

## BLACK RIVER FALLS UTILITY COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

June 28, 2021

Utility Commission President John Lund called a meeting of the Black River Falls Municipal Utility Commission to order on June 28, 2021 at 4:30 p.m. in the Utility Conference Room at 119 North Water Street. Commissioners in attendance were Jeff Amo, Pete Olson, and Don Mathews. Jay Eddy was excused. Also present were General Manager Casey Engebretson, Office Manager Julie Babcock, and Garrett Aleckson (Banner Journal).

A motion was made by Commissioner Olson and seconded by Commissioner Mathews to approve the minutes from the May 24, 2021 regular meeting.

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

A motion was made by Commissioner Olson and seconded by Commissioner Mathews to approve the accounts payable vouchers; CK #37406 - #37479; HC #100514 - #100522 – Totaling \$1,204,882.63.

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

Julie Babcock reviewed the May 2021 financials.

Julie Babcock reviewed the May 2021 arrears and provided an update on customer disconnections.

Casey Engebretson informed the Commission that the new metering handheld device has been received from Honeywell. The new device will replace the two (2) outdated handhelds. Honeywell provided the new device at no charge since the old handheld technology was aging, but the new handheld was not available when BRFMU started the AMI conversion. Water and wastewater operators have resumed water meter change-outs. Sandy Anderson has done a great job working with Honeywell and WPPI on the software upgrades.

Casey Engebretson informed the Commission that preliminary work has begun on the WWTP WPDES Permit renewal for 2023-2027. Casey presented information about the Phosphorus Multi-Discharger Variance and believes the Utility will once again be eligible to apply for the variance. The only viable alternative to the variance would be to install new treatment infrastructure at the WWTP at an estimated cost of \$5,200,000. Commissioners were in agreement that the variance should be pursued and instructed Casey to continue working on the MDV application for the new permit.

Casey Engebretson reminded the Commissioners that the new sewer rates will take effect on July 1, 2021. An updated rate sheet will be included with the customer's utility bills mailed in early August. Residential customers with a 5/8" or 3/4" water meter will see an increase in the fixed sewer charge of \$1.80/month. The volume charge remains unchanged.

Casey Engebretson provided an update on electric operations. Casey informed the Commission that the line crew remains busy completing new service installations. Bear has been working on the remaining electric meter change-outs that require a new meter socket.

Casey Engebretson provided the Commission with a construction update for the operations center. Casey also provided an overview of the third payment application, change orders, and project costs-to-date.

The next meeting is scheduled for Monday July 26, 2021 at 4:30 pm. Valy Goepfrich, WPPI Energy Senior Vice President of Power Supply, will be in attendance to discuss the value of joint action through WPPI.

A motion was made by Commissioner Amo and seconded by Commissioner Olson to adjourn at 5:06 p.m.

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

Casey Engebretson, General Manager  
comm.mtg.minutes.6.28.2021