

**WILLMAR MUNICIPAL UTILITIES COMMISSION**  
**MEETING MINUTES OF AUGUST 10, 2020**

The Municipal Utilities Commission (MUC) met in its regular scheduled meeting on Monday, August 10, 2020 at 11:45 a.m. in the WMU Auditorium with the following Commissioners present: Justin Mattern, Carol Laumer, Abdirizak Mahboub, Nathan Weber, and Ross Magnuson. Absent were Commissioners Bruce DeBlieck and Cole Erickson.

Others present at the meeting were: General Manager John Harren, Finance & Office Services Supervisor Andrea Prekker, Facilities & Maintenance Supervisor Kevin Marti, Energy Services/Marketing Rep Michelle Marotzke, IS Coordinator Mike Sangren, Administrative Secretary Beth Mattheisen, and City Attorney Robert Scott.

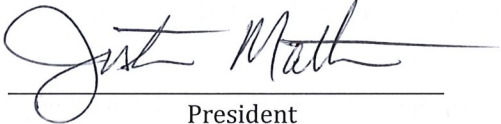
Commissioner Mattern opened the meeting by asking if any revisions were needed to the presented agenda. There being none, Commissioner Mattern requested a resolution to approve the Consent Agenda. Following review and discussion, Commissioner Mahboub offered a resolution to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Commissioner Laumer seconded.

**RESOLUTION NO. 26**

“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, 2020 Commission meeting; and,
- ❖ Bills represented by vouchers No. 20201075 to No. 20201125 and associated wire transfers inclusive in the amount of \$247,604.23.

Dated this 10<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2020.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
President

Attest:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary

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

Finance & Office Services Supervisor Prekker presented the Commission with the June 2020 Financial Reports along with a recap of the June 30, 2020 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. Prekker noted that also included with the financial data were graphs depicting the 2019/2020 monthly year-to-date revenues, expenses, and retained earnings.

Energy Services/Marketing Rep Marotzke reviewed with the Commission the WMU Cost of Power Report for June 2020. This report is illustrated using a rolling year-to-date format and provides the overall cost of power for the year (.068 per kWh twelve-month rolling average). Also reflected in the analysis is the month-to-date cost (.081 per kWh).

Energy Services/Marketing Rep Marotzke provided the Commission with a status update of the annual WMU Open House. On March 23<sup>rd</sup>, the Commission had elected to coordinate with the 2020 Willmar Fests to conduct a customer appreciation event during the annual celebration (June 23-28). Due to the current pandemic, Willmar Fests have cancelled the celebration for 2020. In light of the current situation, it was the recommendation of staff to cancel the WMU Open House event for 2020. Following brief discussion, it was the consensus of the Commission to forego any Open House event this year, and to inform our customers of

this change. It was further requested that staff bring forward possible customer appreciation options for consideration at a future MUC meeting.

Facilities & Maintenance Supervisor Marti presented the Commission with the July 2020 Wind Turbine Report. Turbine availabilities for the month of July were at 66.5% (Unit #3) and 87.9% (Unit #4) with a monthly total production of 184,774 kWh. The total generation year-to-date is 4,033,196 kilowatt hours. Marti noted that during the month, repairs had been completed and both units are operational.

Facilities & Maintenance Supervisor Marti informed the Commission that the annual Commission Facilities Tour is normally scheduled for the second meeting in August. However with the current circumstances (COVID-19), staff is recommending that the 2020 tour be cancelled due to the following reasons: Capital Projects that are currently in the planning stage have already been toured; and, the local transit system is running only essential services for public transportation at this time. The recommendation was agreed upon by the Commission. In lieu of the tour, the Commission requested staff to provide updated photos/visuals of these projects at a MUC meeting later this year.

At this time, Commissioner Mattern was happy to present Commissioner Laumer with a plaque for the MRES Maurice A. TePaske Public Official Award which was presented during the MRES Annual Meeting on May 6<sup>th</sup> (via webinar). This award honors policymakers for their years of distinguished service in support of public power. Congratulations, Carol!

General Manager Harren reminded the Commission that a meeting of the WMU Planning Committee has been scheduled for August 21<sup>st</sup> at 12:00 pm (WMU Auditorium). The focal topic of discussion will be to review the proposed 2021 WMU Budget.

General Manager Harren further stated that additional future meetings of both the WMU Labor and Planning Committees would be forthcoming (TBD). Tentative Labor Committee agenda item(s) will include: labor negotiations. Tentative Planning Committee agenda item(s) will include: Power Plant Environmental Studies (Phases I & II); Willmar/Priam Ownership & Construction Agreement; and, Power Plant Substation Control Building.

For information: 2020 Upcoming meetings/events to note include:

- WMU Planning Committee Meeting: August 21 @ 12:00 pm
- MMUA Annual Summer Conference: August 24-26 ("virtual event")

Commissioner Mattern extended his appreciation to his fellow Commissioners and staff for their willingness to return to the in-person MUC meeting today. This was the first meeting since March 9<sup>th</sup> that the in-person format had been utilized. (Note: Additional safety guidelines/precautions were adhered to as required.)

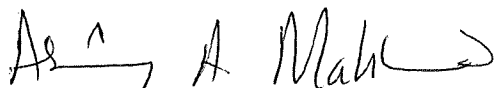
There being no further business to come before the Commission, Commissioner Laumer offered a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Mahboub seconded the motion which carried by a vote of five ayes and zero nays, and the meeting was adjourned at 12:13 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

WILLMAR MUNICIPAL UTILITIES

  
Beth Mattheisen  
Administrative Secretary

ATTEST:

  
Abdirizak Mahboub, Secretary