



**March 21, 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 Rob Szmyd, Director Connie Spears, Director Kerry Straub, and Director Larry Miles were in attendance. Also present were Secretary/Treasurer/General Manager Emory DeBord and Recording Clerk Jodie Parker.

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. March 21, 2023 Current Agenda

The agenda for the March 21, 2023, Regular Meeting was presented to the Board. Vice Chairman Szmyd moved to approve the March 21, 2023, Regular Meeting Agenda; Director Straub seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

b. February 6, 2023 Regular Meeting Minutes

The minutes for the February 6, 2023, Regular Meeting were presented to the Board. Vice Chairman Szmyd moved to approve the February 6, 2023, Regular Meeting Minutes; Director Straub seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

3. PLATS/BONDS

a. Preliminary Project Approval

None

b. Dedication and Improvements

i. Bradford Station, Phase 2

Vice Chairman Szmyd moved to approve the Dedication and Improvements for Bradford Station, Phase 2; Director Miles seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

ii. Guthrie Mini Storage

Director Miles moved to approve the Dedication and Improvements for Guthrie Mini Storage; Vice Chairman Szmyd seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

4. OLD BUSINESS

None

5. NEW BUSINESS

a. Agreement with RFC (Raftelis Financial Consultants) for Rate Study engagement

Finance Manager Sparks presented a proposal from Raftelis Financial Consultants for conducting a rate study, as well as proposals for Industrial rates/Sewer flat rate analysis and Water/Wastewater availability fee analysis. Director Miles asked if the Board should approve all three proposals; General Manager DeBord answered affirmatively.

Director Miles moved to approve the Agreement with Raftelis Financial Consultants for a Rate Study engagement; Vice Chairman Szmyd seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

b. Madison County Drinking Water Festival

Water Manager Leggett stated that participation in the Annual Drinking Water Festival is required by ADEM. He briefly explained what the Drinking Water Festival consists of and stated that MU had contributed \$3,500. Water Manager Leggett also mentioned that he, and other MU employees, would be teaching and volunteering at the event. Director Spears asked if he had reached out to the PTOs and PTAs at Madison City Schools for volunteers. Water Manager Leggett replied that he had not but that was a good idea, and they are always looking for new resources. No Board action was required.

c. Korterra Productivity Management Package

Wastewater Manager Bland briefly explained the benefits of the Korterra Productivity Management System and stated that this software has more features that, when combined with the current GIS system, will improve efficiency.

Director Straub moved to approve the purchase of the Korterra Productivity Management Package; Director Spears seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

d. EOS Rates Informative Memo

Wastewater Manager Bland explained that this is an informative memo detailing the cost increase of 7.1%. He added that this increase would not affect any current contracts, it would only affect any future engineering contracts and small items which fall under the General Service Agreement with EOS.

Director Miles moved to approve the EOS Rates Informative Memo; Director Spears seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

e. Synagro Rate Increase Informative Memo

Wastewater Manager Bland stated that MU has had a contract with Synagro since 2010 and the rates have never changed. He added that they provide a critical service as well as performing all permitting and required testing for sludge resolution. A brief discussion ensued, and Wastewater Manager Bland commented that he had looked for other companies but could not find any that provided the same service.

Director Miles moved to approve using Synagro for a period of 90 days while Wastewater Manager Bland researches any other alternative sources; Director Spears seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

f. Notification of Will Serve Request – Southard Property

New Development Coordinator Reece reminded the Board that this Will Serve Request had come to the Board and was approved and then another first read was done when the development changed from 212 units to 264 units with mixed use and is now back for approval. A brief discussion ensued about service territory.

Vice Chairman Szmyd moved to approve the Will Serve Request for the Southard Property; Direction Spears seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

6. LEGAL

None

7. WATER REPORT

Water Manager Leggett stated that the switch gear for the Quarry Water Treatment Plant was installed and they have an expected start-up date of April 3rd. He added that once the high service pump station was started, it has to run for 30 days with no issues before they can begin to tear down the existing pump station and start phase 2 of the plant expansion.

Water Manager Leggett also briefly mentioned that the required easements for the Keene project were complete, the CCR report is complete, and that the EPA had come up with new proposed limits on PFAS. He briefly outlined some of the proposed limits and stated we have not seen any detection above that and if current levels hold we shouldn't need to do any additional treatment.

8. WASTEWATER REPORT

Wastewater Manager Bland said the SCADA upgrade is complete and that a historical backup system would be at the main office in case of emergency. Wastewater Manager Bland also informed the Board that the new effluent pump station was online and the old one would be demolished. Additionally, the monitors for the flow study captured the last large rain event and

he is awaiting the report to be able to evaluate the system. Finally, Wastewater Manager Bland stated the AMR/AMI installation is 27% complete.

9. FINANCE REPORT

Finance Manager Sparks presented the Board with an updated copy of the Madison Utilities Cash Reserve Policy dated January 2023. The document describes the parameters with which funds under the control of the Board are managed and segregated within the General Ledger System. It also provides details of cash management, funding, and financial planning for Madison Utilities.

10. CUSTOMER SERVICE

Customer Service Manager Leftwich stated that the Customer Service Department is still trying to successfully function during the staffing shortages and she expressed appreciation to other departments for their support and teamwork.

11. GENERAL MANAGER REPORT

General Manager DeBord informed the Board that the City of Triana had held a Town Hall meeting that he was unable to attend due to a previous commitment but that Wastewater Manager Bland attended in his place. Wastewater Manager Bland briefly commented on the topics discussed at that meeting.

12. VICE CHAIRMAN SZMYD

Vice Chairman Szmyd inquired as to the status of a specific outstanding bill. Customer Service Manager Leftwich responded that the full amount owed has still not been collected.

13. DIRECTOR STRAUB

None

14. DIRECTOR MILES

None

15. DIRECTOR SPEARS

None

16. CHAIRMAN TATUM

None

17. ADJOURNMENT


At 7:05 p.m. the Board agreed to adjourn.

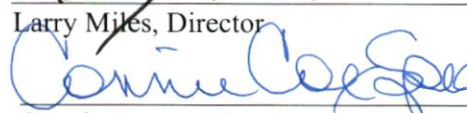
Approved,


Terris Tatum, Chairman

Rob Szmyd, Vice Chairman

Kerry Straub, Director


Larry Miles, Director


Connie Spears, Director

ATTEST:


Emory DeBord, Secretary/Treasurer