

WILLMAR MUNICIPAL UTILITIES MINUTES
MUNICIPAL UTILITIES AUDITORIUM
AUGUST 10, 2015

The Municipal Utilities Commission met in its regular meeting on Monday, August 10, 2015 at 11:45 a.m. in the Municipal Utilities Auditorium with the following Commissioners present: Carol Laumer, Jeff Nagel, Joe Gimse, Justin Mattern, and Abdirizak Mahboub. Absent were Commissioners Matt Schrupp and Dan Holtz.

Others present at the meeting were: General Manager Wesley Hompe, Director of Operations John Harren, Power Supply Manager Chris Carlson, Power Production Supervisor Jon Folkedahl, Customer Service Supervisor Stacy Stien, Administrative Secretary Beth Mattheisen, City Attorney Robert Scott (via teleconference), Mayor Marv Calvin, WC Tribune Journalist David Little, State Representative Dave Baker, and WPD Sergeant Mike Jahnke.

Due to the absence of Commissioners Schrupp (President) and Holtz (Vice President), Acting President Laumer opened the meeting by appointing Commissioner Gimse to serve as Acting Secretary. Following the appointment, Commissioner Laumer requested a resolution to approve the Consent Agenda. Following review and discussion, Commissioner Mahboub offered a resolution to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Commissioner Gimse seconded.

RESOLUTION NO. 32

“BE IT RESOLVED, by the Municipal Utilities Commission of the City of Willmar, Minnesota, that the Consent Agenda be approved as presented which includes:

- ❖ Minutes from the July 27, 2015 Commission meeting; and,
- ❖ Bills represented by vouchers No. 143870 to No. 143962 inclusive in the amount of \$226,311.43 with a MISO credit in the amount of \$41,948.63, and a Westmoreland Resources (coal) payment in the about of \$82,449.90.

Dated this 10th day of August, 2015.

Acting President

ATTEST:

Acting Secretary

The foregoing resolution was adopted by a vote of five ayes and zero nays.

Commissioner Laumer introduced Representative Dave Baker who was in attendance to present a recap of his freshman year serving on the MN House of Representatives. Along with his regular legislative duties, Rep. Baker’s committee service assignments included: 1) Vice-Chair of the Job Growth & Energy Committee; 2) Aging & Long-Term Care Committee; and, 3) Health & Human Services Reform Committee. Among the issues Rep. Baker (former WMU Commissioner) touched on were: 1) clean energy & water plans including EPA’s regulations & guidelines; 2) renewable energy (i.e. net metering reform); 3) expansion of broadband in greater Minnesota; 4) Propane Relief Act; and, 5) local response to the recent avian flu outbreak. Following discussion, the

Commissioners and Staff expressed their appreciation to Rep. Baker for his time and effort spent in reviewing a number of issues effecting Willmar and the electric and water industry.

At this time, a number of utility-related reports were presented to the Commission for discussion and review by Staff. These informational reports and analyses included:

1. May 2015 Financial Statements & Report (General Manager Hompe)
2. May 31, 2015 Investment Report (General Manager Hompe)
3. July 2015 Wind Turbine Report (Power Production Supervisor Folkedahl)

General Manager Hompe informed the Commission that the annual Public Power Week has been set for October 4-10. It was noted that the Commission would like to continue to hold an Open House during the Public Power Week as in previous years. Following discussion, Commissioner Gimse offered a resolution designating October 4-10, 2015 as the 29th Annual Public Power Week with an Open House to be held on Tuesday, October 6th (Willmar Civic Center). Commissioner Nagel seconded.

RESOLUTION NO. 33

The foregoing resolution was adopted by a vote of five ayes and zero nays.

At the recent 2015 Strategic Planning Session (July 22nd), Staff had recommended to the Commission that consideration be given to modify the current WMU Mission Statement. The intention was to simplify the statement while emphasizing the attributes of the WMU. Four alternative mission statements were presented. Due to the absence of a full Commission, it was the consensus of the Commissioners to table the topic and review the options at a later date.

General Manager Hompe reminded the Commissioners of a number of upcoming meetings/events to note. These include:

- MMUA Annual Summer Conference (Breezy Point) – August 17th-19th
- WMU/IBEW Labor Negotiating Session (2nd) – Thurs., Sept. 3rd @ 9:00 a.m.
- WMU/IBEW Labor Negotiating Session (3rd) – Thurs., Oct. 8th @ 9:00 a.m.

General Manager Hompe informed the Commission that immediately following the regular meeting, Willmar Police Dept. Sergeant Mike Jahnke would be conducting a workplace violence training session for Commissioners and Staff. The main objective was to advise and inform on responses and actions concerning an active shooter event.

There being no further business to come before the Commission, Commissioner Gimse made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Nagel seconded the motion, and the meeting was adjourned at 12:30 p.m. by a vote of five ayes and zero nays

Respectfully Submitted,
WILLMAR MUNICIPAL UTILITIES

Beth Mattheisen
Administrative Secretary

ATTEST:

Joe Gimse, Acting Secretary

RESOLUTION NO. 33

**2015 PUBLIC POWER WEEK
IN APPRECIATION OF WILLMAR MUNICIPAL UTILITIES,
OUR HOMETOWN ELECTRIC UTILITY**

WHEREAS, we, the citizens of Willmar, place high value on local control over community services and therefore have chosen to operate a community-owned, locally controlled, not-for-profit electric utility and, as consumers and owners of our electric utility, have a direct say in utility operations and policies; and

WHEREAS, Willmar Municipal Utilities is committed to investing in the future energy needs of its customers with clean, affordable, and renewable energy sources; and

WHEREAS, Willmar Municipal Utilities provides our homes, businesses, farms, social service, and local government agencies with reliable, efficient, and cost-effective electricity employing sound business practices designed to ensure the best possible service at not-for-profit rates; and

WHEREAS, Willmar Municipal Utilities is a valuable community asset that contributes substantially to the well-being of local citizens through energy efficiency, customer service, environmental protection, economic development, and safety awareness; and

WHEREAS, problems with the deregulation of the electric utility industry have renewed public interest in and appreciation for the concept of locally controlled, community-owned public power systems; and

WHEREAS, Willmar Municipal Utilities is a dependable and trustworthy institution whose local operation provides many consumer protections and continues to make our community a better place in which to work and live;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that Willmar Municipal Utilities will continue work to bring lower-cost, safe, reliable electricity to community homes and businesses just as it has since 1895, the year when the utility was created to serve all the citizens of Willmar; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the week of October 4-10, be designated the 29th annual Public Power Week in order to honor Willmar Municipal Utilities for its contributions to the community and to make its consumer-owners, policy makers, and employees more aware of its overall contributions to their well-being; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that our community joins hands with more than 2,000 other public power systems in the United States that through local, community-ownership ensure cost-cutting service for electricity customers.

Dated this 10th day of August, 2015.

Acting President

ATTEST:

Acting Secretary