

MEETING OF THE BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS
March 12, 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
Dennis Pelts, Councilman
Lisa Dry, Councilman
Scott Hunter, Citizen

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

The February 6, 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 January 2024 preliminary financials were presented. No action was required.

The 12-month CD request for bid received quotes from Unico Bank, First State Community Bank, and Southern Bank. Ms. Dennis reported that Unico Bank had the highest quoted rates and recommends accepting their bid. Mr. Parr made a motion to approve the 12-month CD bid from Unico Bank. Mr. Sparks seconded the motion, and all were in favor.

The Business Travel policy was presented with an update for approval in the Employee Handbook. Mr. Sparks made a motion to approve the policy update. Mr. Parr seconded the motion, and all were in favor.

Chief Operating Officer:

Electric-The new auger truck has been received and a leak was found. Crews are working at FCC-Behavioral to install a new underground service for new building construction. We continue to work on reconductoring for the solar farm.

Gas-PSC is onsite doing an audit on our anti-alcohol and drug plan program. Gas was purchased for March through May.

IT-Crews have fixed several squirrel chews and continue to maintenance and installs.

Power Plant-Engine #9 is still down. New batteries for the engine should be here this week, which will hopefully correct the issue. No generation has occurred lately due to low power prices.

Water/Wastewater Treatment-Barry Jarred will be retiring in the fall. Doug Criswell has been moved into the Director position and David Allen has moved from the Electric Department to train as a new operator. Staff are working on several grants. Mr. Johnson shared testing results from before the MBBR was installed and after. The MBBR is performing to meet permit requirements.

Water/Sewer-The Commercial Street line addition is complete and operational.

Chief Executive Officer:

Officers and Directors are working on a Strategic Plan for KBPW and will present it to the Board and share it with the City Council once complete. Mr. Chitester reported that we did not get the reconductoring grant. He is working to update the grant application to reapply. The engineering study for a new Water Treatment Plant should be complete in April. Crews are researching ways for the older engines to be able to meet permit requirements to generate more hours than their current permit limits. Mr. Chitester informed the Board that several customers have expressed concern over high bills and are incorrectly attributing it rate increases. Bills were higher in February and March due to increased usage during extreme cold weather in January that was split on the two bills due to meter reading and billing dates. Rate increases take effect with bills that will be due

in April. Mr. Chitester reported that Frey Farms was not interested in trading land as a settlement option. Grants are being researched for new transfer station builds. Republic Trash Service has expressed interest in some type of partnership with KBPW. The engineering study for the transfer station is on hold due to location determination. Discussion was held on transfer station location and it was determined to build it next to the Compost. Mr. Chitester reported that Pemiscot-Dunklin Electric Cooperative began providing their own power, per the agreement. However, the City Attorney has yet to produce the territorial agreement for signature by both parties. Mayor Crafton stated that he would contact the City Attorney in regards to the territorial agreement.

Miscellaneous general:

The meeting on March 26th will be cancelled due to scheduling conflicts. The next meeting will be April 9, 2024 at 11:30 a.m.

Mr. Pelts asked for an update on the license plate reader cameras project. Mr. Chitester reported that there are some connectivity issues that KBPW employees can fix for a cost. The project is not waiting on KBPW for anything for forward movement in the project.

Adjournment:

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

Attest:

Randy Baker

Secretary