

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the
Coldwater Board of Public Utilities

Coldwater Board of Public Utilities
Coldwater, Michigan

March 2, 2023
5:00 p.m.
Council Chamber

Regular Meeting

PRESENT: Members:
President Stevens, Vice President Ohm, Travis Machan, Terry Whelan

Others:
Director Jakubczak, Nicki Luce, John Springhall, Brian Musselman, Pat Pool, Andrew Cameron, Keith Baker, Megan Angell, Tom Eldridge, Harold Jenkins, Jesse Smith, Abbey Hoffman, Audrey Tappenden, Christine Delaney, Bill Flickinger, Don Reid

ABSENT: John Wellet

CALL TO ORDER:

Meeting called to order by President Stevens

NOTICE OF MEETING:

A notice of the meeting was posted in accordance with Michigan Public Act No. 267.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

None

It was noted that there were no public comment emails received as of 3:30 p.m. prior to the meeting.

CONSENT AGENDA

NOTE: The items listed in the Consent Agenda are considered to be routine by the Board and its Director and will be enacted by one motion. There will be no separate discussion of these items unless requested by a Board Member or citizen. In this event, the item will be removed from the Consent Agenda and Board action will be taken separately on said item. Those items so approved under the heading "Consent Agenda" will appear in the Board minutes in their proper form.

MINUTES:

1. Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors held February 1, 2023.
2. Closed Session of the Board of Directors held February 1, 2023.
3. Regular Meeting of the Michigan South Central Power Agency Board of Commissioners held January 5, 2023.

DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS:

1. Board of Public Utilities Operation Reports and Financial Statements for January 2023.
2. Bills and Accounts for period ending February 28, 2023.
3. Power Supply Cost Projections.
4. MERS Defined Benefit Pension Plan Statement for year ending December 31, 2022.

MOTION: Member Machan moved that the Consent Agenda items be approved as presented.

Member Wellet seconded the motion.

Motion carried unanimously.

REGULAR AGENDA

TIBBITS SPONSORSHIP REQUEST:

Christine Delaney, Executive Director of the Tibbits Opera Foundation & Arts Council, requested the Board consider renewing the corporate membership as well as sponsoring the upcoming production of the Broadway musical “NunSense II” as part of the Tibbits Summer Theatre for a total cost of \$5,500.

MOTION: Member Ohm moved to approve the sponsorship request from Tibbits for a total cost of \$5,500.

Member Machan seconded the motion.

Motion carried unanimously.

CUSTOMER ENGAGEMENT SURVEY:

To better understand our target audience and their engagement with CBPU, Abbey Hoffman, Community Engagement Coordinator, announced Great Blue Research, Inc. will be conducting a Customer Engagement Survey to all residential customers. Results will be utilized for future benchmarking purposes. The cost for this survey is \$16,000.

HAZARD HAMLET PRESENTATION:

Harold Jenkins, Safety Service Coordinator, demonstrated Hazard Hamlet, an energy safety simulator. CBPU's new portable tool will be used to assist in educating young audiences in local school districts about common risks found around the home.

DIGGER DERRICK TRUCK #13 REPLACEMENT:

After reviewing the specifications to replace digger derrick truck #14, staff recommended the Board approve the bid from Altec, a Michigan Mi-Deal vendor, in the amount of \$450,529.

MOTION: Member Machan moved to approve the bid from Altec in the amount of \$450,529 for replacement of digger derrick truck #13.

Member Whelan seconded the motion.

Motion carried unanimously.

STOCK TRANSFORMERS:

To replenish stock, quotes were solicited for the purchase of two three phase 300 KVA pad mount transformers. Staff recommended the low bid from Sunbelt Solomon in the amount of \$65,090.

MOTION: Member Whelan moved to approve the low bid from Sunbelt Solomon for two pad mount transformers for a total purchase price of \$65,090.

Member Ohm seconded the motion.

Motion carried unanimously.

AMP BOARD REPRESENTATION:

To ensure diversity on the AMP Board of Trustees, Director Jakubczak presented City Resolution No 23-13 recommending Coldwater appoint a representative from the City of Marshall to serve as the alternate.

MOTION: Member Ohm moved to approve City Resolution No. 23-13 as presented and forward to City Council for its approval.

Member Machan seconded the motion.

Motion carried unanimously.

METC TRANSMISSION ASSETS:

To exercise the option to own up to a 20% share of revenues generated from the METC transmission asset, Director Jakubczak presented a Transmission Payment Agreement as well as CBPU Resolution No. 23-01. Staff recommended an 8% share as a better fit and for affordability.

MOTION: Member Whelan moved to approve CBPU Resolution No. 23-01 authorizing the Utility Director to enter into a Transmission Payment Agreement with MSCPA for the purchase of transmission assets from METC as well as to authorize utilizing necessary funds from the MSCPA/Coldwater Rate Levelization Fund to complete the transaction.

Member Ohm seconded the motion.

Motion carried unanimously.

FEBRUARY ICE STORM:

Director Jakubczak presented the Board with a graph detailing customer outage experiences over a 24-hour period due to the ice storm on February 22.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

None

NEW BUSINESS:

DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

- This month's Power Cost Adjustment is \$0.00392 and the PCA for secondary meters is \$0.00404.
- CBPU crews participated in the cardboard sled races that took place at Kiwanis Hill in conjunction with this year's Winter Fest celebration on Saturday, January 28. With a distance of 186 feet, the Bucket Truck, designed by the Lineman, tied with the Service Electricians transformer sled, for a 2nd place finish. The Bucket Truck also won the "Best Use of Materials" award.
- On February 22, an ice storm hit Coldwater and the surrounding areas. CBPU fared well during the day, but around 5:00 p.m., the weight of the ice and the wind caused many branches to break off and hit power lines. At the peak, CBPU had more than 1100 customers without power. Crews started restoration immediately and worked until 3:30 a.m. on February 23. At that time, there were still approximately 380 customers still without power. Crews were sent home for much needed rest and started back up again at 8:00 a.m. CBPU also requested mutual aid from the City of Bowling Green, Ohio. With their help, power was restored to all those that could be restored on the evening of the 23rd.
- March is designated as National Reading Month. CBPU staff will be visiting local schools to read to students whereby helping to promote literacy and cultivate a habit of reading.
- Thursday, March 2 is the date of the launch of the City's redesigned website. With an updated appearance and functionality, the hope is that it will be an easier resource to navigate for our residents, customers, businesses and visitors. Check it out at www.coldwater.org.
- The Coldwater Citizen's Academy's next session is scheduled for Thursday, March 23 at 6:00 p.m. This third session will be covering the CBPU's Electric, Engineering and Energy Efficiency operations.
- The 1.8MW Coldwater Solar Farm located near the Bennet Street substation produced 1,978MWh in 2022. This was enough energy to power 250 residential homes.

A thank you note was received from the Branch Area Career Readiness and Exploration Program at the Branch Intermediate School District for the information provided during a recent field trip.

Coldwater Board of Public Utilities
Regular Meeting Continued
March 2, 2023

DATE OF NEXT MEETING:

The date of the next regular meeting has been scheduled for **Wednesday, April 5, 2023 at 5:00 p.m.**

ADJOURNMENT:

Noting no other business to come before the Board, President Stevens adjourned the meeting at 5:37 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Nicki Luce".

Nicki Luce, Secretary
Coldwater Board of Public Utilities