

## BLACK RIVER FALLS UTILITY COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

September 24, 2018

Utility Commission President John Lund called a meeting of the Black River Falls Municipal Utility Commission to order on September 24, 2018 at 4:30 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, Electric Operating Superintendent Kevin LaValley, and Office Manager Julie Babcock.

A motion was made by Commissioner Eddy and seconded by Commissioner Mathews to approve the minutes from the August 27, 2018 Regular Meeting.

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

A motion was made by Commissioner Olson and seconded by Commissioner Lindahl to approve the accounts payable vouchers; Accounts Payable (CK #34956-#35037; HC #100214 - #100221) – Totaling \$750,918.56.

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

Julie Babcock reviewed the August 2018 financial statement and A/R arrears.

Julie Babcock reviewed the updated draft of the 2019 budget with the Commission. A discussion on the budget ensued.

A motion was made by Commissioner Lindahl and seconded by Commissioner Eddy to approve the 2019 electric, water, and sewer budgets as presented.

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

Casey Engebretson informed the Commission that the water and wastewater operators have begun the installation of AMI water meters. Cross connection inspections and service line material inventories are being conducted in conjunction with the meter installations.

Casey Engebretson informed the Commission that the rehabilitation work on the east final clarifier is complete and clarifier performance has improved noticeably. Crane intends to begin the rehabilitation of the west clarifier in October, schedule and weather permitting.

Kevin LaValley informed the Commission that during the last high water event, the actuator on Gate 3 periodically faulted out and became extremely hot. Kevin and Casey are working with Warren Hayden (Mead & Hunt) and representatives from Steel-Fab and Auma to determine the cause and a remedy.

Casey Engebretson informed the Commission that the triennial Federal Energy Regulatory Commission dam inspection was conducted on August 28, 2018. An inspection report has not been received from the FERC; however, comments from the FERC inspector during the inspection were very positive. Casey recognized Kevin and the hydroelectric dam operators for the fine work they do in operating the dam.

Casey Engebretson informed the Commission that the City Attorney stated that the Utility Commission can set their compensation and there is no requirement for City Council approval. The City Attorney also stated that any compensation change may take effect on January 1.

Casey Engebretson presented 2019 health insurance quotes for consideration by the Commission. Five health insurance proposals were reviewed. The Utility's current health plan proposal with WEA Trust had an increase of 3.9%. The current dental plan proposal with Delta Dental had an increase of 2%. The proposal from Quartz was determined to be the only competitive proposal to the current plan. The Commission discussed both proposals. The Commission asked Casey to research options for offering employees a stipend to opt-out of health insurance coverage with the Utility and report back at a future meeting.

A motion was made by Commissioner Mathews and seconded by Commissioner Olson to renew the health insurance plan with WEA Trust and the dental plan with Delta Dental for 2019, with employee premium contributions remaining at 12%.

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

Casey Engebretson reminded the Commission that the WWTP sludge-hauling contract expires on December 31, 2018. Casey requested authorization to advertise a Request for Proposals for the WWTP sludge hauling.

A motion was made by Commissioner Lindahl and seconded by Commissioner Eddy to authorize Casey Engebretson to advertise a Request for Proposals for the WWTP sludge hauling.

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

A motion was made by Commissioner Mathews and seconded by Commissioner Olson to adjourn the meeting at 5:27pm.

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

Casey Engebretson, General Manager

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