

Second Public Comment—PUCN Utility Agenda 16-16—September 16, 2016—Fred Voltz

Since the Commission continues to omit administrative agenda meetings from its activities, the following subject is being brought up during the utility agenda meeting.

When employees of an entity handle money for that entity, be it cash or other access to funds, an automatic fiduciary duty applies.

How an individual handles his or her personal finances necessarily reflects upon how his or her workplace financial duties may be dispatched.

Thus, the Commission needs to be formally alerted to and concerned with a situation where a high-level administrator has personal money problems and is not meeting payment obligations.

The instant case concerns the Commission's Executive Director. Public records in Douglas County indicate that since the purchase of a personal residence in October 2015, no real property tax payments have been received by the county. The interest and penalties, along with the principal amount, continue to accrue and will soon exceed \$3,000.

As Chief Financial Officer of the Commission, the Executive Director needs to set the example for money management practices to all subordinate employees. Failure to remit real property tax obligations offers a poor example for others to follow.

In addition, others with personal money problems have allowed, on occasion, temptation to overrule good judgment. Some people in such a situation have inappropriately borrowed or outright appropriated entity money that does not belong to them. Someone earning an annual base salary of \$115,000 should be able to demonstrate acceptable money management skill. How can someone responsible for a multi-million dollar budget and its attendant disbursements prudently execute those duties when a much smaller personal money situation is not responsibly managed?

The Executive Director needs to remedy her debt without delay.