

WILLMAR MUNICIPAL UTILITIES MINUTES
MUNICIPAL UTILITIES CONFERENCE ROOM
JUNE 9, 2008

The Willmar Municipal Utilities Commission met in its regular scheduled meeting Monday, June 9, 2008 at 11:45 a.m., in the Municipal Utilities Conference Room with the following Commissioners present: Bob Bonawitz, Jim Schammel, (arrived at 12:00 noon), Doug Lindblad, Jerry Gesch, and Steve Salzer. Absent was Commissioner Dave Baker.

Others present at the meeting were: General Manager Bruce Gomm, City Attorney Rich Ronning, Manager of Electric Services Jeff Kimpling, Customer Service Supervisor Larry Heinen, Purchasing & Power Supply Clerk Chris Carlson, and former Commissioner Mike Burgett.

President Bonawitz opened the meeting by requesting a resolution to approve the Consent Agenda. Commissioner Lindblad offered a resolution to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Commissioner Salzer seconded.

RESOLUTION NO. 25

“BE IT RESOLVED, by the Municipal Utilities Commission of the City of Willmar, Minnesota, that the Consent Agenda be approved as presented which includes:

- Minutes from the May 27, 2008 Commission meeting; and,
- Bills represented by vouchers no. 080949 to no. 081045 inclusive in the amount of \$249,240.35 and MISO payments in the amount of \$88,822.47.

Dated this 9th day of June 2008.

President

ATTEST:

Secretary

The foregoing resolution was adopted by a vote of four and zero noes.

General Manager Gomm opened discussion with the Commission on the current status of the proposed Big Stone II project. The Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (MPUC) held a hearing on June 3rd to decide whether to proceed with the building of transmission lines related to the Big Stone II project. While the actual generating plant would be in South Dakota, electrical transmission lines would be in Minnesota. These transmission lines would be essential in the distribution of the electrical power. Although a hearing decision was to be delivered on June 5th, the MPUC was at a stalemate and no decision was reached at this time. Following discussion, it was the consensus of the Commission that the WMU Planning Committee should author a letter to Senator Joe Gimse and Governor Tim Pawlenty expressing the WMU’s support of the Big Stone II project.

General Manager Gomm discussed with the Commission a summary of recommendations received from the consulting firm of PCI Management & Consulting Company of Schaumburg, Illinois, regarding their recent Power Plant study and evaluation. A major recommendation would be to install a bag house on the roof of the Power Plant in order to increase productivity. The bag house is designed to filter particles and emissions produced by the generating Power Plant. The cost for the equipment and installation of the bag house is estimated to be \$1 million to \$1.5 million. Also included in the recommendations were upgrading the silo structures, updating the ID fans, covering the stockpiled coal, and upgrading the stokers in the boilers. A final report from PCI Management is expected later this month.

General Manager Gomm informed the Commission that the annual MMUA Summer Meeting is scheduled for August 18-20 in Alexandria. Those interested in attending are asked to notify Beth or Bruce so that the necessary arrangements may be made. This was for information only.

General Manager Gomm gave a brief report on the recent bid opening for the proposed Wind Turbine Project. Three bids were received for this project. Extensive consideration and evaluation will be given to these bids with the award to be given at a later date.

At this time, General Manager Gomm presented a plaque to former Commissioner Mike Burgett in appreciation of his years of service and dedication while serving as a Commissioner for the Willmar Municipal Utilities. Mr. Burgett is no longer a resident of Willmar, but still maintains a business within the City limits. Being a resident of the City of Willmar is a requirement to be a WMU Commissioner. In conjunction with this requirement, it was noted that a proposed Advisory Committee to the Commission is being considered which would allow past Commissioners to continue involvement in issues facing the utility industry.

Due a scheduling conflict, General Manager Gomm informed the Commission that a number of WMU officials would be absent from the regular scheduled June 23rd MUC meeting. Following discussion, a motion was made by Commissioner Lindblad to reschedule the second meeting in June from June 23rd to June 30th. (The meeting would be held at the regular meeting time of 11:45 a.m.) Commissioner Schammel seconded the motion, which carried.

There being no further business to come before the Commission, Commissioner Schammel made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Lindblad seconded the motion, and the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

WILLMAR MUNICIPAL UTILITIES

Jeff Kimpling
Manager of Electric Services

ATTEST:

Doug Lindblad, Secretary
Municipal Utilities Commission