

**WILLMAR MUNICIPAL UTILITIES MINUTES**  
**MUNICIPAL UTILITIES AUDITORIUM**  
**MAY 28, 2019**

The Municipal Utilities Commission met in its regular scheduled meeting on Tuesday, May 28, 2019 at 11:45 a.m. in the Municipal Utilities Auditorium with the following Commissioners present: Carol Laumer, Justin Mattern, Abdirizak Mahboub, Ross Magnuson, Bruce DeBlieck and Brendan MacDonald. Absent was Commissioner Nathan Weber.

Others present at the meeting were: General Manager John Harren, Director of Finance Denise Runge, Power Supply Manager Chris Carlson, Systems Administrator Mike Sangren, Administrative Secretary Beth Mattheisen, and City Attorney Robert Scott (via teleconference).

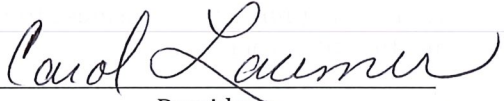
Commission President Laumer opened the meeting by asking if any revisions were needed to the presented agenda. There being none, Commissioner Laumer continued by requesting a resolution to approve the Consent Agenda. Commissioner Mahboub offered a resolution to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Commissioner DeBlieck seconded.

**RESOLUTION NO. 20**

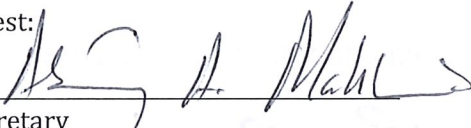
“BE IT RESOLVED, by the Municipal Utilities Commission of the City of Willmar, Minnesota, that the Consent Agenda be approved as presented which includes:

- ❖ Minutes from the May 13, 2019 Commission meeting; and,
- ❖ Bills represented by vouchers No. 190716 to No. 190777 and associated wire transfers inclusive in the amount of \$1,415,578.04.

Dated this 28<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2019.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
President

Attest:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary

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

Director of Finance Denise Runge presented the Commission with the April 2019 Financial Reports along with a recap of the April 30, 2019 Investment Portfolio. The data presented included analyses of the Electric, Water, Heating and Combined Divisions. Information contained in the reports reflect operating revenues & expenses, operating income, and retained earnings. The Investment Portfolio presented a summary of WMU’s securities and associated brokerage firms/agencies to date.

General Manager Harren and Power Supply Manager Carlson recapped for the Commission their attendance at the 54<sup>th</sup> MRES Annual Meeting held May 8-9 (Sioux Falls, SD). Carlson briefly touched on various topics of discussion. Among the subjects addressed were: Public Power Ecosystem (Sue Kelly from APPA); educating the general public on the advantages of public power; enabling efficient, affordable & sustainable power solutions (solar, wind, hydro, etc.); electric vehicles and preparing for their future needs (i.e. additional power load, charging stations); Red Rock Hydroelectric Project; various innovations being introduced by tech companies; and, cyber security. Harren expanded on the growing emphasis by consumers for additional “green energy” options which we will continue to address in the future. It was further stated that MRES does not anticipate any rate increases for the years 2020, 2021, and 2022. The MRES Annual Meeting is very informative and future attendance is encouraged.

General Manager Harren was happy to announce that Maritza Ocampo has joined the WMU's staff effective May 22<sup>nd</sup>. Ms. Ocampo filled the position of Customer Service Representative which was open due to recent retirements in the Customer Service Department. Welcome aboard, Maritza!

General Manager Harren reminded the Commission of a number of Committee meetings which have been scheduled. The WMU Labor Committee will meet on Tuesday, June 4<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 a.m. with the primary discussion to focus on RFP's received to conduct a rate study (electric & water). Later that day (12:00 p.m.), the WMU Planning Committee will meet to discuss the following: Water Treatment Plant update; generation update; and, WMU property options. On Tuesday, June 11<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 a.m., the WMU Labor Committee will meet to address a union grievance recently issued by IBEW.

General Manager Harren further stated that additional WMU Committee meetings will be forth coming. Future agenda item(s) slated for discussion will include: Generation Study analysis (Planning Committee); and, succession planning for the General Manager position (Labor Committee).

For information: Upcoming meetings/events to note include:

- Lead Electric Meter Mechanic Steve Hillenbrand will be retiring on May 31<sup>st</sup> (24+ yrs. of service).
- APPA Governance Webinar Series: Webinars are held @ 12:30 pm (1 hr.). Attending (to date): Commissioners Laumer & Mattern
  - May 31<sup>st</sup>: *"A Board's Role in Setting & Achieving Long-Term Success"*
- APPA National Conference - June 7-12 (Austin, TX)
- WMU Annual Open House - Thurs., August 15<sup>th</sup> (4:00-6:30 pm)
- MMUA Summer Conference - August 19-21 (Breezy Point)
- MRES Laramie River Station/Grayrocks Dam & Reservoir Tour - Aug. 27-28 (Wheatland, WY)
- MRES Legal Seminar *"Staying Current: Emerging Issues for Utilities"* - Oct. 4<sup>th</sup> (Sioux Falls, SD)

There being no further business to come before the Commission, Commissioner Laumer declared the meeting adjourned at 12:09 p.m.

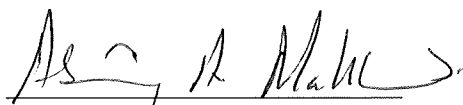
Respectfully Submitted,

WILLMAR MUNICIPAL UTILITIES



Beth Mattheisen  
Administrative Secretary

ATTEST:



Abdirizak Mahboub, Secretary