

WILLMAR MUNICIPAL UTILITIES COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES – NOVEMBER 8, 2021
11:45 AM – WMU AUDITORIUM

The Municipal Utilities Commission (MUC) met in its regular scheduled meeting on Monday, November 8, 2021, at 11:45 a.m. in the WMU Auditorium with the following Commissioners present: Justin Mattern, Abdirizak Mahboub, Bruce DeBlieck, Cole Erickson (arriving at 11:50 am), Kerry Johnson, and Shawn Mueske.

Others present at the meeting were: General Manager John Harren, Director of Administration Janell Johnson, Finance & Office Services Supervisor Andrea Prekker, IS Coordinator Mike Sangren, Executive Secretary Beth Mattheisen, Facilities & Maintenance Supervisor Kevin Marti, Energy/Safety Outreach Coordinator Chris Radel, City Attorney Robert Scott, and City Councilman Michael O'Brien.

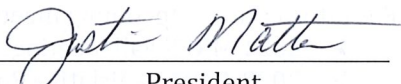
The meeting opened with reciting of the Pledge of Allegiance followed by Commissioner Mattern (President) inquiring if any revisions were needed to the presented agenda. There being none, a resolution to approve the consent agenda was requested. Following review and discussion, Commissioner Mahboub offered a resolution to approve the consent agenda as presented. Commissioner Johnson seconded.

RESOLUTION NO. 58

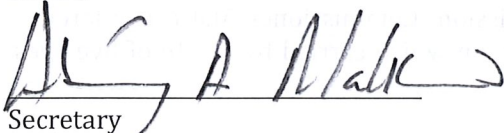
"BE IT RESOLVED, by the Municipal Utilities Commission of the City of Willmar, Minnesota, that the consent agenda be approved as presented which includes:

- ❖ Minutes from the October 25, 2021, Commission meeting; and,
- ❖ Bills represented by vouchers No. 20211376 to No. 20211423 and associated wire transfers inclusive in the amount of \$217,468.07.

Dated this 8th day of November 2021.


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 September 2021 Financial Reports along with a recap of the September 30, 2021 Investment Portfolio. The data presented included analyses of the Electric, Water, and Combined Divisions. Information contained in the reports reflect operating revenues & expenses, operating income, and retained earnings. Graphs depicting the 2020/2021 monthly year-to-date revenues, expenses, and retained earnings were also included with the financial data.

Facilities & Maintenance Supervisor Marti presented the Commission with the October 2021 Wind Turbine Report. Turbine availabilities for the month of October were at 36.3% (Unit #3) and 96.9% (Unit #4) with a total monthly production of 413,446 kilowatt hours. Marti noted that delivery of the required gearbox speed sensor to repair Unit #3 has proven to be challenging (shipped but currently in customs).

Energy/Safety Outreach Coordinator Radel presented the Commission with the 2021 Energy Acquisition Adjustment (EAA) update. As a reminder, the EAA acts as a mechanism to adjust rates for

uncontrollable charges associated with power supply costs. Radel provided background data regarding the EAA noting that the EAA has not been implemented since 2017. In the 2019 Rate Study conducted by Dave Berg, power costs were evaluated with a base rate set at \$60/MHw for 2021. Based on the current year-to-date rolling average, staff has determined that implementation of an EAA is not required at this time. Staff will continue to monitor future data to determine if or when applying the EAA would be warranted.

Government relations consultant David Turch recently visited Willmar and provided an update on efforts at the federal level to secure financing/bonding assistance for the NEWTP Project. Turch informed General Manager Harren that WMU did not receive any federal grants or earmark dollars. WMU continues to pursue various avenues/options for funding assistance of the project.

General Manager Harren stated that WMU's Line Department crew will once again assist with preparations for the upcoming Celebrate the Light of the World community celebration. This seasonal event is held at Robbins Island Park.

General Manager Harren informed the Commission during the November 1st City Council meeting, Dave Baumgart had been ratified to serve as the newest member of the Commission. An orientation session will be scheduled to provide an overview of the Utility and to familiarize Mr. Baumgart with WMU. We greatly appreciate Mr. Baumgart's willingness to serve on the Commission.

General Manager Harren informed the Commission that a meeting of the WMU Planning Committee is scheduled for Tuesday, November 15th beginning at 12:00 pm. Agenda items will include a lobbyist proposal (re NEWTP project), Power Plant Substation, bucket truck, security cameras, KPC, and property sale proposal. Additional WMU Committee meetings will be forthcoming. Agenda items for the WMU Labor Committee meeting (TBD) will include the General Manager pay equity/market adjustment, year-end personnel policy updates, and NISC software. Tentative agenda items for a WMU Planning Committee meeting (TBD) will include Time of Use electric rates, year-end operational policy updates, and water treatment plant.

For information: Upcoming meetings/events to note include:

- 2021 MRES Fall Meeting: Nov. 9 & 10 (Sioux Falls Convention Center)
- 2022 APPA Legislative Rally: Feb. 28 through March 2 @ Mayflower Hotel (Washington, DC)

There being no further business to come before the Commission, Commissioner Mattern 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 11:59 am.

Respectfully Submitted,

WILLMAR MUNICIPAL UTILITIES


Beth Mattheisen
Executive Secretary

ATTEST:


Abdirizak Mahboub, Secretary