

**OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS OF THE  
BOARD OF WATER, ELECTRIC,  
AND COMMUNICATIONS TRUSTEES  
OF THE CITY OF MUSCATINE, IOWA  
FEBRUARY 27, 2024 – 5:30 P.M.**

The Board of Trustees met in regular session at Muscatine Power and Water's Administration/Operations Building, 3205 Cedar Street, Muscatine, Iowa, on Tuesday, February 27, 2024 at 5:30 p.m.

Vice Chairperson Tracy McGinnis called the meeting to order. Additional members of the Board present were as follows: Trustees Susan Eversmeyer, and Trustee Fields. Chairperson Porter and Trustee Bradford were absent due to previously scheduled travel plans. Trustee McGinnis chaired the meeting in Chairperson Porter's absence.

Also present were Gage Huston, General Manager of Muscatine Power and Water (MPW); Kelly Miller, Board Secretary; Brandy Olson, Erika Cox, Mark Roberts, Ryan Streck, and Doug White of MPW. Additional guests attending the meeting included Mitch Zytnowski, Jennifer Peterson, Rachel Reed, Whitney Pena, Jessica Brackett, Greg Wheeler, Eric Howard and Dan Sirdoreus of Principal Financial Advisors; George Taylor from Beyond Feedback joined the meeting virtually.

Secretary Miller asked if there was anyone in attendance who wished to make any public comments. No public comments were made.

Trustee Eversmeyer moved, seconded by Trustee Fields, to approve the January 30, 2024 regular meeting minutes. All Trustees present voted aye. Motion carried.

Trustee Eversmeyer moved, seconded by Trustee Fields, to ratify payments totaling \$5,679,031.77 for the Electric Utility, \$615,502.29 for the Water Utility, and \$1,147,387.63 for the Communications Utility, for a cumulative total of \$7,441,921.69 All Trustees present voted aye. Motion carried.

Mr. Huston reminded the Board the Utility provides a defined benefit pension plan for its employees and the Pension Investment Policy requires the Board review the Employee Pension Fund performance once a year. Ms. Olson provided a high-level summary and introduced Dan Sirdoreus and Eric Howard from Principal Financial Advisors. Mr. Sirdoreus provided an update of the plan cash flow, along with a review of MPW's portfolio and strategic asset allocations and investment earnings results. Mr. Sirdoreus finished his presentation with a review of the MPW portfolio performance and a total return summary. Trustee Eversmeyer moved, seconded by Trustee Fields, to receive and place on file the 2023 Employees' Pension Plan and Investment Advisory Report. All Trustees present voted aye. Motion carried. Mr. Sirdoreus and Mr. Howard left the meeting after their presentation.

The next agenda item was a review of the Residential Customer Satisfaction Survey. Ms. Cox introduced George Taylor from Beyond Feedback who virtually presented survey results from the survey MPW conducted in October 2023 of our residential customers to determine electric, water and communications customer satisfaction and overall performance. Staff requested that the Board receive and place on file the 2023 Residential Customer Satisfaction Survey Results. Trustee Eversmeyer moved, seconded by Trustee Fields, to receive and place on file the 2023 Residential Customer Satisfaction Survey Results. On roll call, Trustees Eversmeyer, Fields, and McGinnis voted aye. Voting nay, none. Motion carried.

George Taylor left the meeting after presenting.

Mr. Huston introduced a Recommendation to Approve Project Summary Forms (PSFs) for Unit 7 Stack Painting, Unit 9 Boiler Major Inspection, and FGD Limestone Silo and Gate Repairs. The projects were

included in the 2024 operating budget approved at the November 28, 2023 Board Meeting. The scope and cost of each project, PSFs should have been prepared and included in the 2023 Operating Budget package. Staff developed the PSFs and sought approval to allow the projects to move forward. After discussion Trustee Eversmeyer moved, seconded by Trustee Fields to approve the Project Summary Forms for Unit 7 Stack Painting, Unit 9 Boiler Inspection, and 901 Limestone Silo and Gate repairs for a total cost of \$1,204,300. All Trustees present voted aye. Motion carried.

At 6:13 p.m. Vice Chairperson McGinnis stated the Board would be going into Closed Session to discuss the Competitive Information Related to the Solar Lease Agreements, in Accordance with Iowa Code 388.9 (competitive information) and Iowa Code 21.5(1)(j) (real estate transactions). Trustee Eversmeyer moved, seconded by Trustee Fields to enter closed session in accordance with Iowa Code 388.9 (competitive information) and Iowa Code 21.5(1)(j) (real estate transactions). On roll call Trustees Eversmeyer, Fields, and McGinnis voted aye. Voting nay, none. Motion carried.

At 6:34 p.m. the meeting was reconvened to open session.

Mr. Huston asked the Board to ratify the solar lease and authorize the General Manager to enter into lease agreements with the individual landowners. Trustee Eversmeyer moved, seconded by Trustee Fields to ratify the solar lease, and authorize the General Manager to Enter into lease agreements with the individual landowners, with the exception of Lutheran Living lease because Trustee Eversmeyer had to abstain as a Lutheran Living board member, which meant there wasn't a majority of the Trustees at the meeting for a vote. All Trustees present voted aye for the leases other than with Lutheran Living. Motion carried.

The next agenda item was a recommendation to Approve Annual Submittal of MPW Reliability Plan to Iowa Utilities Board (IUB). The Iowa Administrative Code was revised in 2022 to require municipal electric utilities to adopt and file an annual electric reliability plan with the IUB. The annual electric reliability plan must be approved by the Board of Trustees and filed with the IUB annually by April 1. A similar requirement is in place for investor-owned utilities and electric cooperatives operating in Iowa.

Iowa Administrative Code 199-27.10(3) reads:

“g. Each electric cooperative and municipal electric utility shall adopt and have approved by its board of directors or governing authority a reliability plan. The reliability plan shall be updated not less than annually. A copy of the annual report shall be filed with the board for informational purposes.”

The Iowa Association of Municipal Utilities (IAMU) prepared a model annual electric reliability plan for its members after consulting with the IUB to ensure compliance. That plan will serve as a capstone for MPW's suite of inspection, maintenance, and improvement plans, procedures, and policies.

Management recommends that the Board receive and adopt the annual electric reliability plan and file with the Iowa Utilities Board.

The following resolution was submitted:

#### **RESOLUTION 24-05**

WHEREAS, Iowa Administrative Rule 199-27.10(3)(g) states that municipal electric utilities are required to adopt and have approved by their governing body an annual electric reliability plan; and

WHEREAS, the annual electric reliability plan must be filed with the Iowa Utilities Board; and

WHEREAS, MPW has reviewed its annual electric reliability plan.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Water, Electric, and Communications Trustees of the City of Muscatine, Iowa approve and adopt the annual Electric Reliability Plan of the municipal electric utility and file it with the Iowa Utilities Board.

Trustee Eversmeyer moved, seconded by Trustee Fields, that said resolution be passed, approved, and adopted this 27<sup>th</sup> day of February 2024. On roll call, Trustees Eversmeyer, Fields, and McGinnis voted aye. Voting nay, none. Resolution carried.

In the February GM Report, Mr. Huston updated the Board on the following topics:

- Cryptocurrency Business Power Plant Site – In January 2024, the MPW crews completed the electrical interconnection. The customer started electric service at the site February 1.
- Cyber Event Update – MPW is continuing to work with the independent third-party forensic group.

The February Financial Highlights and Financial Results Summary were reviewed by Mr. Roberts.

There were no entries on the Competitive Quotes for Public Improvements Report.

Mr. Huston reviewed the Monthly Project Status Report and Variance Analysis reports.

Mr. Huston reviewed the February 2024 Departmental Reports, Mr. White reviewed the Power the Future section of the departmental reports and gave an update on the Power Supply Study Review.

Jessica Brackett from Cedar Rapids made a public comment.

Trustee Eversmeyer moved, seconded by Trustee Fields, to receive and place on file the February 2024 Utility Reports. All Trustees present voted aye. Motion carried.

At 7:04 p.m. Vice Chairperson McGinnis recommended the meeting be closed to the public in accordance with Iowa Code Chapter 21.5(1)(i) to review the performance evaluations completed by the General Manager for the Directors and the performance evaluation completed by the Board of Trustees for the General Manager. Trustee Eversmeyer moved, seconded by Trustee Fields, the meeting be closed to the public in accordance with Iowa Code Chapter 21.5(1)(i) as requested in writing by the General Manager and Directors for the purpose of reviewing management performance. On roll call vote, Trustees Eversmeyer, Fields, and McGinnis voted aye. Voting nay, none. Motion carried.

The meeting was closed to the public at 7:04 p.m. All attendees left the meeting except for the General Manager and the Trustees.

At 7:30 p.m., Mr. Huston left the closed session.

At 7:36 p.m., the meeting was reconvened to open session.

The meeting of the Board of Trustees was adjourned at 7:38 p.m.

BOARD OF WATER, ELECTRIC, AND  
COMMUNICATIONS TRUSTEES OF  
THE CITY OF MUSCATINE, IOWA



Kelly Miller  
Board Secretary