

## MARSHALL MUNICIPAL UTILITIES

75 East Morgan  
Marshall, MO 65340

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March 27, 2025

The Board of Public Works convened in a regular session in the MMU Service Center Conference Room at 8:32 a.m. Board members present were Chuck Hines, President; Ken Bryant, Vice President; Steve Mills, Secretary. Wick Jacobi, Member was absent.

The agenda was approved on a motion by Mr. Mills, seconded by Mr. Bryant, with a vote of 2-0. The March 13<sup>th</sup> meeting minutes were approved on a motion by Mr. Bryant, seconded by Mr. Mills, with a vote of 2-0. Mr. Hines noted the two property damage incidents for the period. Underground Facilities Director Grant Piper stated his crew cut an mismarked phone cable on Boyd Street while doing a water main cut-in for the Marshall Energy Center project. IT & Broadband Director Jim Widel added that his crews hit a buried, private, secondary electric service while plowing in fiber on North Highway 41.

Director Piper asked for approval to replace truck #510 through bids. He stated that truck #510 is a 2006 F-150 and has been passed down through several other departments. He would like to replace it with a compact 4X4 model. Mr. Bryant made a motion to request bids for a new compact, 4X4 truck. The motion was seconded by Mr. Mills and approved by a vote of 2-0.

Director Piper added that crews have completed the water main cut-ins for the Marshall Energy Center. They should have the new water main pipe installed next week, then will start the disinfection process and turn the service on. Mr. Hines asked what remaining work is needed on the water tower painting project. Director Piper replied that Maguire Iron has contracted out the dirt work, but they have to do paint touch-up work and payment is being held until completion. Mr. Hines asked about the progress of the I & I assessment/improvement project. Director Piper responded that customer letters with smoke testing results are being drafted, and when there is dry weather, they will tackle the storm sewer inlets. Mr. Bryant asked what the game plan is for customers connected to the storm sewer. Director Piper replied that options are being discussed.

Electric Distribution Director Doug Root requested approval of the master service agreement with Toth & Associates to provide electric distribution engineering services, it sets hourly rates for all engineering staff and allows them to perform professional engineering services as required on current and future projects. Mr. Mills made a motion to request the City Council authorize the Mayor to sign a master services agreement with Toth & Associates to provide electrical engineering and design services. The motion was seconded by Mr. Bryant and approved by a vote of 2-0.

Director Root then requested approval to purchase a new digger derrick to replace unit #320. Because of lead times, he requested approval to purchase a new one from Altec through Sourcewell for delivery in the fall of 2028. Mr. Bryant made a motion to accept the Sourcewell bid from Altec for a new DM45E digger derrick for a total price of \$365,588.00. The motion was seconded by Mr. Mills and approved by a vote of 2-0.

IT & Broadband Director Jim Widel requested approval to purchase a trencher, vibratory plow, and a trailer for the small backyard machine. He has pricing for the two attachments through Sourcewell for \$16,123.64. He is looking for a trailer at a cost between \$5,000 and \$6,000. Mr. Mills made a motion to approve the purchase of 2 Ditch Witch attachments using the Sourcewell contract and a trailer using quotes. The motion was seconded by Mr. Bryant and approved by a vote of 2-0.

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Mr. Hines asked about the status of USDA Grant 1. Director Widel stated construction is complete, except for when a new customer signs up for service. He added it has passed the 60% target. Mr. Hines asked if the speed upgrade issues were resolved. Director Widel replied they were and they are now working through switch upgrades.

Wastewater Treatment Plant Superintendent Eric Perkins reported there was a fire involving blower #3 in the aeration basins. He has notified the manufacturer and project engineer and is waiting for a response.

Superintendent Perkins then reported that the upgrades to the aeration basins and treatment process at the Wastewater Treatment Plant required an evaluation of our local limits. KimHEC has reviewed and updated the local limits and has prepared a submission for DNR. Mr. Mills made a motion to approve the resolution supporting the updates to the MMU local limits and authorize the General manager to sign and submit to the Department of Natural Resources. The motion was seconded by Mr. Bryant and approved by a vote of 2-0.

Superintendent Perkins added the UV project is complete and will be started up today.

Water Treatment Plant Superintendent Travis Boss presented proposals for the annual well maintenance inspection and treatment. The proposals received, C& B Equipment - \$86,380 and Flynn Drilling - \$95,373, were a considerable amount over the budget of \$60,000. Superintendent Boss said the increase was due to material and labor costs. The Board discussed various alternatives for this project and agreed to table the project until Mr. Jacobi can provide his input. Mr. Bryant made a motion to table a decision for the project. The motion was seconded by Mr. Mills and approved by a vote of 2-0.

Superintendent Boss added Clean Harbors will start the acid disposal removal on March 27th and they hope to be completed by March 28<sup>th</sup>. The tank removal will be done using in-house labor.

Electric Production Director Jarad Muller reported on unit #6; the Ethos crew will be finishing up on March 30<sup>th</sup> or 31<sup>st</sup>, his crew has a few days' worth of work insulating it, putting oil back in it and a few other odds and ends. Ethos will leave a TSA and two millwrights on-site until the unit is started late next week. Director Muller added the baler should arrive the last week of April. Mr. Bryant asked if Ethos is going to pay for the initial crane rental and Director Muller replied he is working on that.

Human Resources Manager Megan Baldrige reported the annual wage and benefit review is complete and stated she hopes to have a recommendation at the next meeting. Manager Baldrige added she will begin advertising for temporary seasonal help soon. Mr. Hines commented it was good to have the near miss reported and asked if the straps have a replacement schedule. Manager Baldrige replied she would have to look into it, but they were usually checked during the facility safety walkthroughs.

Controller Tony Bersano reported he was working with the USDA on a reimbursement for Grant #2; he said it was approved on March 25<sup>th</sup>, and should be deposited within the next few days. Mr. Hines inquired about his meeting with the Chamber of Commerce; Controller Bersano answered they discussed a grant they are working on for new Christmas decorations for the Square and some other promotional things.

General Manager Bergstrom requested approval to purchase the Crescent Electric property at 388 N. Miami Avenue, which is located next to where the new Marshall Energy Center is being built. The idea of this purchase came about when General Manger Bergstrom had contacted them for an easement and

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they stated they would be closing the business. After touring the property, it was discussed that the area could be used as a lay-down area and storage for the Marshall Energy Center, and the Miami substation 15kV switchgear and transformer replacement projects. Mr. Bryant made a motion to approve purchasing the Crescent Electric property located at 388 N. Miami for \$325,000 and request the City Council authorize the Mayor to sign the contract. The motion was seconded by Mr. Mills and approved by a vote of 3-0.

General Manager Bergstrom added he met with USDI and MEC about the gas line; work is moving forward. He has also been working with the City Attorney on the MEC real estate purchase agreement. MEC is working on a memo for MMU to operate the equipment. General Manager Bergstrom has been working with DNR on reimbursement for purchasing water main materials.

Mr. Hines inquired about the Wastewater Treatment Plant to be located at the Marshall Junction; General Manager Bergstrom replied he is reviewing the draft agreement.

Mr. Bryant made a motion to approve and issue warrants from the following funds for cash disbursements to accounts payable.

WATER OPERATING FUND	\$ 207,512.02
ELECTRIC OPERATING FUND	\$ 875,390.34
SEWER REVENUE FUND	\$ 98,606.15
INTERNET OPERATING FUND	\$ 69,448.94
NATURAL GAS OPERATING FUND	\$ 2,563.04
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 1,253,520.49</b>

The motion was seconded by Mr. Mills and approved with a vote of 2-0.

The next Regular Board meeting will be at 8:30 a.m. on Friday, April 11<sup>th</sup>, 2025, at the Service Center Conference Room located at 1459 W. Arrow Street.

Following a motion by Mr. Mills, seconded by Mr. Bryant, the Board adjourned the regular meeting at 9:16 a.m. to go into an executive session to discuss matters under Mo Rev. Stat. 610.021 (Supp. 2009) concerning legal, confidential, or privileged information [1]. The motion passed by a vote of 3-0.

Roll call vote: Ken Bryant yes  
Steve Mills yes  
Chuck Hines yes

BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS

/s/ Steve Mills, Secretary