

Kaukauna, WI
April 19, 2023

The regular meeting of Kaukauna Utilities Commission was called to order at 4:00 p.m. by President Lee Meyerhofer. Commission Members present were John Moore, Lee Meyerhofer, Tony Penterman, Sue Hennes, Greg Lenz, and Paul Van Berkel. Also present were Michael Avanzi, Clara Pickett, Dave Pahl, Zach Moureau, Tara Schmitz, Tony Beno, Eric Murphy, Brittany Simonson, and Amy Brick from KU. Also present was Attorney Kira Loehr from Perkins Coie.

It was moved by Tony Penterman, seconded by John Moore to excuse Commissioner Pennie Thiele's absence.

All members voted aye.

Motion Carried

General Manager Michael Avanzi introduced new employees Tony Beno, Relief System Operator and Tara Schmitz, Human Resources Director. The Commission welcomed Tara and Tony to KU.

It was moved by Paul Van Berkel, seconded by Greg Lenz to go out of order and take up #13 on the agenda.

All members voted aye.

Motion Carried

It was moved by John Moore, seconded by Sue Hennes to adjourn to Closed Session pursuant to Wis. State Statute 19.85(1)(g) to confer with legal counsel for the governmental body who is rendering oral or written advice concerning strategy with respect to litigation in which it is or is likely to become involved at 4:02 p.m.

All members voted aye.

Motion Carried

It was moved by John Moore, seconded by Greg Lenz to return to open session at 4:55 p.m.

All members voted aye.

Motion Carried

Communications Coordinator Brittany Simonson presented the newly created Brand Style Guide for KU.

It was moved by Tony Penterman, seconded by John Moore to approve the minutes of the March 15, 2023 Commission meeting.

All members voted aye.

Motion Carried

Environmental & Compliance Manager Zach Moureau discussed the trash rack replacement at the Badger Hydro Plant Power Canal Inlet informing the Commission in 2021, the 1" clear spaced trash racks were removed due to development and subsequent repair of the scour near the north side of the Badger Power Canal trash rack structure. Despite cleaning efforts by employees, the narrowly spaced trash racks were constantly clogged with debris and were a main contributing factor to development of the scour. KU worked with the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR) and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) to develop a more appropriate trash rack design for the power canal intake and protection of fishery resources within the Lower Fox River. It was determined that a 3" clear spaced trash rack was appropriate at the Badger Power Canal Intake and approved by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) for installation by the end of 2023. Included in the cost is to apply an eco-friendly protective coating designed to reduce biofouling adhesion including zebra mussels and algal bio-films. Three bids were received and evaluated with Mike's Welding and Repair, LLC being the lowest evaluated bid.

| Trash Rack Fabrication | |
|--------------------------------|-------------------|
| Contractor | Bid Amount |
| Mike's Welding and Repair, LLC | \$245,855 |
| Tweet/Garot Mechanical | \$273,858 |
| Advantage Machine, LLC | \$422,100 |

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| Trash Rack Installation |
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| Contractor | Bid Amount |
|----------------------------|-------------------|
| Michels Construction | \$108,000 |
| Lunda Construction, Co. | \$134,132 |
| J.F. Brennan Company, Inc. | \$149,558 |
| CR Meyer | \$175,450 |

Based on the results, Mike’s Welding and Repair, LLC had the lowest fabrication proposal at \$245,855 and Michels Construction had the lowest installation proposal at \$108,000. In total, the fabrication and installation cost will be \$353,855, 21% below the 2023 budget of \$450,000.

It was moved by John Moore, seconded by Paul Van Berkel to authorize the General Manager to award fabrication of the replacement trash racks for the Badger Hydro Plant Power Canal Inlet (Project Code G23-06) to Mike’s Welding and Repair, LLC in the amount of \$245,855 and installation of the trash racks to Michels Construction, Inc. in the amount of \$108,000.

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| Roll Call Vote: | Tony Penterman | aye |
| | John Moore | aye |
| | Paul Van Berkel | aye |
| | Sue Hennes | aye |
| | Lee Meyerhofer | aye |
| | Greg Lenz | aye |

Motion Carried

Environmental & Compliance Manager Zach Moureau discussed the Tainter Gate #5 Scour Repair at the Combined Locks Dam (G23-07) and Undermining Repair on the Left Tailrace Wall at the Kaukauna City Plant (G23-04) and informed the Commission during the 2022 FERC required dive inspections, several defects were identified at the Combined Locks Dam and the Kaukauna City Plant (KCP) Hydro. The defects included several areas of undermining along the left tailrace at the KCP that were identified during the 2017 dive inspection, but conditions have deteriorated to necessitate repair. An area of scour was also noted beneath tainter gate #5 at the Combined Locks Dam that was deemed a dam safety concern that needed to be addressed in 2023. Spalling concrete was also noted on the non-overflow wall at the Combined Locks Dam during the dam safety inspections in late 2022. That repair was added to the scope of work at the Combined Locks Dam as a future cost savings measure. The budgeted cost for the Combined Locks Dam repair is \$80,000 and \$60,000 for the KCP repair. Four bids were received with Michels Construction, Inc. being the lowest evaluated bid at \$113,500.

| Combined Locks Dam and Kaukauna City Plant Repair Projects | |
|---|-------------------|
| Contractor | Bid Amount |
| Michels Construction, Inc. | \$113,500 |
| Cornerstone Restoration, LLC | \$132,480 |
| CR Meyer | \$206,542 |
| J.F. Brennan Company, Inc. | \$316,000 |

It was moved by Paul Van Berkel, seconded by Greg Lenz to authorize the General Manager to award the Tainter Gate #5 Scour Repair at the Combined Locks Dam (G23-07) and Undermining Repair on the Left Tailrace Wall at the Kaukauna City Plant (G23-04) to Michels Construction, Inc. in the amount of \$113,500.

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| Roll Call Vote: | Paul Van Berkel | aye |
| | John Moore | aye |
| | Tony Penterman | aye |
| | Sue Hennes | aye |
| | Greg Lenz | aye |
| | Lee Meyerhofer | aye |

Motion Carried

General Manager Michael Avanzi provided a quarterly update on the 2023 Work Plan and Strategic Intent.

The Commission reviewed the Electric and Water Financial Statements and the monthly reports.

General Manager Michael Avanzi reviewed highlights from the monthly department updates informing the Commission we received the Annual Report from Focus on Energy, and it continues to be a great program for us. Tara Schmitz is the new Human Resources Director and Eric Diedrick is the new Mechanical Technician who started on April 17th. Unfortunately, the seasonal employee who was planning to return this summer has found another job so we will be recruiting for a seasonal position. We will be bringing back our IT youth apprentice for another year and the maintenance and water departments are working with CESA6 interviewing candidates for their positions. First quarter employee check-ins have been taking place. We are reopening the KU apparel store for employees and commissioners. An email will be sent Friday with order information.

General Manager Michael Avanzi discussed the GRIP topic area 3 grant KU is applying for. Due to time constraints, this item was not on the Commission agenda for today's meeting. He reminded the Commission that KU wrote a concept paper to the Department of Energy (DOE) for a grid resilience project that could potentially provide up to \$3.5 million dollars of funding. The deadline to apply is May 19th and because KU does not have the resources or expertise to design or put the grant application together, outside support is needed. Staff have been researching and interviewing vendors and have selected who they would like to partner with. The vendor has experience with DOE grants and can write the entire grant application. They quoted time and materials not to exceed \$90,000.

It was moved by Paul Van Berkel, seconded by Greg Lenz to authorize the General Manager to contract with Quanta Technologies to complete the grant application for the GRIP project not to exceed \$90,000.

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| Roll Call Vote: | John Moore | aye |
| | Greg Lenz | aye |
| | Lee Meyerhofer | aye |
| | Paul Van Berkel | aye |
| | Sue Hennes | aye |
| | Tony Penterman | aye |

Motion Carried

General Manager Michael Avanzi continued with highlights from the monthly department updates reminding the Commission last year they approved doing away with the Electro-Mechanical Technician positions and the employees in those positions will become Electrical Technicians. That will go into effect when Tony Beno completes his training in Operations at the end of the month. The winter moratorium ends this month so disconnects will be starting. The second quarter customer newsletter was published April 4th. KU is holding a coloring contest for Drinking Water Week, May 7th – 13th. Starting May 1st, the maintenance crew and line crew will be starting summer hours working four 10 hr. days. The water department crew will work four 9 hr. days and 4 hrs. on Friday starting May 1st.

The Electronics Recycling Event is April 22 from 8-11 at the Warehouse, the MEUW Annual Conference is May 10-12 in Green Bay at Lambeau Field with KU hosting on May 10, and the APPA National Conference is June 19-21 in Seattle, WA. If Commissioners would like to attend any event, let Amy know.

The Commission chose not to adjourn to closed session pursuant to Wis. State Statute 19.85(f) for review of data Kaukauna Utilities is prohibited from making public under Wis. Stat. 196.137, including Kaukauna Utilities Write Off Journal details, Check Register details and Customer Usage and Billing.

It was moved by John Moore, seconded by Sue Hennes to approve the March accounts receivable write-offs.

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| Roll Call Vote: | Tony Penterman | aye |
| | John Moore | aye |
| | Paul Van Berkel | aye |
| | Sue Hennes | aye |
| | Lee Meyerhofer | aye |
| | Greg Lenz | aye |

Motion Carried

It was moved by John Moore, seconded by Greg Lenz that checks numbered 1224 through 1250, and checks numbered 77974 through 78105 in the amount of \$3,807,472.93 be approved for payment.

Roll Call Vote:

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| John Moore | aye |
| Greg Lenz | aye |
| Lee Meyerhofer | aye |
| Paul Van Berkel | aye |
| Sue Hennes | aye |
| Tony Penterman | aye |

Motion Carried

It was moved by John Moore, seconded by Paul Van Berkel to adjourn to Closed Session pursuant to Wis. State Statute 19.85(1)(e) for the purpose of deliberating or negotiating the purchasing of public properties, the investing of public funds, or conducting other specified public business, whenever competitive or bargaining reasons require a closed session at 6:18 p.m.

All members voted aye.

Motion Carried

It was moved by Tony Penterman, seconded by John Moore to return to open session at 7:00 p.m.

All members voted aye.

Motion Carried

It was moved by Paul Van Berkel, seconded by Sue Hennes to adjourn.

All members voted aye.

Motion Carried

The meeting ended at 7:01 p.m.

John P. Moore
Secretary

Minutes taken by Amy Brick