

BLACK RIVER FALLS UTILITY COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

July 31, 2023

Utility Commission President John Lund called a meeting of the Black River Falls Municipal Utility Commission to order on July 31, 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, and Garrett Aleckson (Banner Journal).

A motion was made by Commissioner Mathews and seconded by Commissioner Olson to approve the amended agenda.

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

A motion was made by Commissioner Amo and seconded by Commissioner Mathews to approve the minutes from the June 26, 2023 regular meeting.

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

A motion was made by Commissioner Olson and seconded by Commissioner Eddy to approve the accounts payable vouchers; CK #41319 - #41397; EP #100739 - #100746 – Totaling \$646,118.46.

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

The Commission reviewed the 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter financial statements and June 2023 arrears.

Casey Engebretson informed the Commission that the Bond Resolutions for the Electric 2020A, Water 2020B, and Sewerage 2020C bonds require the establishment of separate Depreciation Accounts. Resolution 2023-2 authorizes the establishment of these accounts.

A motion was made by Commissioner Eddy and seconded by Commissioner Amo to adopt Resolution 2023-2; Establishing Separate Depreciation Accounts for the Utility Operations Center's Electric 2020A Bond, Water 2020B Bond, and Sewerage 2020C Bond at Security Financial Bank.

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

Casey Engebretson informed the Commission that due to BRFMU's low PFAS results, the WDNR has issued a waiver for all four (4) Entry Points, which eliminates the PFAS testing requirements for 2023. BRFMU will continue PFAS monitoring as required by the EPA UCMR5.

Casey Engebretson informed the Commission that the Water Department has completed the street projects for 2023. The Water Department replaced valves and all utility-owned portions of service laterals that were galvanized or undersized.

Casey Engebretson informed the Commission that the repair cost estimate for the #3 influent pump at the WWTP came in at around \$13,000. Three (3) undersized raw pumps that were removed a few years ago

still remain at the plant. Considering the recent investment in repairs on raw pumps #1 and #2, staff determined that one of the older smaller pumps will be installed to replace raw pump #3 until it is prudent to replace all three (3) pumps at a later date. Installing the smaller pump along with the two (2) higher capacity pumps will still provide sufficient pumping capacity.

Kevin LaValley updated the Commission on the progress for designing repairs on the forebay gates. Design is proceeding slowly, which may result in postponing this project until 2024. Kevin will continue to monitor the progress. Kevin also provided an overview of the recent storm damage. We experienced approximately 80-100 outages. Kevin commended the line crew and hydro operators for their work in restoring power. The Commission thanked the crews for a job well done.

Casey Engebretson presented two (2) community contribution requests to the Commission.

A motion was made by Commissioner Mathews and seconded by Commissioner Eddy to make a contribution to the Boys & Girls Club in the amount of \$150.00.

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

A motion was made by Commissioner Olson and seconded by Commissioner Amo to make a contribution to the City of B.R. Falls Parks & Rec and the Lunda Park Playground Committee in the amount of \$300.00 for the all-abilities playground project.

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

Casey Engebretson informed the Commission that BRFMu was awarded an incentive from the Department of Energy Hydroelectric Production Incentive for Hydro #3. Casey stated that the incentive at the current incentive rate per kWh could result in the incentive being approximately \$70,000. However, it could be lower if the appropriated amount is less than the total of awarded incentive, which would result in a percentage of the total incentive.

The next meeting is scheduled for Monday August 28, 2023.

A motion was made by Commissioner Mathews and seconded by Commissioner Olson to adjourn the meeting at 4:59 p.m.

Casey Engebretson, General Manager

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