



**May 5, 2025  
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 Al Sullivan were in attendance. Also, present were Secretary/Treasurer/General Manager Emory DeBord and recording Clerk Jodie Parker. Director Miles was absent.

Others present were Water Manager David Moore, Wastewater Manager Mark Bland, Finance Manager Gary Sparks, Customer Service Manager Misty Leftwich, New Development Coordinator Reece Lee, Assistant Finance Manager Drew Greene, and Attorney Woody Sanderson.

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

Registered public in attendance: Ms. Rachel Homolak, Ms. Margi Daly, Ms. Saranne Riccio, Mr. and Mrs. Ben Gremillion, Dr. Marc Masterson, Ms. Melanie Stoner, Ms. Tiffany Knox, Ms. Kathy Patrick, Mr. Paul Jackson, Mr. Michael Goodman, Ms. Stephanie Wright, Ms. Shema Rizo, Mr. James Chamberlain

**1. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Twenty-nine (29) members of the public addressed the Board during the public comment section of the meeting regarding the issue of whether the Board should continue to fluoridate water produced for its customers. After all public comments were heard, the Board agreed to schedule a public hearing to further address the fluoridation issue, to be held on May 13, 2025 at 5:30 p.m.

**2. CURRENT AGENDA/MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

a. May 5, 2025 Current Agenda

The agenda for the May 5, 2025 Regular Meeting was presented to the Board. Director Spears moved to approve the May 5, 2025 Regular Meeting Agenda; Vice Chairman Straub seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

b. April 21, 2025 Regular Meeting Minutes

The minutes for the April 21, 2025 Regular Meeting were presented to the Board. Director Spears moved to approve the April 21, 2025 Regular Meeting Minutes; Director Sullivan seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

**3. PLATS/BONDS**

a. Preliminary Project Approval  
None

b. Dedication and Improvements

i. Homewood Suites, Town Madison

Vice Chairman Straub moved to approve the Dedication and Improvements for Homewood Suites, Town Madison; Director Sullivan seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

ii. Windermere, Phase 3

Vice Chairman Straub moved to approve the Dedication and Improvements for Windermere, Phase 3; Director Spears seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

iii. Windermere, Phase 4

Director Spears moved to approve the Dedication and Improvements for Windermere, Phase 4; Director Sullivan seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

**4. OLD BUSINESS**

None

**5. NEW BUSINESS**

a. Notification of Will Serve – Starbucks on County Line Road

New Development Coordinator Lee stated that this was brought before the Board last meeting as a First Read and now it is being presented for approval.

Director Spears moved to approve the Notification of Will Serve for Starbucks on County Line Road; Director Sullivan seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

b. 2025 Meter Change Out award of bid and Resolution No. WWB-112-2025

Wastewater Manager Bland explained that this is an award of bid to Advanced Metering Installations to change out the one thousand meters that are in stock. Vice Chairman Straub asked how many they thought they could do per day, and Wastewater Manager Bland replied they claim they can do one thousand in three weeks.

Director Sullivan moved to approve the 2025 Meter Change Out award of bid and Resolution No. WWB-112-2025; Vice Chairman Straub seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

c. Griffin Tank Construction Bid Rejection

Water Manager Moore stated that there were four bids opened on April 10<sup>th</sup> and an award was made based on warranty and materials. One of the bidders protested the award and the engineer has recommended rebidding with revised bid specifications.

Director Spears moved to reject all bids and withdraw the notice of award for the Griffin Tank Construction Bid; Director Sullivan seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

d. 2024 ADEM MWPP Report and Resolution No. WWB-113-2025

Director Sullivan moved to approve the 2024 ADEM MWPP Report and Resolution No. WWB-113-2025; Director Spears seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

**6. LEGAL**

None

**7. WATER REPORT**

None

**8. WASTEWATER REPORT**

Wastewater Manager Bland reported the screen at the Wastewater Treatment Plant has been up and running for a week with no issues.

**9. FINANCE REPORT**

Finance Manager Sparks noted that General Manager DeBord, Assistant Finance Manager Greene, and he met with Moody's rating agency for a credit review and that he is waiting on the completed report. It is expected that MU will retain their current rating of AA2.

**10. CUSTOMER SERVICE**

None

**11. GENERAL MANAGER REPORT**

General Manager DeBord mentioned that he is in the process of scheduling a conference and will be attending a plant tour for Hobas Pipe.

**12. VICE CHAIRMAN STRAUB**

Vice Chairman Straub spoke about the possibility of having an employee who could be dedicated 20% of the time to public relations and updating social media for MU.

**13. DIRECTOR SULLIVAN**

None

**14. DIRECTOR MILES**

None

**15. DIRECTOR SPEARS**

Director Spears commented that the process was followed when fluoride was discussed, then the ADEM notification was submitted followed by the public notice. Director Spears noted that going forward, it should be considered that the public notice should come sooner rather than later. She further suggested that a public hearing should be held before a decision to continue with removing the fluoride or reversing the decision is made. (this is already scheduled in the public comment section)

**16. CHAIRMAN TATUM**

None

**17. ADJOURNMENT**

At 7:30 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