

CWEP

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

The Carthage Water & Electric Plant Board met in regular session February 19, 2026, 3:00 p.m. at the CWEP Office, 627 W. Centennial, Carthage, MO.

Board:

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| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Brian Schmidt -Vice President | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sid Teel - Secretary |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ron Ross- Member | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Tom Garrison – Member |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Darren Collier - President | <input type="checkbox"/> Mark Gier – Member |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jack Perkins - Liaison | |

Staff:

- | | |
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| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Chuck Bryant-General Manager | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jason Choate-Director of Water Services |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cassandra Ludwig-General Counsel | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Kelli Nugent/CFO |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jason Peterson-Director of IT & Broadband | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Kevin Emery-Director of Power Services |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Megan Kirby- Executive Assistant | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Stephanie Howard-Economic Development Manager |

Others present: Mayor Bren Flanigan; City Councilmember Jana Schramm; City Councilmember Beth Kang; Accountant Mandy Bates; Accountant Ben Schwarting; Accountant Jamie Jadwin; Meter Services Manager Elvis Castor

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

ADDITIONS/CHANGES TO THE AGENDA: None.

CITIZENS PARTICIPATION PERIOD:

President and CEO of the Carthage Chamber of Commerce, Julie Reams, gave the Board an overview of upcoming and ongoing events happening in Carthage. She expressed her appreciation and gratitude for the partnership and collaboration efforts with CWEP. GM Bryant commended Julie for all her hard work.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

A motion by Teel and seconded by Garrison to approve the minutes as presented of the regular meeting of January 15th, 2026, passed unanimously.

APPROVAL OF DISBURSEMENTS:

A motion by Ross and seconded by Schmidt to approve disbursements for January in the amount of \$4,517,714.88, passed unanimously.

REPORT OF OPERATIONS:

Director of IT & Broadband Services Peterson reported operating revenues for the month fell below budget expectations but have exceeded the budget year to date. He noted operating expenses were under budget for the month and year to date. He noted a new milestone was hit with 3300 active services giving a 44% take rate.

Director of Water Services Choate reported operating expenses were significantly below budget for the month and year to date. He noted there have been 5 main water breaks over the last month. He reported wastewater operating revenues exceeded budget and operating expenses were under budget. He emphasized mother nature has been on our side this year. Choate reported that he received a notification from DNR that CWEP is on the intended use funding list for a \$5 Million grant to replace lead service lines.

Director of Power Services Emery reported net income was over budget due to higher revenues from the purchase power adjustment and operating expenses being under budget due to purchase power energy expenses being less than expected. He noted Dogwood returned to normal operation at the end of January and ran well during Winter Storm Fern, which helped with the SPP Energy revenues. He reported Sikeston is still having troubles with repairs on the boiler feed pump and are still running at half load until the repairs are completed. Emery noted Plum Point is still offline, MPUA is hopeful that the outage will be completed by the end of February.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT:

CFO Nugent presented the January financials to the Board. She reported combined operating revenues exceeded budget and combined operating expenses were under budget for the month and year to date.

A motion by Schmidt and seconded by Garrison to approve the January 2026 financials passed unanimously.

COMMITTEE REPORTS: None.

OLD BUSINESS: None.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Consideration of Resolution 2026.02: Retirement Resolution for Elvis Castor

General Manager Bryant recognized the retirement of Meter Services Manager, Elvis Castor, reading a resolution in his honor. GM Bryant thanked Elvis for over 26 years of faithful service and wished him all the best going forward. Elvis thanked the board and expressed his sincere gratitude to everyone at CWEP.

A motion by Schmidt and seconded by Garrison to approve the retirement resolution for Elvis Castor passed unanimously.

2. Consideration of Access Road For Economic Development Park

General Manager Bryant presented the project of an Access Road for the Economic Development Park to the Board. The following proposals were received from Randy Dubry Construction, LLC:

- Access Road to the new Industrial park \$498,000.00
- Access Road to the new proposed Substation site \$190,000.00

This work will be performed under CWEP's General Construction and Operational Maintenance Repair Services contract.

A motion by Schmidt and seconded by Garrison to award this project to Randy Dubry Construction, LLC in the total amount of \$688,000.00, passed unanimously.

3. Consideration of bids for CWEP Well Maintenance

General Manager Bryant reported bids were requested to establish a renewable agreement with a qualified contractor to provide CWEP with well maintenance and repair services. These services will be performed as on on-call, as-needed basis and will include an annual inspection program for designated pumping systems.

Flynn Drilling Company was the only bid received. Flynn Drilling has provided CWEP with exceptional maintenance and repair services in previous years and has demonstrated a thorough knowledge of CWEP's systems and operational requirements.

A motion by Ross and seconded by Teel to award this contract to Flynn Drilling Company, passed unanimously.

4. Consideration of bids for Fiber Optic Splicing Trailer

General Manager Bryant reported CWEP requested proposals for a new Fiber Optic Splicing Trailer for the Communications Department. The following proposals were received:

- Mobile Tech Trailer Holdings, LLC \$42,340.00 6-week lead time
- Total Trailers \$43,900.00 8-week lead time
- Intelli-Core, LLC \$53,907.83 23-week lead time
- Altec Industries \$55,138.00 30-week lead time

After reviewing the proposals, the Communications department determined that the two lower bids did not meet the specifications required and were made of a different kind of construction

that CWEP had experienced issues with in the past. The trailer from Intelli-Core, LLC best meets the required specifications while remaining within budget.

A motion by Garrison and seconded by Schmidt to award the purchase of the Fiber Optic Splicing Trailer in the amount of \$53,907.83 to Intelli-Core, LLC, passed unanimously.

5. Consideration of bids for Substation No. 4 Switches

General Manager Bryant noted a formal request was issued seeking qualified contractors to construct the Substation No. 4 Switch project. Proposals were received from the following:

- Mindcore Technologies, Inc. c/o Electrorep Energy Products, Inc., in the amount of \$114,760.00,
- Cleaveland/Pirce, Inc. c/o Gateway Power Sales in the amount of \$119,441.12
- Hubbell, LLC c/o Fletcher-Reinhardt in the amount of \$152,568.00
- Southern States, LLC c/o McMullen-Niemann & Associates, Inc. in the amount of \$147,252.00
- Graybar Electric in the amount of \$170,440.92

After a thorough assessment, MindCore Technologies, Inc. c/o Electrorep Energy Products, Inc., contingent of negotiation of mutually agreeable Terms and Conditions, met all specifications and requirements of Allgeier, Martin and Associates, Inc.'s request of behalf of CWEP and offered the lowest project cost.

A motion by Teel and seconded by Ross to award this project to MindCore Technologies, Inc. c/o Electrorep Energy Products, Inc., in the amount of \$114,760.00, passed unanimously.

6. Consideration of bids for Water Line Replacement at Zapletal Way and Forest Drive

General Manager Bryant reported bids were reviewed for the Water Line Replacement project on Zapletal Way and Forest Drive with Signature Excavating LLC of Neosho, Missouri as the apparent low bidder in the amount of \$610,817.00. Signature Excavating has indicated that they intend to enter into a contract with CWEP to build the project and they appear to be capable of obtaining all necessary bonds and insurance, and performing the work specified.

In addition, the final pavement replacement will be completed through the City's yearly paving contract with Blevins Asphalt. They have estimated the final paving costs for this project to be an additional \$51,228.25.

A motion by Ross and seconded by Teel to award this Water Line Replacement project to Signature Excavating LLC of Neosho, Missouri in the amount of \$610,817.00 and the paving costs by Blevins Asphalt in the amount of \$51,228.25, passed unanimously.

7. Consideration of Resolution 2026.03: SWPA Facilities Study and Environmental Documentation Agreement

General Manager Bryant presented Resolution 2026.03: SWPA Facilities Study and Environmental Documentation Agreement to the Board. He noted the resolution will forward the contract to City Council, and once signed, will allow CWEP to begin the work of adding an additional transformer at the SPA substation on the south side of town.

A motion by Schmidt and seconded by Teel to approve Resolution 2026.03: SWPA Facilities Study and Environmental Documentation Agreement, passed unanimously.

STAFF REPORTS:

CFO Nugent noted the Inventory QR coding project is underway and introduced Accountant Jamie Jadwin to give an update. Jamie announced all inventory tags have been replaced with QR codes, and they will begin testing on the app next week. She emphasized time savings being a major benefit of this project. Jamie noted hopes with being fully live with the project at the beginning of April. CFO Nugent noted there will be some trainings on Monday morning for Directors and Managers regarding the new Springboard Modules.

General Counsel and Director of Customer Relations Ludwig noted in January, Richard Graves was introduced to the Meter Services department, and it is going well. She noted Elvis is working a few part-time hours virtually to help ensure the meter upgrade project is successful. She announced the Tower-to-Tower Run will be held on May 9th this year. She noted the kiosk card reader had to be replaced due to a misplaced coin in the card reader slot. Ludwig extended her heartfelt appreciation for Elvis Castor and expressed how much he will be missed at CWEP.

Director of Power Services reported CWEP contracted with Nextera Energy to sell 20 megawatts of excess capacity off the Dogwood unit starting in December of 2026 through May of 2028. He noted Integrated Resource Plan statements of qualifications were received and an initial review has been completed.

Director of Economic Development Howard gave an update on the industrial park. She commended the CWEP staff and City Staff for getting together in one room and working very well with each other to resolve some issues that arose for an industrial customer.

General Manager Bryant congratulated Director of Water Services, Jason Choate on being appointed by the Governor to the Safe Drinking Water Commission, he noted that it is an incredible honor for him and is certainly well deserved. He also commended Jason Choate on all his hard work getting the \$5 million grant for the lead service line project. Bryant expressed his appreciation to the Board for approving projects allowing time to meet deadlines. He noted there was a meeting with Public Works to help with process improvement efficiencies, and it

went well. He noted he attended a meeting with the city discussing ordinances and it also went well.

BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS:

President Collier congratulated Jason Choate on his appointment by the Governor to the Safe Drinking Water Commission.

At 4:47 p.m. a motion was made by Schmidt and seconded by Teel to adjourn the meeting.

President – Darren Collier

Secretary – Sid Teel