

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE RICHLAND CENTER

MUNICIPAL UTILITY COMMISSION

Wednesday, August 12, 2026, 5:30p.m.,

Council Room, Municipal Building, 450 S Main St, Richland Center WI 53581

This Meeting was held in person and via Teams

Members present: Collins, Walters, Hoffman, Jones, Coppernoll and Wallace

Members absent: none

Others present: Gald, Fischer, Krueger, Edwards and Rod Perry

President Sawle called the meeting to order at 5:30p.m. The meeting had been properly posted.

Motion by Wallace, second by Jones to approve the minutes of the last meeting as printed. All voting aye upon voice vote, motion carried.

The Treasurer's Report was received and filed.

Motion by Jones, second by Collins to approve the electric bill for August totaling \$1,022,547.11. Also acknowledges the balance for July, thus totaling \$1,011,072.11. All voting aye upon roll call, motion carried.

Motion by Wallace, second by Sawle to approve the water bills for August totaling \$87,145.62. Also acknowledges the balance to July, thus totaling \$117,531.51. All voting aye upon roll call, motion carried.

Motion by Collins, second by Wallace to approve the sewer bills for August totaling \$157,710.32. Also acknowledges the balance for July, thus totaling \$242,735.95. All voting aye upon roll call, motion carried.

For safety Gald attached the report from Steve Eller from MEUW for the project the water department was working on. He is also working on one for the electric because the hydrostatic let go and Darren was on it all the way to the bottom of the hill at Stori Field. He was very lucky he did not get hurt.

Scott included the MEUW Live Lines in the packet for the commissioners. It talks about the devastation of Menasha after tornadoes. Collins brought up the article about coal plants that are supposed to be shut down are still open and operating costing rate payers money. Walters asked about how often we see bankruptcies. Gald replied about once a year.

A quick update on the APPA rate payer protection pledge to protect the rate payers.

Scott included some information on the 765 Transmission Line. It will not have any effect on City Utilities, but it has been a huge topic in the area and surrounding areas.

Water Superintendent Krueger reported that they have changed 1200 meters to AMI meters. He placed an order for more meters that should be what is needed to finish the project. They have started utility side lead replacements. They are under 20 so hopefully they will be finished by the next deadline for DNR reporting which is November 1, 2027. One new water service was tapped at the main for a new customer, and 3 corroded curb stops were replaced in downtown area. The meeting for the public on the Valley View Project was on site on July 22nd. The meeting went well. G-Pro is a little delayed and looking at the last week of August to start. There will be a webinar on cyber security on August 18th. Staff continue to work on valve exercising for 2026 with good progress being made. Steve has been having discussions with city staff about projects for 2027. The DNR rep was here on August 6th for our 3-year sanitary survey. This was followed with a tour of all three wells. It went well; she was pleased with our progress for lead services. The annual donated fire hydrant to Walk with G.R.A.C.E went for \$250.00. Our onboarding with Hydro Corp is complete and they will be sending out letters to some of our commercial customers for cross-connection inspections.

Wastewater Superintendent Fischer reported that he received 2 emails regarding cyber security for utilities.

Utility Manager/Electric Superintendent Gald reported that the storms that blew through on July 16th caused issues throughout the community. Open Point was launched on the week of July 20th. There was a \$70,000.00 change order to replace the grate at Mill and Main Street with the Valley View Project. The installation of electric service at Stori Field continues. As crews install the electric infrastructure, we are also installing conduit/pipe for Charter and Genuine Telecom. Maggey's last day was last Thursday. It worked out well there was some cross training in the office. She was also able to go to WWTP and load videos into mapping. Devon's last day will be next week. He has been doing most of our mowing and working mostly with water and wastewater. Our new digger truck should be here in December or January. It has been on order for 3 years. Scott is working on RPE. It needs to be done next month. He is also starting to work on budgets.

There was no correspondence.

Coppernoll said he was on Stori Field with the builder and was told the first renter could be in place by Nov 1st. Walters comment on cyber security. Washburn County was hacked and their entire county except 911 has been shut down since last Thursday.

Motion by Collins, second by Coppernoll to adjourn. All voting aye upon voice vote, motion carried without dissent at 6:01p.m. Meeting adjourned.

Minutes submitted by:

Angie Edwards