

CWEP BOARD MEETING MINUTES

The Carthage Water & Electric Plant Board met in regular session March 26th, 2025, 3:00 p.m. at the CWEP Office, 627 W Centennial, Carthage, MO.

Board:

- Brian Schmidt -Secretary
- Ron Ross- President
- Darren Collier -Vice President
- Lori Leece -Liaison

- Sid Teel - Member
- Tom Garrison – Member
- Mark Gier - Member

*Attended via videoconference

Staff:

- Chuck Bryant-General Manager
- Cassandra Ludwig-General Counsel
- Jason Peterson-Director of IT & Broadband
- Megan Kirby- Executive Assistant

- Jason Choate-Director of Water Services
- Kelli Nugent/CFO
- Kevin Emery-Director of Power Services
- Stephanie Howard-Economic Development Manager

Others present: City Administrator Traci Cox; City Councilmember Jana Schramm; Power Plant Manager Preston Storm

President Ross called the meeting to order at 3:05 p.m.

ADDITIONS/CHANGES TO THE AGENDA:

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

A motion by Collier and seconded by Schmidt to approve the minutes as presented of the regular meeting of February 20, 2025, passed unanimously.

APPROVAL OF DISBURSEMENTS:

A motion by Schmidt and seconded by Teel to approve disbursements for February in the amount of \$5,873,410.94, passed unanimously.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT:

CFO Nugent presented the February 2025 financials to the Board, noting that combined operating revenues were below budget for the month and year to date, combined operating expenses were under budget for the month and year to date.

A motion by Garrison and seconded by Collier to approve the February 2025 financials passed unanimously.

COMMITTEE REPORTS: None.

CITIZENS PARTICIPATION PERIOD:

General Manager Bryant welcomed Meagan Milliken-Public Relations Manager; Savanna Jones-Customer Service Representative and Amber Lasiter- Customer Service Representative to the meeting. Bryant commended these employees for the work they do during electric outages including filtering phone calls and managing social media. GM Bryant acknowledged while at times it is a thankless job, these ladies maintain great professionalism and a great image of the Utility.

GM Bryant also welcomed Power Plant Manager Preston Storm to the meeting and highlighted the work of the Dispatchers and Power Plant Maintenance crews on managing outage situations.

GM Bryant congratulated City Administrator Traci Cox on her new role for the city and expressed his excitement for her.

OLD BUSINESS: None.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Consideration for Engine Silencer Shrouding

General Manager Bryant reported proposals were requested to shroud four engine silencers at the CWEP Power Plant. Site visits were conducted with several contractors interested in the project. Farabee Mechanical, Inc. submitted a proposal for \$151,674.00, which includes a five-year warranty on materials and labor. Another proposal was received from John Henry Foster for \$207,540.86, offering a one-year warranty on materials and labor. Two other contractors declined to participate in the project.

Power Plant Manager Preston Storm presented some background information and visuals regarding the Silencer Shrouding project.

Upon consideration and approval, a recommendation was made to award this project to Farabee Mechanical, Inc. in the amount of \$151,674.00. This contractor has previously provided other quality contracting services at the CWEP Power Plant.

A motion by Collier and seconded by Schmidt to award this project to Farabee Mechanical, Inc. in the amount of 151,674.00, passed unanimously.

STAFF REPORTS:

GM Bryant gave an update on the water reallocations of Stockton Lake. He gave the board an update on the truck barn expansion project. Bryant reviewed the series of outages that have occurred over the last month, including a breakdown of the potential causes from the SWPA substation. GM Bryant announced Nicki Fuller is leaving SPRA and she will be greatly missed. He reported the Tower-to-Tower Run is scheduled for May 10th. Bryant noted the next Customer Academy is coming up and will be held every Wednesday from April 9th to May 7th and asked for the Board to help spread the word.

CFO Nugent was thrilled to announce the accounting upgrades her staff have been working on including implementing new modules. These upgrades have been initiated by our software provider, Professional Computer Solutions, LLC, at no cost to the utility.

Executive Assistant Kirby announced the CWEP Company Picnic will be held on Saturday, May 31st at Municipal Park.

BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS:

Board Member Gier expressed his hopes of finding a way to communicate better with the City.

At 5:20 pm a motion by Schmidt and seconded by Collier to adjourn the meeting passed unanimously.

President – Ron Ross

Secretary – Brian Schmidt