

MARSHALL MUNICIPAL UTILITIES

75 East Morgan
Marshall, MO 65340

July 29, 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 Ken Bryant, Vice President; Steve Mills, Secretary and Spencer Fricke, Member. Board President Wick Jacobi was absent. City Council Member Dewey Hendrix, Ina Dysart and Megan Peecher were also present.

The agenda was approved on a motion made by Mr. Fricke, seconded by Mr. Mills, with a vote of 2-0. The minutes of the July 15th meeting were approved as printed on a motion by Mr. Mills, seconded by Mr. Fricke, with a vote of 2-0.

In business from the audience, Megan Peecher, a resident of Miami and a customer of Public Water Supply District #3, stated she has been having an odor problem in her hot water. She had her water tested and from those results she believes that the chloramine levels in her water system are breaking down her equipment. She wanted to know if the chloramine levels need to be as high as indicated in data she had reviewed. Water Treatment Superintendent Travis Boss explained that the chloramines levels she referred to are what is coming out of the Water Treatment Plant and not what is in the distribution and secondary systems to whom MMU provides water. Superintendent Boss explained if those levels were any lower, then the necessary residuals wouldn't be carried throughout the distribution and secondary systems. Ms. Peecher stated she was just concerned that the chemical level is too high and if it can be lowered and still achieve killing of bacteria, it should be. Superintendent Boss said he would look into it, Mr. Bryant stated things would be checked out and the Board would get back with her.

Human Resources Manager Megan Baldrige updated the Board on Mike Welborn's leave of absence. It began in January 2021 and on the Board previously approved continuing it until August 3, 2021. She requested it be continued until October. Mr. Fricke made a motion to continue Mike Welborn's leave of absence until October 5, 2021, if needed, with continuation of health insurance premiums. The motion was seconded by Mr. Mills and passed with a vote of 2-0.

Manager Baldrige then commended the Wastewater Treatment Department for working 11 years with no recordable injuries.

Underground Facilities Director Grant Piper requested approval to make repairs to the sewer main on South Jefferson Avenue. There are sections of the clay sewer main between Yerby Street and Summit Street that have holes, cracks and a large amount of tree roots. It will be replaced with new 15" PVC. Mr. Mills made a motion to replace approximately 220' sewer main on South Jefferson Avenue between Yerby and Summit Streets with an approximate cost of \$28,000, using in-house labor and equipment. The motion was seconded by Mr. Fricke and passed with a vote of 2-0.

Director Piper then updated the Board on the cross-town tie. It has been disinfected and the crew will begin making customer connections today.

IT & Broadband Director Jim Widel requested approval to purchase a trailer to be used for transporting the new vibratory cable plow with the new day cab truck. He stated he is looking for a 25-ton trailer with a 5th wheel hitch and air brakes; it should run about \$25,000. Mr. Mills made a motion to request bids for a trailer to haul the vibratory plow. The motion was seconded by Mr. Fricke and passed with a vote of 2-0.

Director Widel stated his crew is working at Lakeview Trailer Park. He will also be installing another

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new camera at the park that is designed to read license plates.

Water Treatment Plant Superintendent Travis Boss had nothing additional to report beyond what was presented in the Board Packet. Mr. Bryant asked his opinion of the earlier discussion with Ms. Peecher. Superintendent Boss stated he had spoken to her and with DNR about her situation multiple times and everything is in compliance with all DNR and EPA regulations. Mr. Bryant then asked if he had any idea of what is causing her issue. Superintendent Boss stated that with older plumbing and fixtures chloramines can break down their rubber components. Mr. Mills added that we switched to chloramines to stay compliant and we can only give her the data and information she requests, but we have to take care of the entire system.

Electric Distribution Director Doug Root provided an update of the Southeast Substation project; the second bid opening for the circuit switcher was pushed back to July 30th, due to questions from vendors. A recommendation will be presented at the next Board meeting. The last transformer at the Wastewater Treatment Plant has been energized.

Electric Production Director Carl Crawford provided an update on the Power Plant demolition: the fence will be installed farther North; the area has been backfilled and it will be graded down and grass will be planted; there are a few concrete areas that need to be sawed to square up rough edges; and they are continuing to crush rock to cover the old coal yard. He added the biannual capacity testing for all units will be done today from 2-4 p.m. Yesterday's peak reached 34.9 at 5 p.m., with today's peak expected to be higher.

Wastewater Treatment Plant Superintendent Nolan Townsend provided an update on the flood clean-up. The headworks exhaust fan motor will be delivered next week. The flange on the belt press motors were wrong; they were taken back by the vendor and new ones will be shipped next week. The DNR inspection went well, they will send a full report in a few weeks. Burns & McDonnell visited July 28th; they have done some general contractor and electrical bidding. The transformer for the sludge holding basin basement has been energized, the pumps were installed but one had a bad starter, and the exhaust fan will need to be replaced.

Controller Tony Bersano went over the June financials, bad debt and cash summary. During the month of June, the first withdrawal was made from the City's intergovernmental loan to make the first payment to Remco Demolition for \$205,000.

Controller Bersano discussed a needed wastewater rate increase to fund the improvements to the Wastewater Treatment Plant. He is working with General Manager Jeff Bergstrom on several possibilities for financial assistance, but a minimum increase of 15 cents per 100 gallons is estimated. This would increase the average monthly bill by \$5.25.

Controller Bersano reported for General Manager Bergstrom on holding public meetings to inform the customers on why funding is needed for the improvements to the Wastewater Treatment Plant.

Superintendent Townsend reported for General Manager Bergstrom on the Wastewater Treatment Plant Repairs from the June flooding event. All estimates have been turned into SEMA, which totaled close to \$500,000.

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

WATER OPERATING FUND	\$94,545.82
ELECTRIC OPERATING FUND	\$363,432.72
SEWER REVENUE FUND	\$71,566.04
INTERNET OPERATING FUND	\$27,780.95
NATURAL GAS OPERATING FUND	\$1,526.95
ELECTRIC CONSUMER DEPOSIT FUND	\$4,050.00
Total	\$562,902.48

The motion was seconded by Mr. Fricke and passed with a vote of 2-0.

The next Regular Board meeting will be Thursday, August 12th, 2021.

Following a motion by Mr. Mills, seconded by Mr. Fricke, the Board adjourned the regular meeting at 9:15 a.m. The motion passed by a vote of 2-0.

BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS
_____, Secretary