



**February 6, 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. Director Kerry Straub and Director Larry Miles were in attendance. Director Connie Spears arrived later. Also present were Secretary/Treasurer/General Manager Emory DeBord and Recording Clerk Jodie Parker. Vice Chairman Rob Szmyd 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. February 6, 2023 Current Agenda

The agenda for the February 6, 2023, Regular Meeting was presented to the Board. Director Miles moved to approve the February 6, 2023, Regular Meeting Agenda; Director Straub seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

b. January 17, 2023 Regular Meeting Minutes

The minutes for the January 17, 2023, Regular Meeting were presented to the Board. Director Miles moved to approve the January 17, 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. Clift Farm Phase 8 (Homestead)

Director Miles moved to approve the Dedication and Improvements for Clift Farm Phase 8 (Homestead); Director Straub seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

ii. Creekside Park Phase 3

Director Miles moved to approve the Dedication of Improvements for Creekside Park Phase 3; Director Straub seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

**4. OLD BUSINESS**

None

**5. NEW BUSINESS**

a. Notification of Will Serve Request – Aston Park

New Development Coordinator Lee stated that the Board had previously approved two separate will serve letters for this property but the developer is bringing it back with some changes. He added that it was previously to be entirely residential but now plans to add some commercial. Director Miles asked if it is within the City of Madison limits. New Development Coordinator Lee replied that it is not, but he believes they are in discussions with the City about annexation. Director Miles asked if they are requesting only sewer service. Water Manager Leggett responded that it is for sewer only and even if they were to annex, they would still not be within the water territory for Madison Utilities.

Director Straub moved to approve the Will Serve Request for Aston Park; Director Miles seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

b. Notification of Will Serve Request – Southard Property

New Development Coordinator Lee explained that this was a development which had previously obtained a Will Serve letter from Madison Utilities, but are now returning with a revision that includes more units than the original design. Director Miles asked if there is legal liability if the Board were to not approve the revised design. Director Straub asked if this would result in more revenue for MU.

After some discussion, Director Straub moved to approve the Notification of Will Serve Request for the Southard Property; Director Miles stated he would not second. Chairman Tatum determined that it would be treated as a first read.

c. Cedar Acres Tank Reconditioning Inspection Proposal – MidSouth Tank Consultants

Water Manager Leggett stated that this, and the next memo, are for the same project. Additionally, he added that this proposal is for the inspector while the next would be for the engineering firm to compile the specifications and prepare the bid.

Director Miles moved to approve the Cedar Acres Tank Reconditioning Inspection Proposal with MidSouth Tank Consultants; Director Straub seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

d. Cedar Acres Tank Reconditioning Design Proposal – Krebs Engineering

Director Straub moved to approve the Cedar Acres Tank Reconditioning Design Proposal with Krebs Engineering; Director Miles seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

e. General Services Agreement Renewal – Krebs Engineering

Water Manager Leggett explained that it is good to have an engineering firm on retainer for small jobs that come up. He stated it is more efficient to have a portion of the budget set aside for when we need it.

Director Straub moved to approve the General Services Agreement Renewal with Krebs Engineering; Director Miles seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

f. Award of Bid – Wall Triana Highway Transmission Main and Resolution No. WWB-102-2023

Water Manager Leggett said that with the north end of Wall Triana being widened by Madison County, it is a good opportunity to increase the pipe size, since the widening was causing the current pipe to be relocated anyway.

Director Miles moved to approve the Award of Bid for the Wall Triana Highway Transmission Main and Resolution No. WWB-102-2023; Director Straub seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

g. Award of Bid – General Water Projects and Resolution No. WWB-103-2023

Water Manager Leggett explained that the need for a general services agreement for water projects is to manage small projects that are not great in scope, but are too much for MU to handle internally in addition to all of the current demands.

Director Miles moved to approve the Award of Bid for General Water Projects and Resolution No. WWB-109-2023; Director Straub seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

**6. LEGAL**

Attorney Sanderson stated that the most notable item is closing for the McCrary Well property that is scheduled for February 15<sup>th</sup>. He also added that he is still waiting for an agreement with Huntsville Utilities to be finalized.

\* Director Spears arrived.

**7. WATER REPORT**

Water Manager Leggett noted that the Quarry Water Treatment Plant progress had slowed as the contractor is waiting for one more electrical component to be received. Water Manager Leggett also stated that a meeting had been held with Comcast and their subcontractors to discuss the

recent water main damage. He further stated that he, General Manager DeBord, and others, had met with City of Madison officials to voice concerns and to request help from the City in holding developers and subcontractors accountable for damages. Director Spears suggested requiring a bond from subcontractors to cover any damage and General Manager DeBord agreed that was a good idea. General Manager DeBord further stated that MU's GIS Coordinator was compiling a map to show where all of the high pressure/high impact mains are located and that if procedures weren't followed, large punitive damages could be instated. A brief discussion ensued.

**8. WASTEWATER REPORT**

Wastewater Manager Bland said that 5,789 radios, and 1,981 meters had been installed in the system which equates to approximately 28% of the system. He also stated that the Wastewater Treatment Plant Expansion is looking at a projected finish in the May timeframe.

**9. FINANCE REPORT**

Finance Manager Sparks commented that, of the surplus items that were sent to the City of Madison previously, five (5) vehicles were sold on GovDeals auction site, and yielded a very good return.

Finance Manager Sparks advised the Board that he, Emory DeBord and Drew Greene had met with Stifel recently and discussed some options of funding capital improvement through the use of existing cash, then buying down existing debt to reduce debt interest payments in the future. Further, the cash expended could be reimbursed from upcoming borrowing to replenish the cash reserves. This option requires the Board to declare this purpose and adopt a Reimbursement Resolution stating this.

Director Spears moved to approve the Reimbursement Resolution No. WWB-104-2023; Director Miles seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

**10. CUSTOMER SERVICE**

Customer Service Manager Leftwich stated that the temporary change in hours for the lobby and the phones was helping to offset the demands due to the staffing shortage.

**11. GENERAL MANAGER REPORT**

General Manager DeBord informed the Board he had met with the City of Madison officials to discuss potential annexations and Attorney Sanderson agreed to research annexation questions surrounding contiguous properties.

**12. VICE CHAIRMAN SZMYD**

None

**13. DIRECTOR STRAUB**

None

**14. DIRECTOR MILES**

None

**15. DIRECTOR SPEARS**

None

**16. CHAIRMAN TATUM**

Chairman Tatum stated that the next Board meeting would take place on Tuesday, March 21<sup>st</sup>.

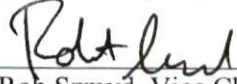
**17. ADJOURNMENT**

At 6:45 p.m. the Board agreed to adjourn.

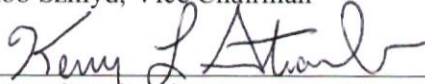
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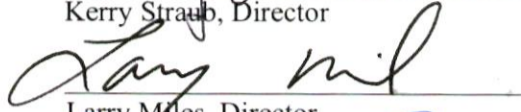
Terris Tatum, Chairman



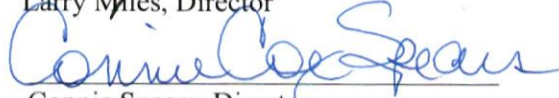
Rob Szmyd, Vice Chairman



Kerry Straub, Director



Larry Miles, Director



Connie Spears, Director

ATTEST:



Emory DeBord, Secretary/Treasurer