

**MARSHALL MUNICIPAL UTILITIES**

**75 East Morgan  
Marshall, MO 65340**

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January 11, 2024

The Board of Public Works convened in a regular session in the MMU Service Center Conference Room at 8:30 a.m. Board members present were Steve Mills, President; Spencer Fricke, Vice President; Chuck Hines, Secretary; and Ken Bryant, Member.

The agenda was approved on a motion by Mr. Bryant, seconded by Mr. Hines, with a vote of 3-0.

On a motion by Mr. Bryant, seconded by Mr. Hines, the following Board of Public Works officers were elected by acclamation for 2024, following historical rotations.

Spencer Fricke, President  
Chuck Hines, Vice President  
Ken Bryant, Secretary  
Steve Mills, Member

Mr. Fricke assumed the Chair.

The December 28<sup>th</sup> meeting minutes were approved on a motion by Mr. Bryant, seconded by Mr. Mills, with a vote of 3-0.

Mr. Hines commented on 2023 injuries and incidents as compared to 2022. He was pleased to see the reduction of report-only injuries.

Underground Facilities Director Grant Piper requested approval to replace the HVAC units at the Service Center. The units in the Underground Facilities and Electric Distribution buildings were installed in 2000, they struggle in the summer and parts to repair the units are becoming difficult to find. Additionally, the Underground Facilities building will need to have return air ductwork installed. Mr. Hines made a motion to request proposals for upgrading the HVAC units in the Underground Facilities and Electric Distribution buildings and replacing the ductwork in the Underground Facilities building. Mr. Mills seconded the motion and it was approved by a vote of 3-0.

Director Piper then requested approval to replace two, 20-foot flatbed trailers. Recent safety audits found the weight limit on the current trailers are below what is needed to haul some of the department's equipment. He has received several preliminary quotes for approximately \$14,000 each. Mr. Bryant made a motion to purchase two new 20-foot trailers using quotes. Mr. Mills seconded the motion and it was approved by a vote of 3-0.

Controller Tony Bersano presented the Biochemical Oxygen Demand (BOD) and Total Suspended Solids (TSS) rates for industrial wastewater customers. A three-year average to calculate the rate was used to eliminate a large increase. This year's recommended changes were to increase the BOD charge from \$0.24 to \$0.30 per pound and increase the TSS charge from \$0.24 to \$0.26 per pound. After discussion, the Board took no action on the rates, agreeing by consensus to leave them as they are and revisit the subject at a later meeting. Mr. Mills asked for an update on the meeting with the Mayor to discuss donated utilities. Controller Bersano replied that it went well, the city staff is gathering information, and they plan to meet again in May.

Wastewater Treatment Plant Superintendent Eric Perkins updated the Board on blower #1; it seemed to be running well since the cable had been changed but faulted yesterday. He and Burns & McDonnell will be working with Aerzen and Rockwell to find a solution.

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IT & Broadband Director Jim Widel provided an update on the pedestals; the order from almost two years ago was never finalized between the distributor and manufacturer, but Purchasing Agent James Townsend is working with them on a solution. Crews were able to blow fiber yesterday, but due to the weather, they have been doing inside work.

Electric Distribution Director Doug Root reported truck #329 was delivered from Knapheide, there were a few details he was not satisfied with and he is working with the vendor to fix them.

Electric Production Director Jarad Muller reported Ethos is working on the rotor for Unit #6 and that they are trying to get a shorter lead time on parts. Ethos will be providing weekly updates on their progress. He met with the solid waste district to discuss additional market leads and has already been in touch with a few.

Human Resources Manager Megan Baldrige reported a safety achievement of the Electric Distribution department; they have worked for three years with no recordable injuries.

General Manager Jeff Bergstrom presented a proposal from SOA Architects for the new Administrative and IT & Broadband building. The need for the building is because of the growth of the IT & Broadband department and the need to consolidate their equipment and personnel into one shared space. Mr. Mills made a motion to approve the proposal from SOA Architecture for Step 1 design and supplemental services for a new Administrative building for \$67,860. Mr. Hines seconded the motion and it was approved by a vote of 3-0.

General Manager Bergstrom then reported there is a meeting with Toth and Associates on January 12<sup>th</sup>, to discuss the electric rate study. The next MSDC Board meeting was moved to January 16<sup>th</sup>. He and Director Root are reviewing the draft pole attachment and joint pole use agreements. He has completed the documents for the infrastructure grant and will be submitting them later today.

Mr. Hines motioned to approve and issue warrants from the following funds for cash disbursements to accounts payable.

WATER OPERATING FUND	\$ 228,241.17
ELECTRIC OPERATING FUND	\$ 1,419,545.86
SEWER REVENUE FUND	\$ 195,586.49
INTERNET OPERATING FUND	\$ 99,670.47
NATURAL GAS OPERATING FUND	\$ 3,401.03
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 1,946,445.02</b>

The motion was seconded by Mr. Mills and approved with a vote of 3-0.

The next Regular Board meeting will be on Thursday, February 1, 2024.

Following a motion by Mr. Bryant, seconded by Mr. Hines, the Board adjourned the regular meeting at 9:23 a.m. to go into Executive Session to discuss matters under Mo Rev. Stat. 610.021 (Supp. 2009) personnel actions [3], the motion passed by a vote of 3-0.

Roll call: Steve Mills     yes  
          Chuck Hines     yes  
          Ken Bryant     yes  
          Spencer Fricke   yes

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/s/Ken Bryant \_\_\_\_\_, Secretary