



**September 20, 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 Connie Spears, and Director A. Keith Cook were also in attendance. Also present were Secretary/Treasurer/General Manager Emory DeBord and Recording Clerk Jodie Parker. Director 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.

**1. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Mr. and Mrs. David and Jennifer Coe, and Ms. Jackson attended the meeting. Chairman Tatum gave them an opportunity to address the Board. The attendees expressed their frustration with the construction and subsequent yard repairs which have taken place over the past 9 months. Water Manager Leggett addressed their comments and clarified the nature of the project. Director Spears also provided clarification. Chairman Tatum thanked the attendees for their time.

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

a. September 20, 2021 Current Agenda

The agenda for the September 20, 2021 Regular Meeting was presented to the Board. Vice Chairman Haraway moved to approve the September 20, 2021 Regular Meeting Agenda as submitted; Director Spears seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

b. September 7, 2021 Regular Meeting Minutes

The minutes for the September 7, 2021 Regular Meeting were presented to the Board. Vice Chairman Haraway moved to approve the September 7, 2021 Regular Meeting Minutes; Director Cook seconded the motion. Director Spears abstained. The motion was approved.

c. September 8, 2021 Work Session Minutes

The minutes for the September 8, 2021 Work Session were presented to the Board. Director Spears moved to approve the September 8, 2021 Work Session minutes; Vice Chairman Haraway 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**

a. Proposed Pay Plan dated 9-13-2021

Finance Manager Sparks stated that there were no adjustments since the discussion during the Work Session. He did mention that there was one typographical error in the last sentence which

should read 2021 instead of 2020. Vice Chairman Haraway moved to approve the Proposed Pay Plan dated 9-13-2021 and effective 10-1-2021; Director Spears seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

b. General Insurance Package for FY2022

Finance Manager Sparks indicated that this would be the first year following 3 years of guaranteed rates with Cincinnati Insurance Companies. He added that he had received another very competitive quote, however his recommendation was to stay with Cincinnati Insurance Companies. Director Spears moved to approve the General Insurance Package for FY2022; Vice Chairman Haraway seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

c. Rate Resolution – effective October 1, 2021

Finance Manager Sparks reminded the Board that the flat rate for Limestone County Water & Sewer customers who have sewer only service with Madison Utilities was implemented a year and a half ago. At that time, it was determined that a periodic review of flow data needed to be compiled to ensure the rates were equitable to MU and its customers. Finance Manager Sparks continued saying the previously approved rate increase was scheduled for October 1<sup>st</sup> but, since timely reporting from LCWSA has been an ongoing issue, he recommended delaying the scheduled rate increase until the flow analysis could be performed. This was the only change in the rate resolution.

Vice Chairman Haraway moved to approve Rate Resolution No. WWB-117-2021 effective October 1, 2021; Director Spears seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

d. FY2022 Operations & Maintenance and Capital Budget

Finance Manager Sparks stated that there were very small adjustments to the preliminary budget presented at the Board work session. Vice Chairman Haraway moved to approve the FY2022 Operations & Maintenance and Capital Budget and Resolution No. WWB-118-2021; Director Spears seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

6. **LEGAL**

Attorney Sanderson mentioned that, at the last Board meeting, the Board members approved a resolution to authorize the valuation of some property in Limestone County for an amount not to exceed \$35,000. He continued that, due to a slight oversight, there needed to be a change made and rather than amend the previously approved resolution, he believed the simplest route would be to approve an amendment. Vice Chairman Haraway moved to approve Resolution No. WWB-118-2021; Director Spears seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

7. **WATER REPORT**

Water Manager Leggett reported that the Quarry Water Treatment Plant construction is still underway with the concrete floor slab poured for the wet well; he added that there one be one more large pour for the top slab. Water Manager Leggett stated that the Western Transmission Main Phase 2 is still being installed and they are making some adjustments to the order while awaiting the legal resolution of a pending matter. Water Manager Leggett also commented that the Highland projects it actually getting close to wrapping up. He stated that the pipe is laid and getting some mains connected and cleanup work is all that remains. After a brief discussion, it was determined that Water Manager Leggett would get in contact with Mr. and Mrs. Coe's contractor to discuss the yard repairs.

8. **WASTEWATER REPORT**

Wastewater Manager Bland stated the Wastewater Treatment Plant expansion is moving along. He added that the existing sewer system had faired well throughout all of the recent rain.

9. **FINANCE REPORT**

None

**10. CUSTOMER SERVICE**

Customer Service Manager Leftwich stated that the Pinnacle billing service was still struggling to get caught up due to COVID and staffing issues. She mentioned that during Pinnacles' recent merger, they closed their Birmingham office and shifted MU's billing to another location who were not prepared for the volume. Customer Service Manager Leftwich continued that since Pinnacle is 6-8 weeks behind, she is prepared to issue a bid request for new billing print and delivery services and additionally, she mentioned that the delay announcement has been posted on the website to keep customers informed.

**11. GENERAL MANAGER REPORT**

None

**12. VICE CHAIRMAN HARAWAY**

None.

**13. DIRECTOR COOK**

None.

**14. DIRECTOR SPEARS**

None

**15. DIRECTOR SZMYD**

None.

**16. CHAIRMAN TATUM**

Chairman Tatum expressed appreciation to Water Manager Leggett for all that he has done and the extensive lengths he has gone to in order to keep the customers near Highland Drive aware of progress.

**17. ADJOURNMENT**

At 6:22 p.m. the Board agreed to adjourn.

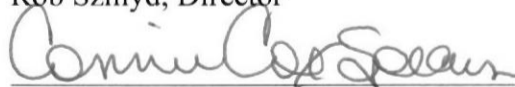
Approved,

  
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Terris Tatum, Chairman

  
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Steve Haraway, Vice Chairman

  
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A. Keith Cook, Director

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Rob Szmyd, Director

  
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Connie Spears, Director

ATTEST:

  
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Emory DeBord, Secretary/Treasurer