

**MINUTES OF THE DECEMBER 12, 2022, SAUK CENTRE
PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION MEETING**

CALL TO ORDER:

1. The regular meeting of the Sauk Centre Public Utilities Commission was called to order by President Ted Spanier at 4:30 p.m. on December 12, 2022, at the office of the Sauk Centre Public Utilities. Commissioners present were Jeff Bromenshenkel, Wayne Senst, and John Egan. Also, present were Water/Wastewater Supervisor Glenn Bauer, Electrical Supervisor Shannon Ellering, General Manager Debbie Boyer, and Secretary Jennie Frank. Commissioner Mark Roberg arriving at 4:40 p.m.

MINUTES:

2. By general consent, the following minutes were approved:

- a. The minutes of the last Regular Commission Meeting held on November 14, 2022.

UTILITY BILLS:

3a. A motion was introduced by Commissioner Bromenshenkel and seconded by Commissioner Senst that the following utility bills be approved:

The full listing of the November 2022 accounts payable in the amount of \$423,373.88.

Motion carried four to zero. The Visa bill was available for review.

FINANCIAL REPORTS:

4a&b. By general consent, the Commission approved all the Monthly and Investment Reports as presented by General Manager Boyer.

CORRESPONDENCE AND MEETINGS:

5a. The next regular meeting and organizational meeting of the Sauk Centre Public Utilities Commission will be held on Monday, January 9, 2023, at 4:30 p.m.

OLD BUSINESS:

6a. General Manager Boyer updated the Commission on the township property for the new well site. The township will be having their meeting this week and Boyer will reach out to them for an update. Informational only, no action needed.

b. A motion was made by Commissioner Egan and seconded by Commissioner Bromenshenkel to accept the draft purchase agreement for the Depot Feeds lot and buildings and the Commission will move forward with the total purchase price of \$145,000, with \$45,000 due at closing and rest due in equal yearly installments for 5 years. The draft will now be forwarded to the City Hall. Motion carried five to zero.

NEW BUSINESS :

7a. Information was given to the Commission by General Manager Boyer on the MRES S-1 Rates and Xcel Group transmission rates for 2023. MRES will be implementing Time-Of-Use (TOU) energy rates and Xcel will see about a 2% increase.

b. A motion was made by Commissioner Bromenshenkel and seconded by Commissioner Roberg to approve the reducing of the proposed Electric Rate of 5% to 2.5% for 2023 and approve the proposed 5% Water rate increase and the proposed 10% Wastewater increase for 2023. Motion carried five to zero.

c. The Commission acknowledged the WAPA rate increase of approximately 16%. No action was taken, informational only.

d. A motion was made by Commissioner Sens and seconded by Commissioner Egan to approve MN Rural Water 2023 Annual Dues (Option B with \$25 going to equipment fund) in the amount of \$425.00. Motion carried five to zero.

e. A motion was made by Commissioner Roberg and seconded by Commissioner Bromenshenkel to approve the Sauk Centre Chamber Dues for 2023 in the amount of \$515. Motion carried five to zero.

f. A motion was made by Commissioner Sens and seconded by Commissioner Bromenshenkel to approve the 2023 C.I.P. plans and budgets for all departments, with a change to the electric from a 5% increase to a reduced 2.5% increase. Motion carried five to zero.

COMMISSIONERS ITEMS:

8a. Commissioners & Other Committee Items / Reports

1. John Egan and Wayne Sens both reapplied for the Commission.

b. Personnel Committee

1. President Spanier explained to the Commission the process of getting a Journeyman license and the required licenses. A motion was made by Commissioner Roberg and seconded by Commissioner Egan to approve retro pay to J. Hinnenkamp and S. Ellering, for the time between receiving their Journeyman license to passing the state licensing test. Motion carried five to zero.

GENERAL MANAGER AND SUPERVISOR'S ITEMS:

9a. A motion was made by Commissioner Spanier and seconded by Commissioner Bromenshenkel to approve the Dollars for Scholars Request for 2023. The utility will offer a \$2,000 scholarship to a student entering an electric, water, or wastewater school. Parents are to be customers of the SCPUC. Motion carried five to zero.

b. A motion was made by Commissioner Senst and seconded by Commissioner Egan to approve the invoice from the City of Sauk Centre in the amount of \$1,704,738.26 for the 2022 Second Street Project. Motion carried four to zero with Commissioner Roberg abstaining.

c. General Manager Boyer presented the Cogeneration and Small Power Production Tariff Report. The Commission acknowledged and a motion was made by Commissioner Egan and seconded by Commissioner Bromenshenkel. Discussion was also held on pursuing the Star Energy agreement involving solar engineering. Motion carried five to zero.

d. A motion was made by Commissioner Senst and seconded by Commissioner Roberg to approve the resolution for the adoption of the Cafeteria Plan. Motion carried four to zero with Commissioner Egan abstaining.

Being no further business, a motion was made by Commissioner Bromenshenkel and seconded by Commissioner Egan to adjourn the meeting at 5:50 p.m. Motion carried five to zero.

Jennie Frank, Secretary
Sauk Centre Public Utilities Commission