

WILLMAR MUNICIPAL UTILITIES MINUTES
MUNICIPAL UTILITIES AUDITORIUM
DECEMBER 28, 2015

The Municipal Utilities Commission met in its regular scheduled meeting on Monday, December 28, 2015 at 11:45 a.m. in the Municipal Utilities Auditorium with the following Commissioners present: Matt Schrupp, Dan Holtz, Carol Laumer, Jeff Nagel, Joe Gimse, Justin Mattern and Abdirizak Mahboub.

Others present at the meeting were: General Manager Wesley Hompe, Director of Finance Tim Hunstad, Director of Operations John Harren, Power Supply Manager Chris Carlson, Customer Service Supervisor Stacy Stien, Power Production Supervisor Jon Folkedahl, Administrative Secretary Beth Mattheisen, Project Assistant Kim Wesbur, City Councilman Shawn Mueske, City Attorney Robert Scott (via teleconference), and WC Tribune Journalists David Little & Shelby Lindrud.

President Schrupp opened the meeting by requesting the Commission to offer a resolution to approve the Consent Agenda. Following review and discussion, Commissioner Laumer offered a resolution to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Commissioner Holtz seconded.

RESOLUTION NO. 51

“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 December 14, 2015 Commission meeting; and,
- ❖ Bills represented by vouchers No. 144771 to No. 144851 inclusive in the amount of \$2,252,685.05 with a MISO charge in the amount of \$99,795.93, and a Westmoreland Resources (coal) payment of \$82,261.62.

Dated this 28th day of December, 2015.

President

ATTEST:

Secretary

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

Commissioner Laumer (Chair) reviewed with the Commission minutes from the December 28th WMU Labor Committee meeting (see attached). The two main topics of discussion focused on the non-union wage adjustment and the current wage market related to the Line Department personnel. Laumer informed the Commission that it was the recommendation of the WMU Labor Committee to approve a 2.5% rate increase for the non-union employees for the years 2016 and 2017. Following discussion, Commissioner Schrupp offered a motion to approve the minutes of the

December 28th WMU Labor Committee meeting as presented. Commissioner Gimse seconded the motion which carried by a vote of seven ayes and zero nays.

Following the approval of the WMU Labor Committee meeting minutes, Commissioner Laumer was requesting the Commission to formally approve a 2.5% wage increase for WMU's non-union employees for the years 2016 and 2017. Laumer noted that a two-year agreement for the same terms (2.5% increase for both 2016 and 2017) had been reached between WMU and IBEW Local Union #160 employees and had been approved by the Commission at the Dec. 14th MUC meeting. Following discussion, Commissioner Laumer offered a resolution to approve the 2016-2017 non-union wage adjustment as presented. Commission Holtz seconded.

RESOLUTION NO. 52

"BE IT RESOLVED, by the Municipal Utilities Commission of the City of Willmar, Minnesota, that a two-year agreement between the Willmar Municipal Utilities and WMU's non-union employees incorporating a 2.5% wage increase both in 2016 and 2017 be approved as presented."

Dated this 28th day of December, 2015.

President

ATTEST:

Secretary

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

General Manager Hompe presented the Commission with a brief historic recap of the WMU along with predictions for the upcoming year. Hompe anticipates 2016 to be a year filled with a number of exciting changes and transformations for the Utilities. Among the items Hompe touched on were: 1) strive for revenue neutrality (enhance transmission revenues through future investments); 2) will be established as a Transmission Owner (TO) beginning 1/1/16; 3) new power supply contract; 4) upgrading of Water Treatment Plants; 5) continue to utilize the new billing and accounting software systems installed in 2015 (NISC); 6) celebrate WMU's 125 anniversary; 7) new facilities planning; and, 8) projected personnel changes (i.e. retirements, new hires, etc.).

Commissioner Schrupp recognized West Central Tribune Journalist David Little for his years of thorough and accurate reporting on the business matters of the Willmar Municipal Utilities. David has been the WMU's primary journalist since 2003. On behalf of the Commission and Staff, Schrupp expressed his sincere appreciation for David's journalistic integrity demonstrated throughout the years. Congratulations & best wishes on your well-deserved retirement, David!

At this time, Commissioner Holtz recognized Commissioner Schrupp for his years of service and dedication as a Municipal Utilities Commissioner. Holtz continued by emphasizing Commissioner Schrupp's unwavering leadership and consistent insight related to the matters concerning the Willmar Municipal Utilities. Commissioner Schrupp previously informed the Commission and Staff that with his new position and objectives at his place of business, time constraints would limit his ability to continue to serve on the Commission. Matt served as a Commissioner from 2009-2015.

We would all like to extend our sincere appreciation for the years of service and leadership Matt has dedicated to the Willmar Municipal Utilities. Congratulation and best wishes, Matt!

General Manager Hompe presented the Commission with a number of upcoming meetings/events to note. These include:

- 2016 APPA Events:
 - Legislative Rally – March 7-9 (Washington, DC)
 - Lineworker Rodeo – April 1-2 (Shakopee, MN)
 - National Conference – June 10-15 (Phoenix, AZ)
- 2016 MMUA Events:
 - Legislative Conference – Tues., April 19 (St. Paul – one day only)
 - Annual Summer Meeting – August 15-17 (location TBD)

There being no further business to come before the Commission, Commissioner Nagel made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Laumer seconded the motion which carried by a vote of seven ayes and zero nays, and the meeting was adjourned at 12:15 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

WILLMAR MUNICIPAL UTILITIES

Beth Mattheisen
Administrative Secretary

ATTEST:

Carol Laumer, Secretary



WILLMAR MUNICIPAL UTILITIES
WMU Labor Committee Meeting Minutes
Willmar Conference Center
Monday, December 28, 2015 – 11:00 A.M.

Attendees: Commissioners Carol Laumer, Joe Gimse & Dan Holtz, General Manager Wesley Hompe, and Director of Operations John Harren.

Committee Chair Laumer called the meeting to order at 11:02 a.m. by requesting any additions to the agenda.

AGENDA ITEMS:

➤ **Non-Union Wage Adjustment:**

General Manager Hompe opened discussion with the Labor Committee regarding a wage adjustment for the non-union employees. Hompe noted that the two-year wage adjustment for the union-employees was formally approved by the Commission at their December 14th meeting. The adjustment received for the years 2016 & 2017 was in the amount of 2.5% for each of the two years.

Following discussion, Commissioner Gimse offered a motion to approve a 2.5% wage adjustment for the years 2016 & 2017 for the non-union employees. Commissioner Holtz seconded the motion which carried by a vote of three ayes and zero nays.

Action:

Formal approval of the non-union wage adjustment will be recommended to the full Commission at the Dec. 28th MUC meeting (following the WMU Labor Committee meeting).

➤ **Market for Linemen's Wages:**

General Manager Hompe presented the Committee with additional information concerning the linemen's wage market.

Further discussion of the topic will be continued at a future date. No action was taken at this time.

➤ **Adjournment:**

There being no further business to come before the WMU Labor Committee, Commissioner Holtz offered a motion to adjourn the meeting at 11:20 a.m. Commissioner Gimse seconded the motion which carried by a vote of three ayes and zero nays.