

The Municipal Utilities Commission (MUC) met in its regularly scheduled meeting on Monday, August 12, 2024, at 11:45 am in the WMU Auditorium. The following Commissioners were present: Shawn Mueske, John Kennedy, Dave Baumgart, Terrill Sieck, Patricia Elizondo, Carol Laumer, and Bruce DeBleck.

Others present at the meeting were: General Manager John Harren, Director of Administration Janell Johnson, Finance & Office Services Supervisor Andrea Prekker, Facilities & Maintenance Supervisor Kevin Marti, Information Systems Coordinator Mike Sangren, Executive Secretary Beth Mattheisen, Outreach Coordinator John Eggert, City Attorney Robert Scott (via teleconference), City Councilman Michael O'Brien, and WC Tribune Journalist Jennifer Kotila.

The meeting opened with the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance. Commission President Mueske along with Director of Administration Johnson next introduced the newest member to join the WMU team, Outreach Coordinator John Eggert. Commission President Mueske continued by asking if any changes to the agenda were needed. Following review and discussion, Commissioner Baumgart offered a resolution to approve the consent agenda as presented. Commissioner Laumer seconded.

RESOLUTION NO. 29

"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 22, 2024, MUC Meeting; and,
- ❖ Bills represented by vouchers No. 20241034 to No. 20241141 and associated wire transfers inclusive in the amount of \$3,795,534.66.

Dated this 12th day of August 2024.


President

Attest:


Secretary

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

Finance & Office Services Supervisor Prekker reviewed the June 2024 Financial Reports, including a recap of the June Investment Portfolio and the June Cost of Power Report. The financial information in the report reflects operating revenues, expenses, retained earnings, and fund comparisons for both the Electric and Water Divisions.

Facilities & Maintenance Supervisor Kevin Marti presented the Commission with the July 2024 Wind Turbine Report. Turbine availability for the month was at 12.0% for Unit #4, while Unit #3 was unavailable for the entire month, resulting in a total monthly production of 39,007 kilowatt hours (kwh). Electrical issues continue to affect the availability of Unit #4, and Unit #3 is experiencing issues with the Nacelle housing. The total production for 2024 through July is 3,182,251 kwh. The cost per kilowatt hour for operating the units in 2024 is 2.01¢/kwh. Since the inception of the units in 2009, the operational cost has been calculated at 14.32¢/kwh.

American Public Power Association (APPA) has a 15-part on-demand training course entitled "Public Power Governance Essentials". This series offers a convenient way to get "up-to-speed" on governance requirements, such as complying with charters/bylaws, reporting conflicts of interest, understanding duties and legal obligations, and

facilitating an effective board meeting. At this time, the informational video entitled "*Strategic Planning and the Role of the Governing Board*" (Lesson #14) was presented.

General Manager Harren reviewed a letter from the League of Minnesota Cities (LMC) concerning liability claims involving the Willmar Municipal Utilities (WMU) and the City of Willmar. The claims are related to damages at a property located at 309 Benson Avenue SW (Willmar) owned by Jason Butler. This was for information only.

General Manager Harren reminded the Commission that a meeting of the WMU Planning Committee is scheduled for Wednesday, August 21st at 12:00 pm. The main focus will be to review the proposed 2025 WMU Budget and the 2024 Rate Study. Additional Planning and Labor Committees would be forthcoming. Tentative future Labor Committee agenda items will include new building land acquisition and the MUC Self-Survey. Tentative future Planning Committee agenda items include new building, new generation, CMMPA transmission investment, and wind turbines. In addition to the Committee meetings, a joint meeting with City officials will be held on Wednesday, August 14th at 12:00 pm to discuss topics of mutual interest relating to both entities.

Upcoming 2024 events to note:

- MMUA Summer Conference (Fargo, ND): August 19-21
- MRES Red Rock Hydroelectric Project tours (Pella, IA): July 31, August 28, or September 25
- MRES Municipal Power Leadership Academy (Sioux Falls, SD): September 18-19

There being no further business to come before the Commission, Commissioner Baumgart offered a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Kennedy seconded the motion, which carried by a vote of seven ayes and zero nays. The meeting was adjourned at 12:12 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

WILLMAR MUNICIPAL UTILITIES


Beth Mattheisen, Executive Secretary

ATTEST:



Dave Baumgart, Secretary