

## MARSHALL MUNICIPAL UTILITIES

75 East Morgan  
Marshall, MO 65340

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May 13, 2021

The Board of Public Works convened in regular session in the MMU Service Center Conference Room at 8:30 a.m. Board members present were Wick Jacobi, President; Ken Bryant, Vice President; Steve Mills, Secretary and Spencer Fricke, Member. City Council Members Dewey Hendrix and Leon Thompson were also present.

The agenda was approved on a motion made by Mr. Mills, seconded by Mr. Bryant. The minutes of the April 29<sup>th</sup> meeting were approved as printed on a motion by Mr. Fricke, seconded by Mr. Mills.

Wastewater Treatment Plant Superintendent Nolan Townsend requested approval to seek proposals for replacing the polymer system controls. The system is a 1993 original. The manufacturer has been contacted and none of their existing staff has seen this set-up. He would like to invite companies to review the current system then provide proposals on a new system. On a motion made by Mr. Bryant, seconded by Mr. Mills, the Board approved requesting proposals for replacement of polymer controls in the filter building.

Superintendent Townsend also requested approval to replace the metal halide fixtures throughout the Plant with new LED fixtures. Doing this will reduce some safety concerns besides providing better lighting. On a motion made by Mr. Mills, seconded by Mr. Bryant, the Board approved requesting bids for new LED fixtures to replace the existing metal halide fixtures throughout the plant.

Superintendent Townsend then updated the Board that the second large dry flow pump is being repaired, but during initial inspection it was found to have a bearing housing replaced and shaft work done; it should be back in 2-3 weeks.

Human Resources Manager Megan Baldrige presented an update to the COVID-19 leave policy. Proposed revisions extend the Emergency Paid Sick Leave (EPSL) through September 30, 2021 for eligible reasons and update the document to reflect actions already taken. Those updates include expanding eligible uses of EPSL to include vaccine related matters and removing provisions of the policy that expired December 31, 2020 (such as the availability of expanded FMLA leave). On a motion made by Mr. Mills, seconded by Mr. Fricke, the Board approved the revisions to the COVID-19 leave policy effective May 13, 2021.

Manager Baldrige then added the wage and benefit review will be provided to the Board next week. The two Fiber Tech positions have been offered internally to and accepted by Nate Hayworth and Luis Reyes. Their acceptance and a recent resignation create three new openings in Underground Facilities Department.

Controller Tony Bersano requested approval to replace outdated computers. With the anticipation of Tyler Technologies' new software an infrastructure audit was done and it found several computers were not compatible with their software. On a motion made by Mr. Mills, seconded by Mr. Fricke, the Board approved purchasing new computers.

Controller Bersano then requested approval to repaint and replace the siding on the Business Office. Since the building was tuck-pointed, much of the flaking paint was removed during that process leaving sections of brick exposed. The current vinyl siding is badly faded and cracked in several places. While this is being done he would also like to reinstall the overhead garage doors on the west side of the office to house

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the Business Office and IT & Broadband Department vehicles. On motion made by Mr. Bryant, seconded by Mr. Fricke, the Board approved requesting bids for painting and replacing vinyl siding along with the addition of new garage doors to the Business Office.

Electric Production Director Carl Crawford reported that Cooper Machinery Services had been here earlier this week to calibrate, adjust and repair unit #10 and #11 auxiliaries. He added these two units had been called to run May 4<sup>th</sup>, and ran well. The Southwest Power Pool (SPP) has inquired about MMU's other generating capacity, in case it is needed in an emergency.

Underground Facilities Director Grant Piper stated bid specs for the inspection, cleaning and installation of mixers in reservoir #3 are being created and should be sent out soon.

Electric Distribution Director Doug Root stated the annual tree trimming/brush spraying project was started May 3<sup>rd</sup>. The replacement of underground at the viaduct is complete. The new truck replacing #306 is getting the tool body installed; it should be completed this week. Crews continue work on burying primary at Lakeview Mobile Home Park.

IT & Broadband Director Jim Widel stated the plow demonstration went well; they were able to plow a half mile of conduit in less than two hours. There is another vendor demo scheduled for later this month. Crew has pulled fiber at the Park for surveillance cameras they are having installed.

Water Treatment Plant Superintendent Travis Boss updated the Board on the surface wash line replacement; two filters are complete and work well, work continues to progress. Soil samples were collected from several nearby fields; they are waiting on the analysis before any lime can be spread.

General Manager Jeff Bergstrom went over the action taken at the April 29<sup>th</sup> meeting taken in regard to accepting Exhibit B, Alternate No. 3 from Ahrens' to remove the Power Plant's concrete slabs and foundations to 2' below grade. Due to the contract language the request requires the City Council authorize the Mayor to sign the contract change. On a motion made by Mr. Mills, seconded by Mr. Bryant, the Board approved requesting the City Council to authorize the Mayor to sign Exhibit B, Alternate No. 3 of the contract with Ahrens Construction for the removal of slabs and foundations to 2 feet below grade with a \$39,390 deduction for MMU doing backfill for a total of \$238,610.

General Manager Bergstrom stated he and Controller Bersano continue to work with Toth on time-of-use rates and how to educate the public. There is a meeting May 14<sup>th</sup> with Burns & McDonnell to discuss I & I and the North Street Pump Station Project. He has been researching funding options and rate increases for the Wastewater Treatment Plant improvements.

On a motion by Mr. Fricke, seconded by Mr. Bryant, accounts payable were approved and warrants ordered issued from the following funds:

WATER OPERATING FUND	\$ 186,409.40
ELECTRIC OPERATING FUND	\$ 675,480.19
SEWER REVENUE FUND	\$ 201,434.17
INTERNET OPERATING FUND	\$ 98,423.38
NATURAL GAS OPERATING FUND	\$ 288.32
ELECTRIC CONSUMER DEPOSIT FUND	\$ 4,175.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 1,166,210.46</b>

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The next Regular Board meeting will be Thursday, June 3<sup>th</sup>, 2021.

On a motion by Mr. Mills, seconded by Mr. Bryant, the Board adjourned the regular meeting at 9:12 a.m. to go into an Executive Session to discuss matters under Mo Rev. Stat. 610.021 (Supp. 2009) concerning: lease, purchase or sale of real estate [2].

Roll call: Wick Jacobi    yes  
          Ken Bryant     yes  
          Steve Mills     yes  
          Spencer Fricke  yes

**BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS**  
/s/ Steve Mills \_\_\_\_\_, Secretary