

# CWEP BOARD MEETING MINUTES

May 27, 2021

The Carthage Water & Electric Plant Board met in regular session May 27, 2021, 4:00 p.m. at the CWEP Office, 627 W Centennial, Carthage, MO.

**Board:**

G. Stephen Beimdiek- President  
 Danny Lambeth -Vice President  
 Ron Ross -Secretary  
 Alan Snow -Liaison

Brian Schmidt - Member  
 Pat Goff – Member  
 Darren Collier - Member

**Staff:**

Chuck Bryant-General Manager  
 Cassandra Ludwig-General Counsel  
 Jason Peterson-Director IT & Broadband  
 Megan Stump- Executive Assistant  
 Meagan Milliken-Customer Relations Mgr.

Jason Choate-Director of Water Services  
 Kelli Nugent/CFO  
 Kevin Emery-Director of Power Services  
 Stephanie Howard-Director of Business & ED

President Beimdiek called the meeting to order at 4:02 p.m.

**ADDITIONS/CHANGES TO THE AGENDA:** None

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

A motion by Goff and seconded by Lambeth to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of April 15, 2021 as presented, passed unanimously.

**APPROVAL OF DISBURSEMENTS:**

A motion by Lambeth and seconded by Ross to approve disbursements for April in the amount of \$3,897,658.47, passed unanimously.

**FINANCIAL STATEMENT:**

CFO Nugent presented the financials for April noting that the net income for the company is showing a loss this month of \$394,686 compared to a budgeted loss for the month of \$342,131. However, year to date the company's net income continues to exceed budget by \$5,357,262. Operating revenues for the company exceeded budget and prior year for the month and year to date. Expenses were higher than budget for the month, primarily due to the electric department's system inventory and pole inspections project which was completed sooner than budgeted. She reported that power and water loss percentages for the month were -2.79% and 10.38%, respectively. The year to date are 1.12% and 6.93% for power and water, respectively.

A motion by Goff and seconded by Ross to approve April financials passed unanimously.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:** None.

**CITIZENS PARTICIPATION PERIOD:** None.

**OLD BUSINESS:** None.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**RECOMMENDATION FOR THE PURCHASE OF A BUCKET TRUCK**

General Manager Bryant noted a request for approval to proceed with the purchase of a new articulating telescopic bucket truck, which was budgeted for the new fiscal year. He reported this truck will be purchased from Altec industries, Inc. under a cooperative contract in the amount of \$165,000.00 and will meet all of CWEP's specifications and requirements. GM Bryant recommends granting this award to Altec Industries, Inc and proceed with purchasing this vehicle.

A motion by Lambeth and seconded by Goff to approve the purchase of the new articulating telescopic bucket truck from Altec, passed unanimously.

**RECOMMENDATION FOR THE WATERLINE REPLACEMENT PROJECT**

General Manager Bryant reported bids were submitted and reviewed for the 2021 water line replacement project. He noted Branco Enterprises, Inc of Neosho, Missouri was the apparent low bidder and has indicated that they intend to enter into a contract with CWEP to build the project while obtaining all necessary bonds and insurance.

GM Bryant recommends awarding this project to Branco Enterprises, Inc in the amount of \$474,329.00, as this company appears to be capable of performing the work specified.

A motion by Goff and seconded by Lambeth to award this project to Branco Enterprises, Inc in the amount of \$474,329.00, passed unanimously.

**APPROVAL OF CONVERSION OF WATER AND WATEWATER RATES FROM CCF TO GALLONS**

General Counsel Ludwig presented to the Board the change in water rates from CCF to Gallons. She explained this conversion should make it easier for the customer to understand their water usage.

A motion by Ross and seconded by Lambeth to approve the conversion process of the water rates from CCF to Gallons, passed unanimously.

## **STAFF REPORTS:**

General Manager Bryant gave a Plum Point and Sikeston update. He reported a lot of work has been done in the HR department, preparing, and putting more effort into the evaluation process. He noted a change in staff as the customer relations and customer service department will now report to General Counsel Ludwig instead of CFO Nugent.

CFO Nugent reported fiscal year will be ending soon, so inventory will be coming up quickly. She also noted she will be working on evaluations.

General Counsel Ludwig gave a legislative session update.

Director of Power Services Emery reported the electric distribution crews have been spending a lot of time on new services and upgrading services. He noted the Fairlawn street light project is underway as well as a transfer switch installment for the Centennial complex.

Director of Water Services Choate reported the water loss problem on Central has been located.

Director IT and Broadband Peterson commended staff on their preparation for possible severe weather and noted a CSR and tech will be on standby to answer phone calls in case of outages. He gave an update on the AMI project. He reported there have been delays in getting equipment in on time.

Director of Business and ED gave an update on the Schreiber development. She noted Belle View has been up and running great.

Customer Relations Manager Milliken reported the Tower to Tower run raised \$1500 for Water for People.

## **BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS:**

City Liaison Snow noted budget readings will be next month.

At 5:00 p.m. the meeting adjourned.

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President – Steve Beimdiek

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Secretary – Ron Ross