



WILLMAR MUNICIPAL UTILITIES COMMISSION

Meeting Minutes – May 27, 2025

11:45 – WMU Auditorium

The Municipal Utilities Commission (MUC) held its regularly scheduled meeting on Monday, May 27, 2025, at 11:45 a.m. in the WMU Auditorium. Commissioners present included Shawn Mueske, John Kennedy, Patricia Elizondo, Terrill Sieck, Carol Laumer, Dave Baumgart, and Bruce DeBlieck.

Also present were General Manager Jeron Smith, Director of Administration Janell Johnson, Finance & Office Services Supervisor Andrea Prekker, Facilities & Maintenance Supervisor Kevin Marti, Information Systems Coordinator Mike Sangren, City Council Liaison Tom Gilbertson, Executive Secretary Abby Ahrendt, City Attorney Robert Scott (via teleconference), and WC Tribune journalist Jennifer Kotila.

The meeting was called to order with the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance. Commission President Mueske asked if there were any additions or changes to the agenda as presented. General Manager Smith provided clarification on the highlighted line items in the bill payment list. Commissioner DeBlieck encouraged commissioners to share any input regarding General Manager Smith's upcoming six-month review. President Mueske asked whether there would be standardized questions, to which Commissioner DeBlieck responded that while a few have been identified, additional suggestions or comments are welcome. Following review and discussion, President Mueske called for a resolution on the consent agenda. Commissioner Laumer made a motion to approve the consent agenda, which was seconded by Commissioner Baumgart.

RESOLUTION NO. 19

"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 19, 2025 Special MUC Meeting;
- ❖ Minutes from May 22, 2025 Labor Committee Meeting; and,
- ❖ Bills represented by vouchers No. 2025063 to No. 20250832, including associated wire transfers, in the amount of \$2,170,882.85."

Dated this 27th day of May 2025.


President

Attest:


Secretary

The foregoing resolution was adopted by a vote of 7 ayes and 0 nays.

Facilities & Maintenance Supervisor Marti provided an update on the 2024 WMU Strategic Plan, originally approved by the Commission on May 28, 2024. The plan outlines strategic actions aligned with Commission priorities, including assigned teams and timelines. He reported steady progress toward the strategic goals outlined in the plan.

General Manager Smith provided a recap of the Governance Committee meeting, summarizing key discussion points from items 1 through 8. He also shared highlights from the April MRES Board Summary and introduced the Marshall Solar Press Dedication Release. Smith noted this represents a significant milestone for WMU, as it marks the utility's first contract involving battery storage powered by solar energy.

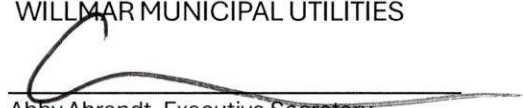
Commissioner Mueske added that the office of Robert Scott has completed an initial review of the bylaws to help guide necessary revisions. Once the proposed updates are finalized in collaboration with the Governance Committee, the document will undergo a secondary review to ensure accuracy and alignment with WMU's governance framework before being presented to the Commission.

Upcoming events to note:

- ❖ APPA National Conference (New Orleans, LA) June 6-11, 2025
- ❖ MMUA Summer Conference (Rochester, MN) August 18-20, 2025
- ❖ MRES Municipal Power Leadership Academy (Sioux Falls, SD) September 17-18, 2025

There being no further business, Commissioner Baumgart moved to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Laumer seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously with a vote of seven ayes and zero nays. The meeting adjourned at 12:06 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
WILLMAR MUNICIPAL UTILITIES


Abby Ahrendt, Executive Secretary

ATTEST:


Secretary