

CWEP

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

The Carthage Water & Electric Plant Board met in regular session October 23rd, 2025, 3:00 p.m. at the CWEP Office, 627 W. Centennial, Carthage, MO.

Board:

Brian Schmidt -Vice President
 Ron Ross- Member
 Darren Collier - President
 Jack Perkins - Liaison

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

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: Mayor Bren Flanigan; City Councilmember Jana Schramm; Accountant Mandy Bates; Accountant Ben Schwarting; Accountant Jamie Jadwin

President Collier called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.

ADDITIONS/CHANGES TO THE AGENDA:

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

A motion by Gier and seconded by Garrison to approve the minutes as presented of the regular meeting of September 18th, 2025, passed unanimously.

APPROVAL OF DISBURSEMENTS:

A motion by Garrison and seconded by Schmidt to approve disbursements for September in the amount of \$6,888,555.71, passed unanimously.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT:

Accountant Ben Schwarting presented the financials to the Board. He reported September had a positive change in net position. Director of Power Services Emery reported operating revenues on the electric side exceeded budget for both the month and year to date and operating expenses were over budget for the month and year to date. Emery reported on Sikeston's error supplying generation data to the Southwest Power Pool and transmission expenses being higher than normal as the big contributors for the month. Director of Water services Choate reported operating revenues for the water department exceeded budget for

the month and year to date and operating expenses were under budget for the month and year to date. He also noted on the wastewater side operating revenues exceeded budget for both the month and year to date and operating expenses were under budget for the month. Director of IT & Broadband Peterson noted operating revenues on the communication side exceeded budget for the month and year to date and Operating expenses were under budget for the month.

A motion by Teel and seconded by Schmidt to approve the September 2025 financials passed unanimously.

COMMITTEE REPORTS: None.

CITIZENS PARTICIPATION PERIOD: None.

OLD BUSINESS: None.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Consideration of bids for the Sub 4 Power Transformer & Accessories 2025 Project

General Manager Bryant noted a formal request was issued seeking qualified contractors to construct the Sub 4 Power Transformer & Accessories 2025 Project. Proposals were received from Niagara Power Transformer, LLC in the amount of \$1,507,392.00, WEG Transformers USA in the amount of \$1,588,100.00, Prolec-GE Waukesha, Inc. in the amount of \$1,797,969.00, Power Solutions, LLC in the amount of \$1,930,965.00, Hitachi Energy USA Inc. in the amount of \$2,058,951.00 and Delta Star, Inc. in the amount of \$2,417,532.00.

After a thorough assessment, Niagara Power Transformer, LLC, contingent on negotiation of mutually agreeable Terms and Conditions, met all specifications and requirement requests of Allgeier, Martin and Associates, Inc. on behalf of CWEP and offered the lowest project cost.

A motion by Gier and seconded by Garrison to award this project to Niagara Power Transformer, LLC contingent on negotiation of mutually agreeable terms and conditions in the amount of \$1,507,392.00, passed unanimously.

2. Consideration of bids for ½-Ton Crew Cab Truck and ¾-Ton Diesel Crew Cab Truck

General Manager Bryant reported proposals were requested for a new 2025 or 2026 ½-ton 4WD crew cab truck for the Operation Technology team, and a 2025 or 2026 ¾-ton 4WD diesel cab truck for the Electric Distribution department. The following proposals were received:

½-ton (Operation Technology)

- Nashville Automotive, LLC **\$55,235.00**, 60-day lead time, 2026 Chevrolet
- Nroute Enterprises of Ozark **\$59,495.00**, 120-day lead time, 2026 Chevrolet

¾-ton (Electric Distribution)

- Nroute Enterprises of Ozark **\$65,920.00**, 10-day lead time, 2026 Ford
\$72,409.00, 10-day lead time, 2026 Dodge
- Rush Truck Centers of Joplin \$65,991.00, 60-day lead time, 2026 Ford
- Premier Auto Sales \$69,500.00, 1 week lead time, 2026 Dodge

After evaluating the proposals, the departments determined that the 2026 ½-ton Chevrolet from Nashville Automotive and the 2026 ¾-ton Ford from Nroute Enterprises best meet the specifications while staying below the budgeted amounts.

A motion by Schmidt and seconded by Teel to award the purchase of one 2026 Chevrolet Silberado to Nashville Automotive in the amount of \$55,235.00 and one 2026 Ford F-250 to Nroute Enterprises in the amount of \$65,920.00, passed unanimously.

3. Consideration of Resolution 2025.05: Missouri Highways and Transportation Commission Lighting Maintenance Agreement

General Manager Bryant presented Resolution 2025.05: Missouri Highways and Transportation Commission Lighting Maintenance Agreement to the Board. He noted the adoption of this resolution will allow CWEP to install and maintain lighting improvements located in the right-of-way owned and operated by the Missouri Highways and Transportation Commission at the intersections of Route 571 & Airport Drive; and Route 571 & Elk Street, both located within the city limits of the City of Carthage.

A motion by Garrison and seconded by Schmidt to pass Resolution 2025.05: Missouri Highways and Transportation Lighting Maintenance Agreement, passed unanimously.

STAFF REPORTS:

General Manager Bryant gave an update on CFO Nugent and announced she received some good news. Bryant reported he attended the MPUA Annual Conference and appreciated the participation from a couple of the board members. He noted the Strategic Plan meeting will be held November 12-13th at MPUA in Columbia, MO. He announced a Luncheon will be held on November 14th with a keynote speaker regarding CWEP's core values.

Accountant Ben Schwarting noted the accounting department has been in contact with CFO Nugent and assured the Board they are groomed for the task ahead with Nugent in and out of the office. He reported they will be working on payroll, including insurance adjustments and W-2's are coming up as well. He noted that the final report from Lagers was received, which is one of the final steps of finalizing the audit.

General Counsel and Director of Customer Relations Ludwig reported the RP3 application has been submitted and the results can be expected usually around the end of January or beginning

of February time frame. She noted open enrollment was sent out and closed last week. She reported Fall has been a very busy season with many trainings for her staff. She noted Public Power week went very well. She reported it's been a very busy month with community involvement including Football tailgate bucket truck rides; the touch a truck event and the Maple Leaf Chili cook off event. Ludwig announced the Sparkle in the Park Lighting ceremony will be on Monday, November 24th. She continues to work with Kevin and Elvis on a policy regarding the interconnection and billing of solar facilities larger than 100 kW in size.

Director of Water Services reported he attended the Water Coalition meeting yesterday.

Director of It and Broadband services Peterson reported on fiber installations for the month. He reported that the IT team is undertaking a transition from VMware virtualization software to the Proxmox platform. This initiative is aimed at optimizing system performance and achieving a reduction in annual support expenditures

Director of Economic Development Howard reported they had their first site visit at the Carthage Economic Development Park and reviewed the steps it took to get to this stage.

Director of Power Supply Emery reported the Feeder 20 project is progressing, they are working on underground work this week. He noted bids for the Sub 4 69KV circuit switch should go out this week. He noted the SWPA facilities study agreement should be reviewed by the end of the month. He noted CWEP received their 20th Annual Tree-line USA certification.

BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS:

Board Member Gier reported he attended the MPUA Annual Conference and was impressed with the obvious positive presence of CWEP at the conference.

President Collier thanked the staff for all the Public Power Week activities and is looking forward to Sparkle in the Park. He expressed his appreciation to all.

At 4:39 p.m. a motion by Schmidt and seconded by Garrison to adjourn the meeting passed unanimously.

President – Darren Collier

Secretary – Sid Teel