

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE RICHLAND CENTER  
MUNICIPAL UTILITY COMMISSION  
Wednesday, September 13, 2023 4p.m., 450 S. Main Street  
This Meeting was held in person and via WebEx Due to the Covid-19 Pandemic

Members present: Nice, Schaub, Heiar, Melby, and Downs (arrived at 4:26)

Others present: Krueger, Mueller, Andy Zimmer (MSA), and Gald (via WebEx)

Vice President Schaub called the meeting to order at 4p.m. The meeting had been properly posted.

Motion by Heiar, second by Melby to approve the minutes of the last meeting as printed. All voting aye upon voice vote, motion carried.

Treasurer's report was received and filed.

Motion by Heiar, second by Nice to approve the Electric Bills for September totaling \$1,131,263.71. Also acknowledges the balance for August, thus totaling \$1,132,639.44. All voting aye on roll call, motion carried.

Motion by Nice, second by Schaub to approve the Water Bills for September totaling \$79,247.16. Also acknowledges the balance for August totaling \$235,828.31. All voting aye on roll call, motion carried.

Motion by Heiar, second by Melby to approve the Sewer Bills for September totaling \$140,940.14. Also acknowledges the balance for August, thus totaling \$348,930.26. All voting aye on roll call, motion carried.

There was nothing to report for safety.

Andy Zimmer from MSA gave the commission updates on the current street projects. The last part of the project to be completed is the updating of sewer lines. That is to be done next week. He feels the project went well. In terms of budget they are at 98% of the contracted amount. That is about \$24,000.00 under contracted approved amount. Andy feels that G-Pro did good work although they are slightly behind the contractual completion date in mid-August.

Andy presented the commission with information for plans and costs of street projects for next year. He is proposing that ideally they approve the base project and alternative #1. Steve and Vanessa feel that the water and wastewater could possibly not have the funds for both. The commission talked about waiting to make any decisions until President Sawle and Wastewater Superintendent Fischer could be involved in the discussion. Andy recommended to at least approve the service agreement for final design and bidding services for the base project. Melby made a motion to move forward with the approval of the service agreement for final design of the base project with possible discussion of alternatives at a later date, second by Heiar, all voting aye on roll call. Motion carried.

Vanessa explained that the safety manual was approved last month, Scott needs to have it in a resolution for his RP-3. Melby made a motion to approve Resolution #2023-2 for the 17<sup>th</sup> Edition of the APPA Safety Manual, second by Heiar. All voting aye on roll call, motion carried.

Electric Superintendent Gald reported that he has been working on finishing up his RP-3 application. The SCADA system is online at the Olson Substation. Hunter attended meter school. WPPI is working on purchasing wholesale power from Aliant, which hopefully will help with our territorial issues. Tomorrow is the annual WPPI meeting that Lenny is attending.

Water Superintendent Krueger reported that with the street project they had 22 repairs to clamp. Since the last meeting the water crew did 6 lead services and replaced a curb stop on Leona Ave. Terry has been in Madison for his DNR Ground Water Distribution class. He takes his test Oct 4<sup>th</sup>. If he passes he will get his DNR Certification. The fluoride containment for well 6 has been completed, just well 8 is left. Next Tuesday the DNR has requested a

meeting on the corrosion control study. Every third year there is a sanitary survey that has to be completed and that is also scheduled for next week. The commercial meters need to be tested every 2 to 4 years that will begin next month. They departments continue to have meetings regarding the new hospital. On August 22<sup>nd</sup> Steve received a text message from an employee from Rockwell. He saw a company cutting into a fire suppression line in the building and putting a valve in leading to unmetered water usage. Steve setup a meeting with the maintenance supervisor. He told Steve he was expecting to hear from him. Rockwell agreed to pay for a gallon amount for water and sewer. The results are back from the audit. There has been a Gerke truck in town and there is still a punch list that needs to be completed. The landscaping crew that Gerke has is very unpleasant and there is still no grass growing after phase 1 of the street project.

Wastewater Superintendent Fischer is on vacation this week so there were no updates from his department.

Office Manager Mueller invited the commissioners to the Customer Appreciation Cookout on October 4<sup>th</sup> 3:30 – 6:30 p.m. at the community center. All are welcome.

There was nothing for correspondence.

There were no public comments.

Commissioner Downs made a request to change the meeting time to 5p.m. He is a bus driver and is not done with his route until 4:45. The commission decided to put it as an agenda item for next month.

A motion by Heiar, second by Downs to adjourn. All voting aye upon voice vote, motion carried without dissent at 5:15 P.M. Meeting adjourned.

Minutes submitted by:

Vanessa Mueller