

BLACK RIVER FALLS UTILITY COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

July 29, 2019

Utility Commission President John Lund called a meeting of the Black River Falls Municipal Utility Commission to order on July 29, 2019 at 4:35 p.m. in the conference room at 119 North Water Street. Commissioners in attendance were Pete Olson, Jay Eddy, Don Mathews, and John Lindahl. Also present were General Manager Casey Engebretson, Electric Operations Supt. Kevin LaValley, Office Manager Julie Babcock, WPPI CEO Mike Peters, and Kyle Von Ruden (Banner Journal).

A motion was made by Commissioner Olson and seconded by Commissioner Eddy to approve the minutes from the June 24, 2019 Regular Meeting.

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

A motion was made by Commissioner Lindahl and seconded by Commissioner Mathews to approve the accounts payable vouchers; Accounts Payable (CK #35738 and #35806; HC #100306 - #100315) – Totaling \$689,521.96.

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

Mike Peters, CEO of WPPI Energy, made a presentation to the Commission. The presentation provided an overview of WPPI's power supply portfolio, service offerings, member/owner benefits, and key issues facing the electric utility industry.

Julie Babcock reviewed the June 2019 financial statements and arrearages.

Casey Engebretson informed the Commission that the two-year inspection was performed on the Industrial Park water tower and a few deficiencies were found. Casey has reached out to Kountoupes Painting, Inc. to schedule a time in September for their crew to return and correct the deficiencies.

Casey Engebretson updated the Commission on the progress of the AMI water meter installations. Approximately 570 meters have been installed to date, with approximately 150 more planned to be installed yet in 2019.

Casey Engebretson informed the Commission that the final pay request has been received from Crane Engineering for the final clarifier rehabilitation. The bid for the project was \$197,960.00. The final project cost was \$189,120.00. The project was paid for with the WWTP's equipment replacement fund.

Kevin LaValley informed the Commission about the mutual aid efforts in Wisconsin Rapids. BRFMU sent Tony Tondola and Jeremy Wnek to Wisconsin Rapids from July 22-26. The Commission expressed their gratitude and commended the entire line crew for their willingness to work together to allow BRFMU to assist in the mutual aid request.

Casey Engebretson updated the Commission on the joint Public Safety Task Force/Utility Building Committee meeting held on July 19, 2019. Both committees heard a presentation by the City's architect, SEH, regarding the feasibility of constructing on consolidated public safety/utility building on the Utility's existing parcel. The committees reached a consensus that it was not feasible to construct a consolidated building and any cost savings would more likely be realized through concurrent bidding and construction of both buildings.

Casey Engebretson provided an update on the Utility Building Committee meeting held on July 19, 2019. The Committee made a motion to issue an RFP for the procurement of an architect. Casey stated that the RFP was issued on July 22, 2019 to six firms. Five firms have shown interest and one firm has declined. Proposals are due on August 9th and a Committee meeting will be scheduled for August 14th to review proposals and make a selection. Casey also outlined the tentative schedule for the building project.

A motion was made by Commissioner Eddy and seconded by Commissioner Lindahl to authorize Casey Engebretson to execute the contract with Miron Construction, with the deletion of Article 11, Insurance and Bonds, of the USDA-RD attachment.

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

Casey Engebretson informed the Commission that he would be attending the WPPI Annual Meeting in Elkhardt Lake from September 18-20, 2019. WPPI is offering to pay for hotel accommodations for a Commissioner to attend if interested.

The August commission meeting will be held on August 26th.

A motion was made by Commissioner Lindahl and seconded by Commissioner Eddy to adjourn the meeting at 5:42 p.m.

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

Casey Engebretson, General Manager
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