

BLACK RIVER FALLS UTILITY COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

January 28, 2019

Utility Commission President John Lund called a meeting of the Black River Falls Municipal Utility Commission to order on January 28, 2019 at 4:28 p.m. in the conference room at 119 North Water Street. Commissioners in attendance were Pete Olson, Jay Eddy, John Lindahl, and Don Mathews. Also present were General Manager Casey Engebretson, Office Manager Julie Babcock, Electric Operations Supt. Kevin LaValley, Line Foreman Cal Thompson, and Kyle Von Ruden (Banner Journal).

A motion was made by Commissioner Eddy and seconded by Commissioner Lindahl to approve the minutes from the December 17, 2018 Regular Meeting.

Aye: Lund, Lindahl, Olson, Mathews, and Eddy
Motion carried.

A motion was made by Commissioner Mathews and seconded by Commissioner Olson to approve the accounts payable vouchers; Accounts Payable (CK #35281 - #35354; HC #100252 - #100260) – Totaling \$1,341,870.06.

Aye: Lund, Lindahl, Olson, Mathews, and Eddy
Motion Carried.

Julie Babcock reviewed the December, 2018 A/R arrears. The Commission was informed that a claim made by BRFMU against a utility bond for a customer's pre-receivership past due balance has been validated by the bond holder. The insurance company holding the bond has agreed to pay BRFMU's claim in full, in the amount of \$10,795.04.

Julie Babcock informed the Commission that the 2018 year-end financials show the following net incomes for each department: Electric - \$95,359.76; Water - \$118,502.97; and Sewer - \$19,939.94. Julie reminded the Commission that these values are unaudited. The auditors will be onsite the week of February 4th, 2019.

A motion was made by Commissioner Olson and seconded by Commissioner Eddy to approve the contract with Municipal Well and Pump for the Well #6 rehabilitation in the amount of \$35,980.00.

Aye: Lund, Lindahl, Olson, Mathews, and Eddy
Motion Carried.

Casey Engebretson informed the Commission that the amount due for the WPDES permit Multi-Discharger Variance Payment to Counties will be approximately \$22,000 for 2018. This amount was based on ten months of discharges, since the new permit went into effect in March. It was anticipated that the payment due could be as much as \$40,000 to \$50,000, based on historical flows and phosphorus discharges. Wastewater Operators Rick Weikel and Billy Benz were recognized for the fine job they are doing.

Kevin LaValley outlined the different projects ongoing in the electric and hydro departments.

Casey Engebretson informed the Commission that the land purchase and sale were completed on January 21st and 22nd. The Highway A property was sold to Black River Memorial Hospital for \$276,960. BRFMU purchased a 10 acre parcel from McFour Ventures, LLC. for \$100,000. The purchased land will be used for the future utility operations center.

A motion was made by Commissioner Mathews and seconded by Commissioner Lindahl to award the following Commitment to Community grant requests: The Karner Blue Garden Club - \$200.00 and the Black River Falls Public Library - \$200.00.

Aye: Lund, Lindahl, Olson, Mathews, and Eddy

Motion Carried.

Casey Engebretson informed the Commission that the review of the Hydroelectric Dam Repair Project is still at the state level with Wisconsin Emergency Management (WEM). WEM will review all of the documentation submitted by BRFMU to ensure that all expenses are documented and justifiable. WEM will then submit the documentation to FEMA for review of expenditure documentation and adherence to federal procurement guidelines. If approved by FEMA, FEMA will then authorize payment through WEM. A timeline for reimbursement is not yet known,

A motion was made by Commissioner Lindahl and seconded by Commissioner Olson to adjourn the meeting at 4:55 p.m.

Aye: Lund, Lindahl, Olson, Mathews, and Eddy
Motion Carried.

Casey Engebretson, General Manager
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