



GRAND RAPIDS PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday, September 23, 2026

4:00 PM

CALL TO ORDER: Pursuant to due notice and call thereof, a Regular Meeting of the Grand Rapids Public Utilities Commission will be held on Wednesday, September 23, 2026 at 4:00 PM in the conference room of the Public Works/Public Utilities Service Center at 500 SE 4th Street, Grand Rapids, Minnesota.

President Stanley called the meeting to order at 4:03 PM.

CALL OF ROLL:

PRESENT: President Tom Stanley, Secretary Luke Francisco, Commissioner Nancy Saxhaug, Commissioner Rick Smith, Council Representative Rick Blake

OTHERS: Julie Kennedy, Michael LeClaire, Taylor Bird, Megan Sjostrand

PUBLIC FORUM:

No one from the public was present.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

1. Consider a motion to approve the August 10, 2026 Special Meeting and the August 26, 2026 Special Work Session and Regular Meeting Minutes.

Motion made by Commissioner Smith, Seconded by Council Representative Blake to approve the August 10, 2026 Special Meeting.

Voting Yea: President Stanley, Secretary Francisco, Commissioner Saxhaug, Commissioner Smith, Council Representative Blake

Motion made by Commissioner Saxhaug, Seconded by Council Representative Blake to approve the August 26, 2026 Special Work Session and Regular Meeting Minutes.

Voting Yea: President Stanley, Secretary Francisco, Commissioner Saxhaug, Commissioner Smith, Council Representative Blake

VERIFIED CLAIMS:

2. Consider a motion to approve \$1,957,102.68 in verified claims for September 2026.

Motion made by Secretary Francisco, Seconded by Commissioner Saxhaug to approve \$1,957,102.68 in verified claims for September 2026.

Voting Yea: President Stanley, Secretary Francisco, Commissioner Saxhaug, Commissioner Smith, Council Representative Blake

COMMISSION REPORTS:

Council Representative Blake reported that he attended the first blast at Mesabi Metallica and that production is expected to begin soon.

President Stanley recognized Commissioner Smith for being selected to participate in Leadership Minnesota. Commissioner Smith shared that the program, offered through the Minnesota Chamber of Commerce, brings together approximately 40 business leaders from across the state to tour businesses and facilities and learn more about Minnesota's economy and industries.

CONSENT AGENDA: Any item on the consent agenda shall be removed for consideration by the request of any one Commission member, Utility Staff, or the public and put on the regular agenda for discussion and consideration.

Motion made by Secretary Francisco, Seconded by Commissioner Saxhaug to approve the consent agenda as presented.

Voting Yea: President Stanley, Secretary Francisco, Commissioner Saxhaug, Commissioner Smith, Council Representative Blake

3. Consider a motion to ratify Ordering Document US-22401761 with Oracle in the amount of \$13,889.00 to update the mapping for the NS4G employer-paid expense accounts.

Approved on consent agenda.

SETTING OF REGULAR AGENDA: This is an opportunity to approve the regular agenda as presented, or add/delete an agenda item by a majority vote of the Commission members present.

Motion made by Commissioner Saxhaug, Seconded by Commissioner Smith to approve the regular agenda as presented.

Voting Yea: President Stanley, Secretary Francisco, Commissioner Saxhaug, Commissioner Smith, Council Representative Blake

OPERATIONS & CAPITAL BUSINESS:

4. Consider a motion to confirm the hiring of Emma Braford as a temporary, part-time GIS Technician Intern.

Motion made by Commissioner Smith, Seconded by Council Representative Blake to confirm the hiring of Emma Braford as a temporary, part-time GIS Technician Intern.

Voting Yea: President Stanley, Secretary Francisco, Commissioner Saxhaug, Commissioner Smith, Council Representative Blake

5. Operations & Capital Updates

GRPU staff presented the Operations & Capital Updates.

CONTRACTS:

6. Consider a motion to approve the fourth amendment to the antenna lease agreement with AT&T for the north water tower and authorize the General Manager to sign the contract.

Motion made by Council Representative Blake, Seconded by Commissioner Saxhaug to approve the fourth amendment to the antenna lease agreement with AT&T for the north water tower and authorize the General Manager to sign the contract.

Voting Yea: President Stanley, Secretary Francisco, Commissioner Saxhaug, Commissioner Smith, Council Representative Blake

7. Consider a motion to approve the procurement contract with Cannon Technologies Inc. (Eaton) for the purchase of 200 RF Gen 2 Water Nodes in the amount of \$32,240 and allow the General Manager to sign the contract.

Motion made by Commissioner Smith, Seconded by Council Representative Blake to approve the procurement contract with Cannon Technologies Inc. (Eaton) for the purchase of 200 RF Gen 2 Water Nodes in the amount of \$32,240 and allow the General Manager to sign the contract.

Voting Yea: President Stanley, Secretary Francisco, Commissioner Saxhaug, Commissioner Smith, Council Representative Blake

REPORTS:

8. Monthly Report

Reviewed the GRPU Monthly Reports.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 4:46 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Megan Sjostrand

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