

MEETING OF THE BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS  
April 2, 2024  
Board Room-303 S. Anthony Street, Kennett, MO 63857

Members Present:

John Robertson  
Tony Parr  
Randy Baker  
Towny Sparks

Others Present:

Jamie Chitester, CEO  
Crystal Dennis, CFO  
Jill Rickman, CHRO  
Marty Johnson, COO

Jake Crafton, Mayor  
Randy Carter, Councilman  
Lisa Dry, Councilwoman

Mr. Robertson called the meeting to order and presented the agenda for approval. Mr. Baker made a motion to approve the agenda. Mr. Parr seconded the motion, and all were in favor.

The March 12, 2024 meeting minutes were presented. Mr. Baker made a motion to approve all minutes as presented. Mr. Parr seconded the motion, and all were in favor.

The February 2024 expenditures were presented. Mr. Sparks made a motion to approve the expenditures as presented. Mr. Parr seconded the motion, and all were in favor.

Chief Operating Officer:

Electric-Crews are working on old pole maintenance and replacement and reconductoring for the new solar generation.

Water/Sewer-Crews have closed College Street at Commercial Street to pour concrete. They have also begun fire hydrant inspections and flushing.

Boring-Employees from the Power Plant, Water/Sewer, and Electric worked to bore 400 feet at FCC Behavioral Health to run services for the new building being constructed. We learned a lot during the job.

Grants-We have not seen any movement in the grant process.

Gas-Crews are finishing up the last remaining AMI meter change outs.

IT-Crews are working on the police cameras and have given them a quote for the cost to create connections.

The Director is applying for a cyber security grant.

Power Plant-Engine 9 is back operational. Engineers are looking at what it would take to get Engine 8 operational beyond the current permit limits. On May 6<sup>th</sup>, KBPW employees will be traveling to Macon Utilities to retrieve engine parts purchased during an auction.

Projects/Purchasing-Our first item went on auction this week online with Gov Deals. The staff are working on data conversion and mapping phases outage management for NISC software conversion.

Chief Executive Officer:

Several staff will be attending the APPA Engineering and Operations Conference where KBPW will be receiving two awards. Mr. Chitester noted that the Gas Department is back profitable after the winter months of increased gas usage by customers. It was announced recently that KBPW would be charging for electric meter bases provided to customers. Customers needing an electric meter base for a new construction or home repairs may purchase an electric meter base from KBPW at our cost. We will no longer be providing them free to customers. Mr. Chitester asked for input from the Board on travel expense stipends in lieu of providing a company owned vehicle. The Board was receptive, and Mr. Chitester stated he would bring a recommendation back to the Board. Mr. Chitester expects to have a recommendation on a location for the new Water Treatment Plant from the engineer at the next board meeting. Rate increases are being seen on bills due this month. Mr. Chitester is working on a rate comparison of local municipalities, cooperatives, and investor-owned utilities in the region. The Frey Farms lawsuit will be going to trial and a date is to be set soon. Staff will be traveling to Poplar Bluff to tour a Solid Waste Transfer Station and it is expected that draft plans for the KBPW Transfer Station will be ready in May. The permitting process for a Transfer Station can take up to a year to complete.

The territorial agreement with PDEC has been received. There will be an onsite visit with engineers at the solar site later this week.

Miscellaneous general:

The next meeting will be April 23, 2024 at 11:30 a.m.

Mayor Crafton asks that KBPW please communicate which grants they wish to apply for due to the fact that some funding agencies limit the number of grants that a municipal entity can apply for in a given year.

Adjournment:

There being no further business, Mr. Sparks made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Parr seconded the motion, and all were in favor.

Attest:

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Randy Baker

Secretary