

WILLMAR MUNICIPAL UTILITIES MINUTES
MUNICIPAL UTILITIES AUDITORIUM
NOVEMBER 13, 2018

The Municipal Utilities Commission met in its regular scheduled meeting on Tuesday, November 13, 2018 at 11:45 a.m. in the Municipal Utilities Auditorium with the following Commissioners present: Carol Laumer, Justin Mattern, Nathan Weber, Abdirizak Mahboub, Bruce DeBlieck, and Brendan MacDonald. Absent was Commissioner Ross Magnuson.

Others present at the meeting were: General Manager John Harren, Director of Finance Denise Runge, Customer Service Supervisor Stacy Stien, Power Supply Manager Chris Carlson, Facilities & Maintenance Supervisor Kevin Marti, Compliance/HR Manager Janell Johnson, Power Resources Analyst Michelle Marotzke, City Councilman Shawn Mueske, City Attorney Robert Scott (via teleconference), and WC Tribune Journalist Shelby Lindrud.

Commissioner Laumer (President) 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. 48

“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 22, 2018 Commission meeting; and,
- ❖ Bills represented by vouchers No. 181809 to No. 181917 and associated wire transfers inclusive in the amount of \$1,222,306.31.

Dated this 13th day of November, 2018.

President

Attest:

Secretary

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

Commissioner Weber (LC Chair) reviewed with the Commission the minutes from the November 1st WMU Labor Committee meeting (see attached). The main topics of discussion were: litigation strategy (Folkedahl v. WMU/City of Willmar), and staffing changes (resignation & retirement). Following discussion, Commissioner Weber offered a motion to approve the minutes of the November 1st WMU Labor Committee meeting as presented. Commissioner Mahboub seconded the motion which carried by a vote of six ayes and zero nays.

Power Supply Manager Carlson presented the Commission with an update of the Energy Acquisition Adjustment (EAA). The purpose of the EAA is to assist in the recovery of power supply

costs that are outside the control of WMU. The use of the EAA reduces the need for frequent adjustments in rates to account for uncontrollable power supply expenses. The EAA had received Commission approval in November 2016 with the implementation of a 4 mil (.004 cent) monthly-adjustment beginning with the December 2016 billing cycle and ending with the December 2017 billing cycle. There was no EAA in 2018. Additional information provided included the actual EAA position through September 2018 and the projected EAA position for the year-ending 2018. No EAA is projected for 2019.

Facilities & Maintenance Supervisor Marti informed the Commission that the WMU-owned rental property (former Gerry's Liquor Store) is in need of flooring replacement. The proposed improvements would be to replace the carpet and vinyl flooring with vinyl plank flooring throughout the units (4). The estimated total installed-cost is \$6,000. Marti noted that the proposed improvements would aid in the future salability of the building. Following discussion, Commissioner Laumer offered a motion to approve the flooring replacement at the Utility-owned rental property as presented. Commissioner Mattern seconded the motion which carried by a vote of six ayes and zero nays.

General Manager Harren reminded the Commission that as members of Missouri River Energy Services (MRES), the Utility is being provided monthly updates from the MRES and Western Minnesota Municipal Power Agency (WMMPA) Board of Directors meetings. The video update provides a brief overview of the topics discussed by the Boards and the actions taken. Following a brief summary review by General Manager Harren, the October 11th MRES and WMMPA Board of Directors Meeting Update video was viewed.

In conjunction with MRES, Commissioner DeBlieck along with General Manager Harren and Director of Finance Runge, presented the Commission with a recap of their recent attendance to the MRES Area Meeting held in Alexandria on October 24th.

General Manager Harren informed the Commission that a meeting of both the WMU Labor and Planning Committees would be forthcoming (TBD). Agenda items for the Labor Committee will include: Personnel Policies annual review; and, 2019 COLA. Agenda item(s) for the Planning Committee will include: revenue neutrality update and new generation study report analysis.

For information: Upcoming meetings/events to note include:

- 2019 MMUA Legislative Conference: January 29-30 (St. Paul)
- 2019 APPA Legislative Rally – February 25-27 (Washington, DC)

There being no further business to come before the Commission, Commissioner Laumer declared the meeting at 12:22 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

WILLMAR MUNICIPAL UTILITIES

Michelle Marotzke
Power Resources Analyst

ATTEST:

Abdirizak Mahboub, Secretary



WILLMAR MUNICIPAL UTILITIES
MUC Labor Committee Meeting Minutes
Thursday, November 1, 2018
12:00 p.m.

Attendees: Commissioners Nathan Weber, Abdirizak Mahboub & Ross Magnuson, General Manager John Harren, Director of Finance Denise Runge, and Compliance/HR Manager Janell Johnson.

Commissioner Weber called the meeting to order at 12:10 p.m.

AGENDA ITEMS:

1) Litigation Strategy – Folkedahl vs WMU/City of Willmar (34-CV-18-135):

General Manager Harren and Compliance Officer/Human Resources Manager Johnson presented the Labor Committee with the latest development relating to 8th Judicial District Court File: 34-CV-18-135. An overview of the district court's findings along with the opinion of the Utility's legal counsel (Madden Galanter Hansen, LLP) were reviewed. Following review and discussion regarding the summary judgement, the Labor Committee provided directive to Staff on the litigation strategy to be followed relating to the above mentioned case.

2) Miscellaneous:

Resignation:

General Manager Harren informed the Labor Committee that Mary Kosbab has elected to pursue other endeavors and has resigned from her position as Energy Services/Marketing Rep effective October 22nd.

Retirement:

General Manager Harren informed the Labor Committee that Meter Foreman Gary Faber has submitted his letter of intent to retire. Gary has been employed by the WMU since July 1977, and will be retiring on January 31, 2019.

3) Adjournment:

There being no further business to come before the WMU Labor Committee, Commissioner Weber offered a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Magnuson seconded the motion which carried, and the meeting was adjourned by a vote of three ayes and zero nays at 12:53 p.m.