

REGULAR MEETING OF THE KIMBERLY WATER COMMISSION

MARCH 30, 2010

Chairman Price called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m. Members present for roll call were Commissioners Johnson, Stienen, Strick and Chairman Price. Also present was Superintendent Jerry Verstegen of MCO.

Commissioner Johnson moved, Stienen seconded the motion to approve the minutes of the February 23, 2010 minutes as printed. The motion carried by unanimous vote of the Commission.

Secretary Hermus reviewed the rate case information, including the 36% increase in the overall rates. The Commission briefly discussed the different percentage increases for the different customer classes. Mr. Hermus explained the convoluted process used by the WPSC to determine cost of service and establish the rates. It was clarified that we did not produce the rates, we allowed the PSC to perform that task based on our rate case data. It was noted that the rate of return on investments is now 6.5%, whereas it used to be 8%. The Public Hearing will be held on April 13, 2010 at 10:00 a.m. It will be held in the Council Chambers. Combined Locks and Darboy, our two wholesale customers, informed us that they will be present for the public hearing. Commissioner Strick also noted he would be present, and Chairman Price will see if his schedule will allow him to attend. Shortly after that date, the PSC will approve a final rate structure for the utility, which we are planning to make effective May 1, 2010.

Supt. Verstegen reviewed his request for a Meter Management Program from CVMIC Systems of Madison. Our current program is not very user friendly, and the data fields are not conducive for sorting data. He has also been exploring Little Chute's needs, and their software is nine years old and has not been updated. He received a quote last year of \$5,400 for Little Chute, and now has received a quote of \$6,000 for both Kimberly and Little Chute. The conversion is probably not applicable to Kimberly as our data fields are not conducive. However, our information will be shared with the vendor to determine compatibility. Conversion will be cumbersome and staff will have to work intermittently on the project. It was also suggested that when conversion is determined, we could consider hiring a student to work on the conversion. After a short discussion, Commissioner Strick moved, Johnson seconded the motion to approve the recommendation of the Superintendent and instructed him to proceed with the acquisition of the new Meter Management Software. The motion carried by unanimous vote of the Commission.

The Commission briefly discussed the idea of purchasing some type of water bottles as part of the Villages Centennial. After a short discussion, based almost entirely on the current large rate case being considered, the Commission chose not to pursue water bottles. They may consider some type of sponsorship for the Centennial, and asked the Secretary to share the sponsorship package at the next meeting.

Superintendent Verstegen noted the testing results for February. Iron results remain very good. Aggressive and directional flushing in the northwest quadrant will continue this spring. He is a little concerned with the hardness level, as we are at between 3 and 4. Recommended levels are 6 to 7 (we are too soft). He will slowly increase the levels to determine results. If the water is too soft, it can be corrosive on the system, and affect taste. Currently Little Chute is at 7. He is also investigating the possibility of changing the use of the salt bins, converting one to a brine tank. It can reduce clogging in the system, provide better brine for the plant and reduce softener shell issues. He also mentioned that he will meet with the engineers on the future plans for Lincoln Street Pumphouse. The facility is in need of updating, and is presently only being used about one hour per day due to the hard water it draws. He is not sure what options there are, but the third well is important for emergency availability of water. However, investing \$300,000 for the little use it receives deserves to be looked at.

Commissioner Strick moved, Stienen seconded the motion to approve the bills and claims for the month of March as submitted. The motion carried by unanimous vote of the Commission.

Commissioner Johnson moved, Strick seconded the motion to approve the financial statements for the month of March as presented. The motion carried by unanimous vote of the Commission.

Commissioner Johnson moved, Strick seconded the motion to adjourn. The motion carried by unanimous vote of the Commission.

Rick J. Hermus
Secretary