

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, FEBRUARY 26, 2018 AT 4:30 P.M.

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

Present: Commissioners Johnson, Marwick and Petroskey

Absent: Commissioners Culbert and Raplinger

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

Vice-President Marwick welcomed Mr. Petroskey to the Commission and thanked Mr. Marks for his many years of service. A motion was made by Johnson and supported by Petroskey to table the election of officers to the next meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

Item 2 – Mr. French requested the addition of Item 8 (c) - Approve Attendance - MMUA Legislative Conference be added to the agenda. Motion to approve the amended agenda by Johnson and supported by Petroskey. Motion carried unanimously.

Item 3 – None

Item 4 – Mr. French stated the next LEA Commission meeting was scheduled for March 26, 2018, but a time for the meeting had not yet been determined as the regular commission meetings had been moved to 4:30. PM.

Item 5 – (a) and (b) A motion was made by Johnson and supported by Petroskey that financial resolution No. 5255 - Authorizing the payroll dated February 1, 2018 in the amount of \$102,701.88, direct deposits #28128 through #28195 and the payroll dated February 15, 2018 in the amount of \$100,559.70, direct deposits #28196 through #28263; and the bills dated January 22, 2018 through February 26, 2018 in the amount of \$1,354,109.92, checks #100918 through #101135 and wire and electronic transfers in the amount of \$3,642,689.88 be adopted and to approve the Regular Commission Meeting minutes from the January 22, 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 6 (b) – Mr. French stated the Strategic Planning Committee met on February 21, 2018. He stated the committee prioritized the gas service line installs of the first 300 customers as follows: (1) Steam customers in Conversion Zone (2) Customers who were previously forced to convert, but did not have gas available to them at the time of conversion (3) Customers who were previously forced to convert and though gas was available at the time they regrettably chose a different heat source. Mr. French indicated the Committee also discussed the potential for water service issues stating if customers had an issue with their service lines freezing they would be added to the Water Freeze Prevention Program. He further stated the issues won't be seen until the steam mains are shutdown. Mr. French also indicated the number of gas service requests received to date were approximately 200 with most being filed in the last two weeks. Finally, Mr. Hafdahl gave an update on VPU's partnering with AEOA to help low income customers work through the conversion process.

Item 7 (a) – None

Item 8 (a) – Mr. French indicated the MRWA Water & Wastewater Conference is being held March 6-8, 2018, in St. Cloud, MN and that VPU sends staff every other year as it is a very good conference. He further stated the costs associated with the conference were approved in the 2018 budget. A motion was made by Petroskey and supported by Johnson to approve the Travel Request for the SWG Coordinator and 3 Servicemen to attend the conference. Motion carried unanimously.

Item 8 (b) – Mr. French stated a short discussion was held regarding the possibility of attaching Commission packets to the VPU website. He stated VPU would likely need to work with somebody to get those out to the website and that the packets would be different than those received by the commissioners as privacy laws drive what can be shared with the public. Commissioner Marwick suggested the discussion/decision be tabled until all commissioners were present. Motion to table the discussion was made by Johnson and supported by Petroskey. Motion carried unanimously.

Item 8 (c) – Mr. French stated he just received notice that the MMUA Legislative Conference was rescheduled for April 11-12, 2018 in St. Paul, MN. He further stated that he attends every year and Mr. Hafdahl attends when he can. Mr. French stated the Commission typically makes a blanket motion to cover himself, Mr. Hafdahl and any commissioners who are interested in attending. Motion to approve was made by Petroskey and supported by Johnson. Motion carried unanimously.

Item 9 (a) - Mr. French stated VPU is currently generating 18 megawatts utilizing both turbine generators with steam created by the #9 coal and #11 wood boilers. He stated wood supplies have remained consistent considering the heavy snow we've had. He complimented both the loggers and Carl at the Wood Yard in maintaining the supply. Commissioner Marwick asked about the compliance of #11 boiler and Mr. French stated it has remained in compliance. Finally Mr. French stated there's been fewer frozen water service lines this year than is typical. He further stated that when VPU staff locates WSO valves it is helpful for the homeowner to be present.

Item 10 – A motion to adjourn at 4:47 was made by Johnson and supported by Petroskey. Motion carried unanimously.

ATTEST:

APPROVED:

Bill Culbert, Secretary

Rob Raplinger, President