

A REGULAR MEETING OF THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF VIRGINIA, MINNESOTA WAS HELD AT THE OFFICE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC UTILITIES ON MONDAY, DECEMBER 17, 2018 AT 4:30 P.M.

Item 1 - Commission President Raplinger called the meeting to order at 4:30 PM.

Present: Commissioners Culbert, Johnson, Marwick, Petroskey and Raplinger

Absent: None

Also Present: Greg French – General Manager; Bill Hafdahl – Finance Director; Mary Johnson – Supervisor – Customer Relations; Charlie Baribeau – Virginia City Council; Representative – Virginia Public Access TV

Approved

Item 2 – Commissioner Raplinger stated Item 8 (i) – First Amendment to Coal Supply Agreement (MERC) was added to the agenda. A motion to approve the amended agenda was made by Culbert and supported by Johnson. Motion carried unanimously.

Item 3 – None

Item 4 – Commissioner Raplinger stated LEA meetings be will scheduled on an as needed basis.

Item 5 – (a) and (b) A motion was made by Petroskey and supported by Culbert that financial resolution No. 5271 - Authorizing the payroll dated December 6, 2018 in the amount of \$119,154.31, direct deposits #29624 through #29692; and the bills dated November 26, 2018 through December 17, 2018 in the amount of \$917,759.34, checks #103335 through #103468 and wire and electronic transfers in the amount of \$1,452,128.73; and Net Payment Adjustments for the month of November 2018 in the amount of \$1630.37 be adopted and to approve the Regular Commission Meeting minutes from the November 26, 2018 meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

Item 6 (a) – Mr. French stated there was one injury reported for the month resulting in no restrictions or lost time.

Item 7 (a) – Mr. French discussed the EV Charging Station indicating it should be commissioned around the 1st of the year according to the most recent update. Discussion was had regarding the possible need for “no parking” signage. Mr. French stated he would communicate with the City about having signs made and installed.

Item 8 (a) – Mr. French discussed the solar development project stating the costs for site prep on Honda Hills are quite extensive. He further stated with Commission approval the Utility would like to pursue grant moneys through IRRR. A motion was made by Marwick and supported by Petroskey to approve resolution #5272 – IRRR Grant Request for Solar Development. Motion carried 4-1.

Item 8 (b) – Mr. French stated there is a gap that VPU needs to cover on the Highway 53 Water Project specific to the bridge. He and Mr. Hafdahl explained that an interfund loan using Xcel funds would result in a lower rate than going out on the market. A motion was made by Johnson and supported by Petroskey to approve Resolution #5273 – Highway 53 Project Financing. Motion carried unanimously.

Item 8 (c) – Mr. French discussed the requested write-offs for 2018. A motion was made by Petroskey and supported by Johnson to approve the write-offs as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Item 8 (d) – Mr. French discussed the 2019 budget stating it had already been discussed at the committee level and recommended Commission approval. A motion was made by Culbert and supported by Petroskey. Motion carried unanimously.

Item 8 (e) – Mr. French discussed the travel request for 2 Customer Service Persons to attend the MMUA Meter School. A motion was made by Petroskey and supported by Johnson to approve the travel request as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Item 8 (f) – Mr. French discussed the MMUA Legislative Conference indicating attendance has typically been open to any interested commissioners as well as Mr. Hafdahl and himself. A motion was made by Culbert and supported by Petroskey to approve the travel request as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Item 8 (g) – Mr. French discussed the APPA Legislative Conference indicating that as President of the MMUA he would be representing both MMUA and VPU. A motion was made by Marwick and supported by Culbert to approve the travel request as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Item 8 (h) – Mr. French discussed the travel request for the Director – Power Plant Maintenance to attend Microwest Software Computer Maintenance Training. He further stated this is the second and likely last year that training will be needed and that it is more cost effective to send staff for training as opposed to bringing a trainer onsite. A motion to approve the travel request as presented was made by Johnson and supported by Petroskey. Motion carried unanimously.

Item 8 (i) – Mr. French indicated he received a last minute email from MERC regarding an amendment to VPU's Coal Supply Agreement and presented it to the Commission. A motion was made by Marwick and supported by Petroskey to approve the amendment as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Item 9 (a) – Mr. French gave an operations update indicating the steam load is at 140,000 lbs/hr from #11 wood and #7 coal boilers with 4.5 megawatts being generated off #5 turbine generator and going to MP per our new agreement with them. He further stated #6 turbine generator should be put back together in the next few weeks.

Item 9 (b) – Commissioner Culbert inquired if there was an increase in water breaks due to the number of steam service disconnects. Mr. French stated there has not been thus far and didn't think it would be an issue until VPU shuts down steam mains.

Item 10 – A motion to adjourn at 4:59 was made by Petroskey and supported by Johnson. Motion carried unanimously.

ATTEST:

APPROVED:

Bill Culbert, Secretary

Rob Raplinger, President