



**September 16, 2019
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 Gerald Clark, Director A. Keith Cooke and Director Rob Szmyd were present. 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 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. September 16, 2019 Current Agenda

The agenda for the September 16, 2019 Regular Meeting was presented to the Board. Vice Chairman Haraway moved to approve the September 16, 2019 Regular Meeting Agenda as submitted; Director Clark seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

b. August 19, 2019 Regular Meeting Minutes

The minutes for the August 19, 2019 Regular Meeting were presented to the Board. Director Clark moved to approve the minutes for the August 19, 2019 Regular Meeting; Director Szmyd seconded the motion. Vice Chairman Haraway abstained. The motion was approved.

3. PLATS/BONDS

a. Preliminary Project Approval

- i. Windermere Subdivision
- ii. Burgreen Village, Phase 6
- iii. Madison Carwash

Prior to discussion, Director Clark recused himself. Vice Chairman Haraway moved to approve the Preliminary Project Approval for Windermere Subdivision, Burgreen Village, Phase 6, and the Madison Carwash; Director Cooke seconded the motion. The motion was approved. Director Clark returned to the room.

b. Dedication and Improvements

None

4. OLD BUSINESS

None.

5. NEW BUSINESS

a. Employee Medical Insurance Renewal FY2020 – BCBS of Alabama & Employee Cost Sharing for Medical Coverage

Finance Manager Sparks began by informing the Board that Blue Cross Blue Shield of Alabama had rated MU as a larger company which opened up some different options for medical insurance plans. He also presented a cost sharing plan which the staff believes will be a benefit to existing employees as well as a recruitment tool for potential new employees. General Manager DeBord added that several times in recent months when conducting exit interviews for employees who were leaving MU, those employees cited lower benefit cost as one of the reasons for leaving.

Vice Chairman Haraway moved to approve the Employee Medical Insurance Renewal FY2020 – BCBS of Alabama & Employee Cost Sharing for Medical Coverage; Director Clark seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

b. General Insurance Package for FY2020

Director Clark moved to approve the General Insurance Package for FY2020; Director Szmyd seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

c. Western Water Transmission Main Phase 1 Engineering Memo

Prior to discussion, Director Clark recused himself. Wastewater Manager Bland explained that most of the survey work for the Western Water Transmission Main Phase 1 has been done but the easements required will need to be wider. Other factors made sense to get completed and Engineers of the South is accustomed to the ALDOT permitting process which will be an advantage since there will need to be a large bore under I-565.

Finance Manager Sparks stated that borrowing will be expected but it was impossible to know the exact amount until some additional information is received. He continued that in coming months a bond reimbursement resolution would be submitted for approval. Director Szmyd moved to approve the Western Water Transmission Main Phase 1 Engineering Memo with the related expenses to be reimbursed from upcoming borrowing; Vice Chairman Haraway seconded the motion. The motion was approved. Director Clark returned to the meeting.

d. Employee Benefits (Dental, Group Life, Vision) Renewals FY2020

Finance Manager Sparks detailed some of the increases across the Board in prescription and copay costs. He continued that he was not pleased with the increases but did not have enough time prior to the new fiscal year to research other options; he indicated he has plans to do so for next year. Finance Manager Sparks added that the impact would not be significant for either the employees or MU. Vice Chairman Haraway moved to approve the Employee Benefits (Dental, Group Life, Vision) Renewals for FY2020; Director Clark seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

e. Extension for General Engineering Services with Engineers of the South (EOS)

Wastewater Manager Bland stated that there has been a GSA with EOS in place since 2015 when the Wastewater Master Plan started. He explained that it is kept in reserve for when some preliminary work for smaller scale projects needs to be completed; he added that it is there primarily to get projects underway easier. Director Clark moved to approve the Extension for General Engineering Services with Engineers of the South; Director Cooke seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

f. Revised Employee Pay Plan – effective October 1, 2019

Finance Manager Sparks stated that this action was discussed during the Work Session. There were no further questions or discussion on the matter. Vice Chairman Haraway moved to approve the Revised Employee Pay Plan - effective October 1, 2019; Director Clark seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

6. LEGAL

Attorney Woody Sanderson updated the Board on a few ongoing legal matters including an easement which he is currently seeking to obtain.

7. WATER REPORT

Water Manager Leggett stated that he was able to hire two Utility Worker II's which started earlier that day.

8. WASTEWATER REPORT

Wastewater Manager Bland updated the Board on some of the ongoing wastewater projects including the Wastewater Treatment Plant Expansion which is very near completion. He also added the Martin Road Lift Station is ahead of schedule, and the Fueling Station has the canopy up with the fuel lines projected to be installed in the next few weeks.

9. FINANCE REPORT

None.

10. CUSTOMER SERVICE

None.

11. GENERAL MANAGER REPORT

General Manager DeBord briefly explained that the LCWSA would not be sending their Grade IV Operators to get their time/experience at the MU plant based on an email from the LCWSA Manager. He also added that there is still ongoing discussion about the potential change to the sewer rate in Limestone.

12. VICE CHAIRMAN HARAWAY

None

13. DIRECTOR COOK

None.

14. DIRECTOR CLARK

None

15. DIRECTOR SZMYD

None

16. CHAIRMAN TATUM

None

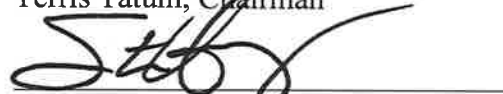
17. ADJOURNMENT

At 6:03 p.m. the Board agreed to adjourn.

Approved,



Terris Tatum, Chairman



Steve Haraway, Vice Chairman

Gerald Clark, Director



A. Keith Cook, Director



Rob Szmyd, Director

ATTEST:



Emory DeBord, Secretary/Treasurer