



**March 1, 2021
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 Steve Haraway, Director Rob Szmyd, Director A. Keith Cook, and Director Connie Spears attended via Zoom. Also present were Secretary/Treasurer/General Manager Emory DeBord and Recording Clerk Jodie Parker.

Others present were Finance Manager Gary Sparks. Wastewater Manager Mark Bland, Water Manager Jason Leggett, and Attorney Woody Sanderson. Customer Service Manager Misty Leftwich attended via Zoom.

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

Note: The Regular Meeting was held via video conference using the Zoom App due to recent events and directives relating to the COVID-19 pandemic.

1. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mr. Clay Barker attended via Zoom and addressed the Board to express some concerns that he has regarding the Madison Utilities' lock-off policy among other things. After reading his prepared statement, he thanked the Board for their time and exited the meeting.

2. CURRENT AGENDA/MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

a. March 1, 2021 Current Agenda

The agenda for the March 1, 2021 Regular Meeting was presented to the Board. Director Spears moved to approve the March 1, 2021 Regular Meeting Agenda as submitted; Director Szmyd seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

b. February 1, 2021 Regular Meeting Minutes

The minutes for the February 1, 2021 Regular Meeting were presented to the Board. Director Spears moved to approve the minutes for the February 1, 2021 Regular Meeting; Director Szmyd 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

None

6. LEGAL

None

7. WATER REPORT

Water Manager Leggett stated that the design phase of the Quarry Water Treatment Plant Expansion is almost complete with the bid expected to be held later in the month. He added that he is waiting on a permit approval from ADEM. Water Manager Leggett also informed the Board that the Keene Booster Station is still in the preliminary design phase and that the engineering firm is constructing a model to optimize the best pumps and motor sizes for the

project. Lastly, he mentioned that there were a few customers who were upset about the Highland Drive project and that the contractor is moving slower than anticipated. Water Manager Leggett stated that he had met with the contractor who are having manpower issues and they are hoping to bring in more crews to speed up the process. Water Manager Leggett will also be joining Gary Chynoweth, the City of Madison Engineering Director, to conduct a town hall meeting with the Highland Drive residents. He will be putting together a presentation to explain the scope of the project with anticipated completion as well as answering any questions. Chairman Tatus asked when that meeting would be held. Water Manager Leggett replied that it would be held on March 11th at City Hall.

8. WASTEWATER REPORT

Wastewater Manager Bland reported that the drawings for the Wastewater Treatment Plant expansion are at 60% complete. He also mentioned that all three lift stations on Madison Blvd were completely removed and the Western Outfall Phase 1 started last week. Wastewater Manager Bland also mentioned that the Michli project is about 50 days behind schedule (the same contractor as the Highland Drive project), and he believes they may need approximately 20 more days to complete depending on weather.

9. FINANCE REPORT

None

10. CUSTOMER SERVICE

Customer Service Manager Leftwich replied to Mr. Barker's comments stating that most people don't understand the dangers and threats that Madison Utilities' employees face when they are executing lock offs each month. General Manager DeBord added that body cams have been considered for that reason. There was a brief discussion about the legality of body cams and Attorney Sanderson assured that it is perfectly legal in the state of Alabama. Chairman Tatum stated that we want to be fair to our rate payers, but we must protect our staff and have a balance there; he added that he thinks Madison Utilities should use body cams. Vice Chairman Haraway moved to purchase body cams for MU staff; Director Spears seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

11. GENERAL MANAGER REPORT

General Manager DeBord informed the Board that Water Manager Leggett would be speaking at the weekly Rotarian meeting in the upcoming week. There was then a brief discussion of a meeting with Huntsville Utilities regarding a secondary connection and a developer who wants some casing pipe that MU is not currently using.

12. VICE CHAIRMAN HARAWAY

None

13. DIRECTOR COOK

None.

14. DIRECTOR SPEARS

None

15. DIRECTOR SZMYD

Director Szmyd asked if it would be possible to see the final design drawings for the Quarry Water Treatment Plant once completed. Water Manager Leggett said he would make sure of it.

16. CHAIRMAN TATUM

Before adjourning the meeting, Chairman Tatum asked the Board their thoughts on Mr. Barker's comments.

17. ADJOURNMENT

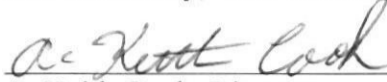
At 6:20 p.m. the Board agreed to adjourn.

Approved,



Terris Tatum, Chairman

Steve Haraway, Vice Chairman



A. Keith Cook, Director



Rob Szmyd, Director

Connie Spears, Director

ATTEST:



Emory DeBord, Secretary/Treasurer