

**MINUTES OF THE  
MANITOWOC PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION MEETING  
MONDAY, APRIL 14, 2025**

The scheduled meeting of the Manitowoc Public Utilities Commission was called to order by President Allie at 4:00 p.m. on Monday, April 14, 2025. In attendance were Commissioners Diedrich, Hornung, McMeans, Nickels, Roberts, and Sitkiewitz. Also present were Greg Pitel and Ethan Hoffman - KerberRose SC (virtually); Bob Bouril, Tiffany Myers, Katelyn Hall, Karissa Stecker, Cindy Carter, Jeremy Fischer, Andy Onesti, and Carissa Grimm - MPU; Troy Adams - General Manager; and Attorney Andrew Steimle - Steimle Birschbach, LLC.

**CALL MEETING TO ORDER:** Annual Governance Agenda distributed.

**OPEN FORUM:** None

**2024 AUDIT REPORT:** The 2024 Audit Report was moved to the start of the meeting and was presented virtually by Greg Pitel from KerberRose. Mr. Pitel commented on the strength of the MPU financial team. Commission complimented the MPU accounting team for a job well done and clean audit.

**MOTION:** A Motion was made by Commissioner Hornung and seconded by Commissioner McMeans to accept the 2024 Audit Report as presented and to place on file. Motion carried unanimously.

Greg Pitel, Ethan Hoffman, Tiffany Myers, Katelyn Hall, and Karissa Stecker left the meeting at 4:17 p.m.

**RECOGNIZING NATIONAL DRINKING WATER WEEK:** May 4-10, 2025 is National Drinking Water Week. It is an annual celebration organized by the American Water Works Association (AWWA) and its members and intended to raise awareness of the critical role that safe, sustainable, and affordable drinking water plays in our daily lives. Drinking Water Week is a chance for everyone to appreciate water as a finite resource that requires dedicated individuals, running well-maintained systems, to make it safe and easily available. A domestic water system and other urban services like wastewater and electricity are the foundation of social and economic development. Our water system is an important part of why our community is what it is today. Commission thanked the Water Department for their commitment to safe drinking water and the community.

**APPA CERTIFICATE OF EXCELLENCE IN RELIABILITY:** The APPA recognized MPU with its "Certificate of Excellence in Electric Reliability" for the tenth consecutive year. MPU continues to significantly outperform electric industry national average reliability as reported by the Energy Information Association. The American Public Power Association has honored more than 256 public power utilities with a "Certificate of Excellence" for reliable performance in 2024. The certificates celebrate utilities that have provided exceptionally reliable service and power to their communities.

**APPA SAFETY AWARD OF EXCELLENCE:** For the third consecutive year, APPA recognized MPU with its "Safety Award of Excellence". MPU was one of 202 public power utilities in the nation to receive this award for safe operating practices in 2024. The APPA safety award recognizes utilities based on their incident rates as well as the overall state of the safety programs and culture.

**MINUTES:** The Minutes from the Regular Session Meeting on March 10, 2025 were presented for approval.

**APPROVAL OF CLAIMS:** Claims List dated March 25, 2025; Claims List dated April 15, 2025; and Wires dated April 9, 2025 were presented for approval.

**FINANCIAL REPORTS FOR DECEMBER 2024, JANUARY 2025, AND FEBRUARY 2025:** The financial reports for December 2024, January 2025, and February 2025 were previously distributed to the Commission for review and discussion.

**INVESTMENT REPORT:** The Investment Portfolio Report from Baird, our investment advisor, for the period ending March 31, 2025 was previously distributed to the Commission for review and discussion.

**2024 PSCW ANNUAL REPORT:** MPU filed the 2024 PSCW annual report upon receipt of audit report data from KerberRose. This report is due annually on May 1.

**QUOTATIONS/BIDS:** Electric Distribution Truck 17 Replacement; 2025 LSL Replacement Project CT7; Server Upgrade.

**MOTION:** A Motion was made by Commissioner Diedrich and seconded by Commissioner Sitkiewitz to approve the Regular Session Minutes from March 10, 2025; Claims List dated March 25, 2025 check nos. 107361 through 107651 totaling \$2,831,394.21; Claims List dated April 15, 2025, 2024 check nos. 107652 through 107842 totaling \$1,676,959.06; Wire Transfers dated through April 9, 2025 totaling \$4,177,120.75; to place on file the Financial Reports for December 2024, January 2025, February 2025, the Investment Portfolio Report, and the 2024 PSCW Annual Report; and to approve the quotation as follows: Electric Distribution Truck 17 Replacement - \$326,381.00 - Altec; 2025 LSL Replacement Project CT7 - \$1,969,370.00 - Matt's Service LLC; Server Upgrade - \$87,196.00 - Camera Corner Connecting Point. Motion carried unanimously.

**AMENDED CAPITAL BUDGET:** Since approval of the 2025 Capital Project Budget, new capital project management processes have been developed and are being implemented. The process changes being made will drive improvements in project completion against established timelines and budgets through improvements in transparency and communications. The status of 2025 capital project plans and budget were reviewed against utility budgetary and schedule goals for the year with the department managers who own each project. As a result of this review, amendments to the capital budget are being recommended to address unanticipated pricing increases or potential resource constraints later in the year.

**MOTION:** A Motion was made by Commissioner Diedrich and seconded by Commissioner Hornung to approve the amended Capital budget. Motion carried unanimously.

**BROADBAND TARIFF UPDATE:** The Broadband Utility hired Baker Tilly in 2017 to develop a formal broadband policy and tariff rates. Rates were developed using standard utility rate making methodology including recovery of O&M costs, depreciation, and a return on the infrastructure to fund future replacement. Allocation of costs to customers is based on the feet and number of fiber strands needed to connect the customer from the Hub. These rates have not changed since implemented. MPU recently reviewed these rates using the same methodology developed by Baker Tilly. Based on this analysis, an increase in broadband rates of 17.35% is recommended. As contracts expire, new agreements will be executed under the new tariffed rates.

**MOTION:** A Motion was made by Commissioner Hornung and seconded by Commissioner McMeans to approve the adjusted broadband tariff. Motion carried unanimously.

**POLICY OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE:** The draft policy was developed to create an oversight committee of the Commission Policy Manual to ensure the Policies are effectively developed, implemented, monitored, and updated. Commissioners Diedrich and Hornung will head this committee.

**MOTION:** A Motion was made by Commissioner Nickels and seconded by Commissioner Sitkiewitz to approve the creation of the new Policy Oversight Committee and appoint Commissioners Diedrich and Hornung to the Committee. Motion carried unanimously.

Bob Bouril left the meeting at 4:28 p.m.

**CONVENE MEETING TO CLOSED SESSION:** Notice had been previously given that Manitowoc Public Utilities Commission will adjourn into a closed session during the April 14, 2025 meeting pursuant to Section 19.85(1)(e) to discuss the approval of the minutes of the January 27, 2025 Closed Session Meeting and Manitowoc Refuel Renewable Project.

**MOTION:** A Motion to convene in closed session was made by Commissioner McMeans and seconded by Commissioner Roberts. Motion carried unanimously. Accordingly, the Commission convened in closed session at 4:29p.m.

The meeting was reconvened to open session at 5:00 p.m.

#### **APPROVAL OF ITEMS FROM CLOSED SESSION:**

**MOTION:** A Motion was made by Commissioner Sitkiewitz and seconded by Commissioner McMeans to approve the Resolution authorizing MPU to create the LLC along with the operating agreement that will be submitted to PSCW. Motion carried unanimously.

**GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT:** The report was distributed for review. Commission attendance at National Conference was requested.

**MANITOWOC LINCOLN SHIPS BASEBALL - FIELD RENOVATION PROJECT:** A donation request was received for this project in 2024. The project is now moving forward and have requested MPU consideration for the lighting portion of the project. The consensus was to handle this within the authorization threshold of the General Manager.

**NEXT MEETING:** Monday, May 12, 2025 at 4:00 p.m.

**ADJOURN:** A Motion was made to adjourn the meeting by Commissioner Diedrich. Meeting adjourned at 5:10 p.m.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Approved: Troy Adams, General Manager

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Approved: Dan Hornung, Secretary