



**Utility Advisory Board – Meeting Minutes
March 15, 2017 at 3:00 pm
Technology Center – 910 Technology Parkway**

- I. Roll Call:** Present- Bob Elliot (UAB Chair), Claude McKibben, Dan Carmichael, Richard Ohlinger. A quorum of four was present.

Also present: Mayor Chet Olson, Sue Messer (COR), Adriana Milan (COR), Chris Cardott (COR), Scott Koteski (RMU), Adam Lanning (RMU), Barbara Bell (RMU), Jason Bird (RMU), Judy Witasik (RMU), Jeff Leon (Press).

II. Approval of January 18th 2017 UAB Minutes

Motion Maker: Dan Carmichael
Second: Claude McKibben
Voice Vote: Motion Carried

III. Water/Water Reclamation Update (Adam Lanning)

- a. Financial Update as of January 2017 (report given by Chris Cardott, see website)
- b. Water
 - i. Operations Report - For the month of August, RMU water produced a total of 99.1 million gallons with a daily average flow of 3.5 MG.
 - ii. Well 11 Radium Removal Project - The initial design has been completed for a radium removal plant at well 11. Two phases of a pilot study are complete to provide data on the final design of the filtration system. Construction will go out to bid in April or May with construction set to begin in July. The total project cost is estimated at \$3.4 million and will be complete by February 2018
 - iii. Compliance with Lead Ruling, S.B. 550 – Recent legislation on lead in the tap water has been passed and municipalities will now have to report additional information to the Illinois EPA and pass along information to customers informing them of potential risks. The initial legislation would have required RMU to test customers (i.e. schools, and hospitals) for lead which would have added a considerable cost to the operation. The requirement has been changed to the customers being required to provide their own testing. The staff has specific instructions on how to meet these new requirements.



- iv. Well 12 Maximum Setback - The application for establishing a maximum setback zone around the new well 12 has been filed with the Illinois EPA and an agency review will be complete in March. Once the review is complete, UAB and the City Council will be presented with an ordinance to establish this zone, which already exists for the other 4 wells in town. This set back spells out what can be developed near the well to prevent possible contamination of the water supply.
 - v. Well-house Discharge Piping - Three wells in town are in need of major repair work to be done on the above ground piping in the well house. Companies have been contacted to obtain quotes on repairing the piping this year. An estimate of the total cost for three wells is approximately \$75,000.
 - vi. Tower C Washing - Tower C, located at the high school, is in need of cleaning and will be completed early this spring. The cost of washing the tower will be \$5,700 and will be performed by National Wash Authority out of Morrison, IL. The method they use is frictionless so the paint will not be compromised during the cleaning.
 - vii. Allstate Supply Pressure - Allstate, located on Dement Road, has had supply pressure problems over the past several years. They are located on a dead end main and RMU has been working with them to resolve the pressure problem. We have tracked the supply pressure and worked with other industries to limit the rate at which they would draw on our water system to prevent pressure fluctuations. During a recent inspection, we noticed their supply pressure was more stable. They found valves closed on their system. Opening the valves seems to have corrected the problem.
 - viii. Open Positions - Due to the increasing demand for construction related work, we have decided to add a fifth position to the water department. This person will work as an operator/maintenance.
- c. Water Reclamation:
- i. Operations Report - The wastewater division treated 68.3 million gallons with a daily average flow of 2.4 MG. All treated effluent parameters were within the permit limits set forth by the Illinois EPA.
 - ii. Wastewater Treatment Plant Upgrade Status - In August of 2017 an Illinois EPA low interest loan will be paid in full and will free up approximately \$270,000 annually. The plan is to borrow an equal amount of money to continue making a similar payment to fund projects at the treatment plant. At current interest rates, that will equal around \$5.5



million. A rate study was performed last year, a project plan report was completed and all loan application requirements are being met. Projects include: anaerobic lagoon rehabilitation, preliminary treatment upgrades and new maintenance garage.

- iii. Alternative Disinfection Method - Currently the waste water treatment plant uses chlorine gas to disinfect the treated wastewater as a requirement of our NPDES permit. Chlorine gas poses a serious health risk to staff and surrounding areas if there were ever a major leak. We are currently working on developing a plan to switch our disinfection method to par acetic acid (liquid). This will require almost no capital improvement costs and a small increase in operating cost but will eliminate the potential hazards. This project should be in place this spring.
- iv. CityWorks Update - Recently we purchased a new computerized maintenance management program (CityWorks) to be used for meeting upcoming regulations. We wanted to get ahead of the new regulations and implement this program as soon as possible. This software will meet the needs of the entire City regarding maintenance management. It is a GIS-based program and integrates with the existing GIS database.
- v. NPDES Permit Renewal - Still no update on our NPDES permit renewal.

IV. Advanced Communications Update (Scott Koteski)

- a. Financial Update as of January 2017 (report given by Chris Cardott, see website)
- b. Follett – added three additional cabinets and we are currently at capacity for electrical at 82%. We have asked for a 5 yr. plan to assess moving forward.
- c. Lindenwood School – we are going to provide them with internet; they currently don't have a reliable connection. Fiber will be installed from I-39 west along Ivy Road, then north along Lynnville Road to the school.
- d. Proposed Legislation for Pole Contact – (Jason) Senate Bill 1451 was initiated by wireless telecommunications companies to support 5G technology to connect their equipment to existing municipal poles. We are against this and the debate is ongoing.

Motion: To oppose Senate Bill 1451 in support of Electrical.

Motion Maker: Richard Ohlinger
Second: Claude McKibben
Voice Vote: Motion Carried



- e. Novell – system is antiquated. Will be moving toward using Microsoft, may have to wait until the 2018 budget.

V. Electrical Enterprise Update (Jason Bird)

- a. Financial Update as of January 2017 (report given by Chris Cardott, see website)
- b. Peaker and 9th Street Generation – # 3 back in service. We are in the process of determining if the head is cracked on #9. #5 was determined to be of an unbalanced condition. There is extensive water damage. We will keep you updated. On the peaker; metal shaving situation not good. Ordered parts at a cost of \$161,000 with a savings of \$174,000.
- c. Creston Road Upgrade – Improved approximately a mile and a half of line.
- d. System Improvements – Rebuilt all wire that was installed when the proper wire was not available. We also rebuilt a mile on Locust Rd and will next work on Hickory Rd. We have some underground service that has been in 10 years past its lifespan.
- e. Purchase Power Contracts – Barbara and Jason met with Constellation. The contract doesn't expire until 2018, but we would like to buy at a lower cost to pass the savings on to the customers.
- f. Transmission RFQ – We are considering either finding a strategic partner or maintaining the transmission ourselves.
- g. 138 Transmission Projects – We have the bids for the steel poles and it will be announced at the March 27th City Council Meeting.
- h. Mighty Vine Double Circuit – I and II are complete. If there is to be a third phase, we will need 12 to 18 months' notice.
- i. RTAC Replacements – the communication system is obsolete. Jason will be taking an upgrade proposal to City Council for approval
- j. Old Caron Road Sub Relay Replacements – Waiting for the material.
- k. Unit #14 Silencer Replacement – will be complete on 05/01/2017



- l. Capacitor Study – We may add to the 2018 budget, but ComEd may put pressure on us to move more quickly.
- m. Security Light Charges – We are working on a rate for security lights. We have not raised the cost for several years.
- n. Succession Plan - 5 employees will be retiring soon. Recommend reviewing the succession plan on an annual basis.

VI. Customer Service Update (Barbara Bell)

- a. Summer Saver Rate – Customers are charged a higher rate Monday thru Friday between 2PM and 7PM and a cheaper rate during all other times. This program will be voluntary this summer starting in June and going through September. The rate is intended to help us shave our peaks.
- b. Customer Statistics – Electrical: For our top ten customers in 2014 vs 2016; it is about the same between 2014 and 2016 except we now have a greenhouse on the list.

Water: For our top ten customers in 2014 vs 2016; water usage is currently increasing.

VII. New Business - None

VIII. Comments from the Public – None

IX. Comments from the Board –

Re-visiting votes since a quorum is present;

1. Motion: to support the Unrestricted Cash Policy from January 18, 2017.

Motion: Richard Ohlinger
Second: Claude McKibben
Voice Vote: Motion Carried

2. Motion to support Utility Reconnection Fees

Motion: Richard Ohlinger
Second: Dan Carmichael
Voice Vote: Motion Carried

3. Motion to Approve October 19, 2016 minutes.

Motion: Dan Carmichael



Second: Claude McKibben
Voice Vote: Motion Carried

4. Motion to Approve January 18, 2017 minutes w/corrections.

Motion: Dan Carmichael
Second: Claude McKibben
Voice Vote: Motion Carried

5. Motion to support the purchase of a bucket truck by RMU Electrical.

Motion: Claude McKibben
Second: Richard Ohlinger
Voice Vote: Motion Carried

X. Adjournment - Motion to adjourn at 4:00 pm

Motion Maker: Dan Carmichael
Second: Claude McKibben
Voice Vote: Motion Carried