

## BLACK RIVER FALLS UTILITY COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

March 28, 2022

Utility Commission President John Lund called a meeting of the Black River Falls Municipal Utility Commission to order on March 28, 2022 at 4:26 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, Electric Superintendent Kevin LaValley, Lineman Mitchell Ammann, and Garrett Aleckson (Banner Journal).

A motion was made by Commissioner Eddy and seconded by Commissioner Olson to approve the minutes from the February 21, 2022 regular meeting.

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

A motion was made by Commissioner Amo and seconded by Commissioner Mathews to approve the accounts payable vouchers; CK #40168 - #402454; EP #100593 - #100600 – Totaling \$761,000.83.

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

Casey Engebretson reviewed the February 2022 financials and arrearages. Casey informed the Commission that the end of the winter moratorium occurs on April 15th and the Utility will be hanging disconnect notices on April 19, 2022, with disconnections occurring on April 20, 2022.

Casey Engebretson updated the Commission on water infrastructure replacements during future street projects. The City is looking at procuring a grant to replace Forrest St. The grant does not cover utilities and preliminary cost estimates show a significant expense. The Water Utility has very little infrastructure replacements scheduled in the City's 2024 street improvement plan, so the Forrest St. project will be slated to be completed in 2024 in an attempt to spread out annual infrastructure replacement costs. This project may be contingent upon the City receiving the grant funding.

Casey Engebretson informed the Commission that both a water and a wastewater employee are planning to retire in early 2023.

Kevin LaValley informed the Commission that Apprentice Lineman Mitchell Ammann successfully passed his journeyman test. The Commission congratulated Mitchell on a job well done. Casey and Kevin will complete the steps necessary to close-out the apprentice sponsorship.

Casey Engebretson presented a contribution request from the Jackson County Ag Society for sponsorship of the 2022 Jackson County Fair. Casey stated that the Commission approved a 2021 contribution in the amount of \$800.00. With that sponsorship level, BRFMU received four (4) season passes and four (4) grandstand event tickets, which were given away to customers through a drawing.

A motion was made by Commissioner Amo and seconded by Commissioner Olson to approve a contribution of \$800.00 to the Jackson County Ag Society for a fair sponsorship, while also directing staff to hold a similar customer drawing for the passes and tickets.

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

Casey Engebretson provided the Commission with a copy of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission's (FERC) response to BRFMU's 2021 Dam Safety and Surveillance Monitoring Report submittal. The FERC's response stated that BRFMU's submittal fulfilled all requirements.

Casey Engebretson presented the Commission with a typical bill comparison summary provided by WPPI Energy. Each year, WPPI sends BRFMU a summary comparing BRFMU's electric rates to the Wisconsin Investor-Owned Utility's rates based on customer class and a number of usage scenarios. BRFMU's Residential rates are well below the IOU's rates. General Service rates are lower than the majority of IOU's rates. BRFMU's Small Power and Large Power rates are in the middle in comparison to the IOU's rates. Overall, BRFMU's rates compare favorably to Wisconsin IOU rates.

The next meeting is scheduled for Monday April 25, 2022 at 4:30 pm.

A motion was made by Commissioner Olson and seconded by Commissioner Eddy to adjourn the meeting at 5:04 p.m.

Casey Engebretson, General Manager

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