



# UTILITIES COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

## City of New Prague

Monday, June 24, 2024 at 3:30 PM

Power Plant - 300 East Main St

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### 1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Commission President Dan Bishop on Monday, June 24, 2024, at 3:30 p.m.

Commissioners present: Dan Bishop, Paul Busch, Chuck Nickolay, and Bruce Wolf

Commissioners absent: Tom Ewert

Staff present: GM Bruce Reimers, EOS Ken Zweber, and Finance Director Robin Pikal

### 2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion made by Commissioner Busch, seconded by Commissioner Wolf, to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried (4-0).

### 3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

a. May 28, 2024, Utilities Meeting Minutes

Motion made by Commissioner Bishop, seconded by Commissioner Busch, to approve the May minutes.

Motion carried (4-0).

### 4. UTILITY AND SMMPA BILLS

a. Approval of accounts payable in the amount of **\$134,824.88** and the SMMPA billing of **\$533,610.64**.

Motion made by Commissioner Nickolay, seconded by Commissioner Wolf, to approve the SMMPA and utility bills. Motion carried (4-0).

### 5. FINANCIAL REPORTS

a. Investment Report

b. Financial Report

c. Water and Kilowatt Hours Sales

Motion made by Commissioner Wolf, seconded by Commissioner Busch, to approve the financial reports as presented. Motion carried (4-0).

### 6. ELECTION OF VICE PRESIDENT POSITION

Motion made by Commissioner Wolf, seconded by Commissioner Busch to have Chuck Nickolay serve as Vice President for the remainder of 2024. Motion carried (4-0).

### 7. SMMPA BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

a. May 9, 2024

b. June 13, 2024 (Bruce)

GM Reimers reported on the following:

- SMMPA staff reviewed the long-term budget with the board, indicating that rates should remain stable the next couple of years with some indication that there could be slight rate deductions beginning in 2026 depending on renewable energy and transmission restraints in the MISO footprint.
- NPUC staff and SMMPA members will be having a workshop to discuss the future quick start generation and the possibility of New Prague building new generation facilities if costs are in line with current capacity markets.

#### **8. GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT**

GM Reimers informed the commission on the following:

- The #2 well has been replaced and is back in service. There will be no cost to the utility for its replacement.
- He will be drafting a letter with the help of legal counsel to inform Minnesota Valley Electric of the utility's intent to take over approximately 60 acres of service territory. This area includes the Bisek farm and Robert Yost properties.
- He and Finance Director Pikal discussed the possibility of needing to add some staffing to help with the Billing Clerk position in the future. GM Reimers stated that the need for additional staffing in this position has become evident over the past few years and that this position needs to have multiple personnel with the ability to carry out the task of the Billing Clerk position.

#### **9. OTHER BUSINESS**

None.

#### **10. ADJOURNMENT**

Motion made by Commissioner Bishop, seconded by Commissioner Busch, to adjourn the June 24, 2024, meeting at 4:35 p.m. Motion carried (4-0).

**NEXT COMMISSION MEETING – Monday, July 29, 2024**

Respectfully Submitted,

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Bruce Reimers  
General Manager