

BLACK RIVER FALLS UTILITY COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

June 26, 2023

Utility Commission President John Lund called a meeting of the Black River Falls Municipal Utility Commission to order on June 26, 2023 at 4:30 p.m. in the Utility Conference Room at 349 South McKinley Street. Commissioners in attendance were Jeff Amo, Jay Eddy, Don Mathews, and Pete Olson. Also present were General Manager Casey Engebretson, Electric Supt. Kevin LaValley, Office Manager Julie Babcock, and Garrett Aleckson (Banner Journal).

A motion was made by Commissioner Eddy and seconded by Commissioner Olson to approve the minutes from the May 22, 2023 regular meeting.

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

A motion was made by Commissioner Mathews and seconded by Commissioner Olson to approve the accounts payable vouchers; CK #41249 - #41318; EP #100731 - #100738 – Totaling \$586,757.73.

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

The Commission reviewed the May 2023 arrears.

Julie Babcock informed the Commission that the Dynamics software used for payroll, inventory, accounts payable, project management, etc. will be unsupported in 2026. WPPI led a working group to find a replacement software and has chosen Civic. WPPI members interested in a Civic conversion must commit to the conversion and will be placed on a waiting list of approximately 12 months. Initial costs are \$46,000, half due at sign-up and the other half due during training. Annual support costs are approximately \$10,000.

A motion was made by Commissioner Mathews and seconded by Commissioner Amo to authorize staff to begin the process to convert to the Civic software.

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

Casey Engebretson presented the EPA UCMR5 PFAS results to the Commission. The EPA required testing for 25 PFAS compounds, where WDNR required testing for 18 PFAS compounds. Wells #4, #5, and #6 showed “No Detect” for all 25 PFAS compounds tested. Well #3 showed “No Detect” for 24 of 25 compounds, with the one positive PFAS compound testing very low at just over the Limit of Detection. BRFMU is waiting for the WDNR to issue testing waivers for PFAS prior to taking the 3rd quarter PFAS tests, as it is possible that testing will not be required on wells testing “No Detect”.

Casey Engebretson informed the Commission that the #3 influent pump at the WWTP must be sent in for rewinding, at a cost of \$2,800.

Kevin LaValley provided an update on the work being performed by the Electric crew.

Casey Engebretson informed the Commission that an application was submitted to the Department of Energy for a hydroelectric production incentive for Hydro #3. Casey stated that the incentive could be as much as \$75,000.

Casey Engebretson informed the Commission that the first union negotiations will take place at the August Commission meeting.

Casey Engebretson reminded the Commission that the Utility will be hosting a Customer Appreciation Lunch from 11-1 tomorrow, June 27, 2023 at the Utility Operations Center.

The next meeting is scheduled for Monday July 31, 2023.

A motion was made by Commissioner Amo and seconded by Commissioner Eddy to adjourn the meeting at 5:22 p.m.

Casey Engebretson, General Manager

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