	27.24
COMPACTOR	8.63
RESIDENTIAL	183.89
COMMERICAL	114.84
ROLL OFFS	76.6
	411.2

OTHER INCOME

ITEM	2026	2025	2026	2025	+/-	PERCENT CHANGE
	February	February	YTD	YTD		
SPECIAL PICK-UP	1	0	2	2	0	0.00%
40-YD BOXES	18	34	38	60	-22	-57.89%
20-YD BOXES	11	13	21	23	-2	-9.52%
OVERAGES	7	10	8	15	-7	-87.50%
COMPACTOR	5	2	10	7	3.00	30.00%
TRX STATION (OPEN BOX)	27.24	29.37	62.45	51.04	11.41	18.27%
TRX STATION (COMPACTOR)	8.63	6.92	15.71	10.70	5	31.89%
TOTE REPLACEMENT	5	7	10	12	-2	-20.00%