



**October 2, 2023
Regular Board Meeting**

The Regular Meeting of Madison Utilities convened at the Madison Utilities' Office located at 101 Ray Sanderson Drive with Chairman Terris Tatum presiding. Vice Chairman Kerry Straub, Director Connie Spears, and Director Larry Miles were in attendance. Also present were Secretary/Treasurer/General Manager Emory DeBord and Recording Clerk Jodie Parker. Director Al Sullivan was absent.

Others present were Wastewater Manager Mark Bland, Water Manager Jason Leggett, Finance Manager Gary Sparks, Customer Service Manager Misty Leftwich, New Development Coordinator Reece Lee, and Attorney Woody Sanderson.

Chairman Terris Tatum called the Regular Board meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

Registered public in attendance: None

1. PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

2. CURRENT AGENDA/MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

a. October 2, 2023 Current Agenda

The agenda for the October 2, 2023, Regular Meeting was presented to the Board. Director Spears moved to approve the October 2, 2023, Regular Meeting Agenda; Director Miles seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

b. September 18, 2023 Regular Meeting Minutes

The minutes for the September 18, 2023, Regular Meeting were presented to the Board. Director Spears moved to approve the September 18, 2023, Regular Meeting Minutes; Vice Chairman Straub seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

3. PLATS/BONDS

a. Preliminary Project Approval
None

b. Dedication and Improvements
None

4. OLD BUSINESS

None

5. NEW BUSINESS

a. New Backhoe and Resolution No. WWB-117-2023

Wastewater Manager Bland explained that the Purchasing Cooperative pricing was used so this item didn't need to be bid according to the Alabama Bid Law. He added that this has a shorter lead time and was under the budgeted amount.

Director Spears moved to approve the Backhoe purchase and Resolution No. WWB-117-2023; Director Miles seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

b. New Skid Steer and Resolution No. WWB-118-2023

Wastewater Manager Bland stated that this was the same situation as the backhoe purchase but came in a little over the budgeted amount. Vice Chairman Straub asked what he expected to get for the old skid steer and Wastewater Manager Bland replied that since it was only nine years old, he estimated it would be greater than 50% of the original purchase price.

Director Miles moved to approve the Skid Steer purchase and Resolution No. WWB-118-2023; Vice Chairman Straub seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

c. CY2024 Holiday Schedule

Director Spears moved to approve the CY2024 Holiday Schedule as presented; Vice Chairman Straub seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

6. **LEGAL**

Attorney Sanderson didn't have any updates but stated he would be talking with Wastewater Manager Bland this week to discuss some of the pending legal issues.

7. **WATER REPORT**

Water Manager Leggett presented some photos while he updated the Board on the progress of the Quarry Water Treatment Plant expansion. He then stated that Harvest Monrovia had requested to purchase water and that MU was supplying one million gallons per day. New Development Coordinator Lee provided an update on the Cedar Acres Tank, stating that there are only a few touch ups to be made and then they will hyper-chlorinate the inside before refilling, testing, and putting it back in service.

8. **WASTEWATER REPORT**

Wastewater Manager Bland informed the Board he and GIS Specialist Terry Bearb would be giving a presentation at the Itron Conference in San Antonio next week. He also gave the Board a brief update about a customer with a cleanout problem. Wastewater Manager Bland mentioned that the Antenna Agreement with the City of Madison was signed at the last City council meeting. Lastly, he added that roughly 56% of the meters in the system have been converted to radio reads and the next shipment of radios is expected in November.

9. **FINANCE REPORT**

Finance Manager Sparks mentioned that he and Drew Greene had met with Raftelis Financial Consulting earlier this morning to begin finalizing the rate study and that another meeting would be held on Friday. Raftelis is scheduled to attend the October 16, 2023 Board Meeting to present their findings and recommendations. Director Miles inquired as to the current Bond Market conditions and Finance Manager Sparks advised that the market had increased another 25 basis points.

10. **CUSTOMER SERVICE**

None

11. **GENERAL MANAGER REPORT**

General Manager DeBord mentioned that he had spoken with a local developer about a small piece of property that is needed for a booster station; he added that the developer agreed to donate the land if MU would agree to pay for the appraisal.

12. **VICE CHAIRMAN STRAUB**

Vice Chairman Straub asked if there had been any progress with filling open positions. Wastewater Manager Bland explained that MU had tried one hiring platform but was disappointed in the number of applicants for the cost. He added that MU had recently contracted with WiseHire to hopefully increase exposure and attract more qualified applicants. A brief discussion ensued about other potential hiring opportunities.

13. **DIRECTOR SULLIVAN**

None

14. **DIRECTOR MILES**

None

15. **DIRECTOR SPEARS**

None

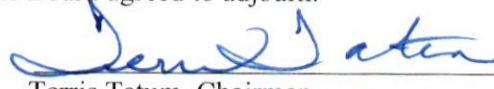
16. **CHAIRMAN TATUM**

None


17. **ADJOURNMENT**

At 6:15 p.m. the Board agreed to adjourn.

Approved,




Terris Tatum, Chairman



Kerry Straub, Vice Chairman

Al Sullivan, Director



Larry Miles, Director



Connie Spears, Director

ATTEST:



Emory DeBord, Secretary/Treasurer