

BLACK RIVER FALLS UTILITY COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

January 31, 2022

Utility Commission President John Lund called a meeting of the Black River Falls Municipal Utility Commission to order on January 31, 2022 at 4:30 p.m. in the Utility Conference Room at 349 South McKinley Street. Commissioners in attendance were Jeff Amo, Jay Eddy, Pete Olson, and Don Mathews. Also present were General Manager Casey Engebretson, Office Manager Julie Babcock, and Garrett Aleckson (Banner Journal).

A motion was made by Commissioner Amo and seconded by Commissioner Eddy to approve the minutes from the December 27, 2021 regular meeting.

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

A motion was made by Commissioner Olson and seconded by Commissioner Mathews to approve the accounts payable vouchers; CK #40010 - #40100; EP #100576 - #100584 – Totaling \$1,659,483.48.

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

Julie Babcock reviewed the December 2021 financials. Julie informed the Commission that the audit is being conducted this week.

Julie Babcock reviewed the December 2021 arrears.

Casey Engebretson presented the Commission with a letter received from the Wisconsin National Guard stating that they will be conducting PFAS testing of the public water supply at the Armory. The letter states that test results will be shared with BRFMU and published in a public notice.

Casey Engebretson presented the Commission with cost comparison data for the treatment of phosphorus at the WWTP. Although the price of the rare earth chemical continues to increase, BRFMU continues to see savings with the rare earth chemical through lower sludge hauling costs and phosphorus multi-discharger variance payments to counties.

Casey Engebretson provided an update on electric operations. Casey informed the Commission about the broken pole and outage at Jefferson and Forrest. The crew had to install cut-outs and switch feeders to maintain service to the hospital while isolating the damage. Approximately ten (10) houses were out of power. With -35 degree temperatures, the crew did an outstanding job restoring power and replacing the pole and attachments. The Commission commended the crew on a job well done.

Casey Engebretson provided the Commission with a construction update for the operations center. The Commission reviewed the final pay application and final project costs. Preliminary estimates show that the project was completed approximately \$300,000 under budget. Casey informed the Commission that the bond language requires any leftover funds must be placed in the Bond's P&I account to be used for future interest payments.

The Commission reviewed three (3) Community Contribution Fund requests. Casey Engebretson outlined previous donations presented to each requesting entity and made recommendations for donation amounts as follows:

- \$100 – Karner Blue Garden Club – 2022 Plant Purchases
- \$150 – Shooting Tigers - Sponsorship
- \$90 – National Fire Safety Council – Educational Materials

A motion was made by Commissioner Amo and seconded by Commissioner Olson to approve the Community Contribution donations as recommended.

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

The next meeting is scheduled for Monday February 21, 2022 at 4:30 pm.

A motion was made by Commissioner Olson and seconded by Commissioner Mathews to adjourn the meeting at 5:07 p.m.

Casey Engebretson, General Manager

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