

WILLMAR MUNICIPAL UTILITIES MINUTES
MUNICIPAL UTILITIES AUDITORIUM
NOVEMBER 28, 2016

The Municipal Utilities Commission met in its regular scheduled meeting on Monday, November 28, 2016 at 11:45 a.m. in the Municipal Utilities Auditorium with the following Commissioners present: Dan Holtz, Jeff Nagel, Joe Gimse, Justin Mattern, Abdirizak Mahboub and Nathan Weber. Absent was Commissioner Carol Laumer.

Others present at the meeting were: General Manager John Harren, Director of Finance Denise Runge, Power Supply Manager Chris Carlson, Power Production Supervisor Jon Folkedahl, Administrative Secretary Beth Mattheisen, Energy Services/Marketing Rep Mary Kosbab, City Councilman Shawn Mueske, City Attorney Robert Scott, and WC Tribune Journalist Shelby Lindrud.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 59

“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 November 14, 2016 Commission meeting; and,
- ❖ Bills represented by vouchers No. 162108 to No. 162182 and associated wire transfers inclusive in the amount of \$1,040,535.83.

Dated this 28th day of November, 2016.

President

ATTEST:

Secretary

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

Power Production Supervisor Folkedahl presented the Commission with production-related reports for review and discussion. The first topic of discussion was a review of the status of DeWind as it relates to WMU’s wind energy generation. Folkedahl presented a brief historic recap and current standing of DeWind, along with the potential possible future sale of the company (it is currently on the market). While DeWind continues to provide remote monitoring and troubleshooting, their staffing levels have decreased effecting the on-site services to WMU’s turbines. With the future uncertainty of DeWind, WMU is exploring monitoring and maintenance services offered by RENEW Energy Maintenance Services of Sioux Falls, SD. In conjunction with the wind generation discussion, Folkedahl continued by presenting the Commission the October 2016 Wind Turbine Report.

Power Production Supervisor Folkedahl next presented the Commission with an update on a security breach recently experienced at the WMU Power Plant. An unauthorized intruder entered

into the Plant. It is extremely rare for someone to be able to enter the facility unaccompanied and without permission. While security standards & safety training are a normal part of the every-day activities at the Plant, it is suspected that a door latch may have malfunctioned. Folkedahl informed the Commission that steps have been taken to alleviate this type of reoccurrence (additional maintenance, continuing safety/security training, and to provide additional training for local law enforcement). Another step toward providing optimum security at the facility is the current installation of fencing near the Power Plant. These efforts should all assist in protecting the public and the WMU workers from potential hazards in or near the Power Plant area.

Energy Services/Marketing Rep Kosbab informed the Commission that WMU will be hosting an upcoming breakfast meeting for their key account holders. The event is scheduled to be held on January 17th beginning at 7:00 a.m. WMU will be inviting representatives from key account businesses along with members of the Chamber and Rep. Dave Baker. This will be both an informational and informal setting to discuss topics of interest related to the Utility.

General Manager Harren presented the Commission with a progress report of the 230kv Transmission Line Project. Harren noted that the project continues to move forward in a timely manner and additional maintenance will be conducted on the transmission line to coincide with the project's schedule.

General Manager Harren informed the Commission that the City Council has ratified Mayor Calvin's recommendations for reappointments to serve on the Municipal Utilities Commission. Harren noted that the newly assigned rotation will bring the Commission terms into synch with the established City Charter guidelines. Harren thanked the Commissioners for their continued dedication and service to WMU and the citizens of Willmar. The Commissioner reappointments for 2017 will be as follows:

- 1) Justin Mattern (3-year term)
- 2) Abdirizak Mahboub (3-year term)
- 3) Dan Holtz (2-year term)

For information: Upcoming meetings/events to note include:

- MMUA Legislative Rally - January 31-February 1, 2017
- APPA Legislative Rally - February 27-March 1, 2017 (Washington, DC)
- APPA National Conference - June 19-21, 2017 (Orlando, FL)

There being no further business to come before the Commission, Commissioner Nagel offered a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Mattern seconded the motion which carried, and the meeting was adjourned at 12:05 p.m. by a vote of six ayes and zero nays.

Respectfully Submitted,

WILLMAR MUNICIPAL UTILITIES

Beth Mattheisen
Administrative Secretary

ATTEST:

Jeff Nagel, Secretary