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<b>Meeting Date:</b>	<u>January 29, 2026</u>	<b>Agenda Type:</b>	<u>Action Items</u>
<b>From:</b>	<u>Ashley Schriewer</u> Director of Financial Services	<b>Reviewed by:</b>	<u>Jessica Williams</u> Chief Financial Officer
<b>Submitted by:</b>	<u>Jessica Williams</u> Chief Financial Officer	<b>Approved by:</b>	<u>Ryan Kelso</u> Chief Executive Officer

**RECOMMENDED ACTION:** Discuss and Consider Approval of a Professional Services Agreement with EEPlus, Inc. for Large Load Consulting Services

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## BACKGROUND

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The rapid increase in large load interconnections within the Electric Reliability Council of Texas (“ERCOT”) market, driven by data centers and other industrial growth, presents significant challenges and opportunities for municipal utilities such as New Braunfels Utilities (“NBU”). Municipal utilities must proactively manage these requests to prevent grid instability, ensure equitable cost allocation for necessary system upgrades, and maintain compliance with evolving rules from ERCOT and the Public Utility Commission of Texas (“PUC”). Additionally, Senate Bill 6 from the 89<sup>th</sup> Texas Legislature poses significant new legislation to navigate. New Braunfels Utilities’ current internal resources, while expert in day-to-day operations, require specialized, external support to effectively manage the unique engineering, financial, and legal complexities associated with these high-demand projects. Given these challenges, management recommends the engagement of a specialized large load consultant.

The selected consultant will perform the following key services: large load interconnection support, demand response program support, general energy management support, conducting a credit and risk analysis of each project, and providing training modules for NBU staff.

Management has reviewed proposals from several firms specializing in public power and large load integration in Texas. After a thorough review of qualifications and experience, EEPlus has been identified as the most qualified partner due to their proven track record in the ERCOT market and specific expertise in large load regulatory matters.

EEPlus will provide the necessary expertise to navigate complex interconnection studies, rate design, and long-term planning, thereby protecting the utility’s long-term financial stability and reliability while ensuring equitable treatment for all customers.

Management recommends the Board of Directors approve the engagement of EEPlus to provide specialized large load consulting services. This action is crucial to safeguarding the utility’s long-term financial stability and reliability amidst the rapid changes in the Texas energy landscape.

## **FINANCIAL IMPACT**

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The Not to Exceed (“NTE”) dollar amount for this contract is \$1,000,000.00. The general ledger account code that these funds are budgeted to is 10-130-5570-001 – Other Power Supply Front Office Expense.

## **LINK TO STRATEGIC PLAN**

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**Customers and Community**

**Financial Excellence**

**Stewardship**

## **EXHIBITS**

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1. Professional Services Agreement between EEPlus, Inc. and New Braunfels Utilities
2. Presentation – EEPlus Large Load Consulting Services