

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

Coldwater Board of Public Utilities
Coldwater, Michigan

June 1, 2022
5:00 p.m.
Council Chamber

Regular Meeting

PRESENT: Members:
President Stevens, John Wellet, Terry Whelan

Others:
Director Jakubczak, Nicki Luce, John Springhall, Tom Eldridge, Andrew Cameron, Bob Worley, Sheila Puffenberger, Elijah Quinn, Keith Baker, Audrey Tappenden, Don Reid

ABSENT: Vice President Ohm, Travis Machan

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 May 4, 2022.
2. Closed Session of the Board of Directors held May 4, 2022.
3. Workshop of the Board of Directors held May 4, 2022.
4. Regular Meeting of the Michigan South Central Power Agency Board of Commissioners held April 7, 2022.

DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS:

1. Board of Public Utilities Operation Reports and Financial Statements for April 2022.
2. Bills and Accounts for period ending May 31, 2022.
3. Power Supply Cost Projections.
4. MERS Defined Benefit Pension Plan Statement for the quarter ending March 31, 2022.

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

Member Whelan seconded the motion.

Motion carried unanimously.

REGULAR AGENDA

ELIJAH QUINN, OJT EXPERIENCE PRESENTATION:

Elijah Quinn, BACC student, shared his On-the-Job Training experience working in the IT Department this school year.

2022/2023 FISCAL YEAR BUDGETS:

Finance Director, Tom Eldridge, presented a summary of the CBPU 2022/2023 fiscal year utility operating budgets as well as the proposed capital budgets. The Board was asked to approve the budgets as presented and forward to City Council for inclusion in the City budget.

MOTION: Member Wellet moved to approve the CBPU 2022/2023 fiscal year utility operating budgets and capital budgets as presented and forward to City Council for inclusion in the City budget.

Member Whelan seconded the motion.

Motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC ACT 95:

Public Act 95 (PA 95) creates a funding mechanism for low-income energy assistance by establishing a non-by-passable surcharge for every Michigan electric utility. By July 1 of each year, each electric utility has the option to opt in or opt out of PA 95. Since its inception, the CBPU has chosen to opt out of PA 95. Staff recommended the Board opt out of PA 95 for fiscal year 2022/2023.

MOTION: Member Whelan moved to approve the CBPU opt out of PA 95 for fiscal year 2022/2023.

Member Wellet seconded the motion.

Motion carried unanimously.

AGREEMENT NO. A22-18 REVISIONS:

Due to a clerical error found in Agreement No. A22-18 following approval by both the CBPU Board and the City Council in May, Director Jakubczak recommended the Board approve the corrections as presented and forward to City Council.

MOTION: Member Wellet moved to approve the percentage changes as presented in Agreement No. A22-18 and forward to City Council.

Member Whelan seconded the motion.

Motion carried unanimously.

ASSIGNMENT OF VILLAGE OF UNION CITY INTERESTS IN AMPGS:

To assign and assume the allocation of the Village of Union City's interests under the Power Sales Contract regarding the AMP Generating Station, the Board was presented with Agreement No. A22-24.

MOTION: Member Whelan moved to adopt Agreement No. A22-24 as presented and forward to City Council for final authorization.

Member Wellet seconded the motion.

Motion carried unanimously.

MSCPA AMENDED AND RESTATED BY-LAWS AND ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION:

To reflect current business practices and to remove the Village of Union City, Director Jakubczak recommended Board approval to amend and restate the Michigan South Central Power Agency By-Laws and Articles of Incorporation as presented and forward to City Council for final authorization and posting by the City Clerk.

MOTION: Member Wellet moved to approve the Amended and Restated By-Laws and Articles of Incorporation as presented and forward to City Council for final authorization and posting by the City Clerk.

Member Whelan seconded the motion.

Motion carried unanimously.

MISO AUCTION RESULTS / SUMMER POWER SUPPLY CONCERNS:

Director Jakubczak shared the 2022/2023 MISO capacity auction results, which has Zone 7 clearing at Cost of New Entry (CONE) \$236.66 per MW-day. Last year, Zone 7 cleared at \$5.00 per MW-day. The increase is a result of potential shortfall of power supply in the MISO footprint. Director Jakubczak also addressed the possibility of utilizing energy conservation programs.

ENERGY EDUCATION / SAFE ELECTRICITY BOARD:

Per Section III C of the Utility Director Employment Agreement dated March 7, 2022, Director Jakubczak disclosed his affiliation with The Energy Education Council / Safe Electricity and requested permission to remain on the Board of Directors until the end of the year.

MOTION: Member Wellet moved to approve the Utility Director's request to remain on The Energy Education Council / Safe Electricity's Board of Directors until the end of the year.

Member Whelan seconded the motion.

Motion carried unanimously.

FIBER CONSTRUCTION UPDATE:

ISP Operations Manager, Bob Worley, updated the Board on the progress of Phase II of the fiber project.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

None

NEW BUSINESS:

DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

- This month's power supply cost adjustment is \$0.01186. PCA for secondary meters is \$0.01221.
- Dave Howell has announced his retirement from the Electric Department after 30 years of service. Dave began his career with CBPU on January 17, 1992 as an Apprentice Lineman after graduating from Southwestern Technical College in Jackson, Minnesota in May 1991. He then graduated from Wolverine Power Supply Cooperative Joint Apprenticeship & Training Program and officially became a Journeyman Lineman in October 1995. Since that time, Dave has been a loyal employee tirelessly serving the Coldwater community as well as many other communities when mutual aid was needed. Dave's knowledge and leadership will truly be missed. Dave's last day was May 31. We wish him, and his wife, Amy, nothing but the very best in their future retirement endeavors.

Matt Brown has accepted the open Service Electrician position in the Electric Department. This now leaves a void for a Locator. Staff will be looking to fill this position as quickly as possible.

On May 20, the Joint Michigan Apprentice Program (JMAP) celebrated the graduation of 20 apprentice linemen from several Michigan utilities to become journeymen electrical line workers. Among those were our very own, Brent Somerlott and Bryce Withington.

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- Staff participated in the Kids Consider Careers program where 6th graders from Branch County were exposed to different career and college options available within our community.
- CBPU had seven BACC students from the Electrical Technologies Program job shadow crews in the Electric, Engineering and Telecommunications Department May 10-13. Students were given orientation by the Director and Electric Superintendent before experiencing daily operations in all departments.
- The recipient of the 2022 CBPU scholarship at the Branch Area Career Center was Elijah Quinn. Elijah was enrolled in the Computer and Networking Technology Program at BACC and will be pursuing a degree in Computer Science at Michigan Tech in the fall. Elijah was presented with a \$1,000 scholarship at the Senior Recognition Ceremony on May 19.
- The Water Department has received their electric Polaris Ranger. The UTV will be used extensively to maintain Waterworks Park and the surrounding property.
- A donation of a new solar picnic table was installed at Heritage Park. Visitors to the park will now be able to charge their cell phones or “plug in” while enjoying the outdoors.

In addition to the picnic table, a solar street light is being installed in Rotary Park to improve illumination and security around the boat launch and parking area.

- The City of Coldwater’s annual Strawberry Fest will be held downtown on Saturday, June 18 from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Crafters, food vendors, musical performances and of course strawberries will fill downtown for the first time in over a year.

A thank you note was received from Elijah Quinn for allowing him the opportunity to be an OJT student this past school year in the IT Department.

A thank you note was received from Kellogg Community College and the Branch Area Careers Center for sharing career information to 6th graders from across Branch County.

Thank you notes were received from several Branch Area Careers Center students for the opportunity to job shadow in the Electric, Engineering and Telecommunications Departments.

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DATE OF NEXT MEETING:

The date of the next regular meeting is **Wednesday, July 6, 2022 at 5:00 p.m.**

ADJOURNMENT:

Noting no other business to come before the Board, President Stevens adjourned the meeting at 5:58 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Nicki Luce". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned below the text "Respectfully Submitted,".

Nicki Luce, Secretary
Coldwater Board of Public Utilities