

Kaukauna, WI
January 17, 2024

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, Pennie Thiele, Sue Hennes, Greg Lenz, Lee Meyerhofer, Tony Penterman, and Paul Van Berkel. Also present were Michael Avanzi, Clara Pickett, Dave Pahl, Zach Moureau, Tara Schmitz, Eric Miller, Amme Storma, and Amy Brick from KU, Richard Heinemann from Boardman Clark, Steve Engebos, WPPI Energy Services Manager, and Brian Roebke.

There was no public comment.

It was moved by John Moore, seconded by Sue Hennes to approve the minutes of the December 21, 2023 Commission meeting.

All members voted aye.

Motion Carried

Manager of Engineering & Project Management Eric Miller informed the Commission staff has been working with the Wisconsin Department of Transportation (WDOT) regarding their I-41 rebuild project that includes rebuilding I-41 to six lanes through the Fox Cities focusing on our utility crossings to ensure any conflicts are addressed prior to construction. KU received a request for a Temporary Construction Easement (TCE) on the northeast corner of Moasis Drive and Freedom Road in the Village of Little Chute. KU has a prescriptive right for our overhead distribution facilities in that location and the WDOT anticipates needing to work on that corner. KU has a utility pole at that corner, but it will not conflict with the pending road work.

It was moved by Paul Van Berkel, seconded by Sue Hennes to authorize the General Manager to approve and execute the Temporary Construction Easement (TCE) and Statement of Non-Reimbursement submitted for the intersection of Moasis Drive and Freedom Road in the Village of Little Chute, and further authorizes him to approve and execute future requests for temporary easements relevant to the Wisconsin Department of Transportation's rebuilding of US-41 through the service territory of Kaukauna Utilities that do not adversely impact Kaukauna Utilities' ability to own, maintain, operate, and access its facilities.

All members voted aye.

Motion Carried

Engineering & Operations Director Dave Pahl informed the Commission staff solicited bids for the water and sewer relay project in the Oviatt Street and Division Street area. The project will replace 5,200 feet of 6" and 4" cast iron water main with 8" c900 PVC pipe. The current water main was installed between 1923 to 1943. The project includes 51 private side lead services along with 106 utility side lead services. After bid evaluation, it was determined that all bids met the specification. Eight bids were received with Carl Bowers Construction being the lowest bidder. The following eight bids were received:

<u>Contractor</u>	<u>Project Total</u>	<u>KU Water Main Relay</u>
Carl Bowers & Sons	\$2,482,213.00	\$1,249,242.00
Feaker & Sons	\$2,535,456.55	\$1,268,157.55
Kruczek	\$2,609,000.00	\$1,301,821.50

De Groot, Inc.	\$2,686,614.64	\$1,371,824.22
Dorner	\$2,760,558.00	\$1,379,976.50
Jossart	\$2,835,390.00	\$1,408,840.00
PTS	\$2,958,000.00	\$1,435,952.00
Calnin & Goss	\$3,613,164.63	\$1,825,623.53

It was moved by John Moore, seconded by Paul Van Berkel to authorize the General Manager to award KU’s portion of Project WM24-01 Relay (Oviatt and Division Street Area) to Carl Bowers & Sons, Kaukauna WI in the amount of \$1,249,242.

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

Motion Carried

Engineering & Operations Director Dave Pahl informed the Commission KU utilizes a contractor to manage the growth of foliage that encroaches on our overhead electric lines. The current contract with Makovsky Brush Service (MBS) expires in February 2024. Three bids were received with MBS being the lowest evaluated bid.

<u>Contractor</u>	<u>2024 Hourly Rates</u>				<u>Total</u>
	<u>Foreman</u>	<u>Trimmer</u>	<u>Truck</u>		
Makovsky	\$46.64	\$44.52	\$36.04		\$127.20
Asplundh	\$66.86	\$59.13	\$22.66		\$148.65
Zielies	\$68.26	\$58.86	\$31.56		\$158.68

Dave informed the Commission that MBS has been clearing KU’s lines since 2010, they are responsive during storm restoration work, and have also done well in communicating with the customers. The contract with MBS also includes a 5% annual increase for the years 2025 and 2026 and a 3% annual increase for the years 2027 and 2028.

It was moved by Paul Van Berkel, seconded by Greg Lenz to authorize the General Manager to execute the contract with Makovsky Brush Services, LLC, for tree trimming services for the years of 2024 thru 2027 in accordance with the numbers presented and pending review and approval of the contract by Boardman Clark.

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

Motion Carried

Engineering & Operations Director Dave Pahl discussed the contract with Quanta Technologies to complete the Department of Energy grant application. Dave stated at the April 2023 Commission meeting, the Commission approved the contract for an amount not to exceed \$90,000. The work was completed for \$75,000. A \$50,000 success payment was discussed with Quanta Technologies upon reception of the grant. Now that KU has been awarded the grant of just over \$3 million over the next five years, staff is proposing to continue to work with Quanta Technologies to support KU with project management and technical expertise in the areas of distribution automation, battery energy storage systems, and microgrids.

It was moved by Greg Lenz, seconded by Sue Hennes to authorize the General Manager to contract with Quanta Technologies for an amount not to exceed \$600,000 over the next 5 years for supporting Kaukauna Utilities with the implementation of the DOE grant work, pending the changes discussed to Quanta's proposal.

Roll Call Vote:

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

Motion Carried

General Manager Michael Avanzi reviewed the 2024 Work Plan with the Commission.

It was moved by Sue Hennes, seconded by Pennie Thiele to approve the 2024 Work Plan as presented.

All members voted aye.

Motion Carried

General Manager Michael Avanzi reviewed the final update on the 2023 Work Plan and Key Performance Indicators and provided a quarterly update on the Strategic Intent. There was also discussion on future reporting for key performance indicators, monthly reports, key projects and other operational/financial performance in the form of dashboards and corporate scorecards.

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 Richard Heinemann with BoardmanClark will be at KU on January 24th to meet with employees and to provide training on open records and confidentiality. The deadline to rsvp for the Holiday Party is January 18th, please let Amy know if you can make it. KU customers saved 18,674,051 kWh and received \$1,024,105 incentive dollars from Focus on Energy for their energy efficiency projects in 2023. Interviews started for the Project Engineer position. The Communications Coordinator will be full-time at KU starting January 22nd. The 4th quarter all employee meeting was January 16th. Civil Workplace – Diversity, Inclusion, and Equality Training for all employees will be held the first week in February. Twelve additional employees completed the DISC assessment with Fox Valley Tech. The water survey is live until February 9th and it would be great for all commissioners to take the survey. The annual Year in Review has been published. The FERC required Emergency Action

Plan (EAP) training and tabletop exercise for the hydro plants was conducted on December 20th and included an exercise on load curtailment. Zach Moureau created a waste management plan for KU that included placing receptacles for plastic bags and different recyclables throughout KU. There will also be an annual event for hazardous waste collection in the community.

General Manager Michael Avanzi reviewed the 2023 Safety Year in Review. The safety themes for 2024 are Reporting Saves Lives and Be Well – Physically and Mentally.

General Manager Michael Avanzi informed the Commission APPA now offers Public Power Governance Essentials On-Demand training noting there is a total of fifteen videos that are fifteen minutes each.

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 Greg Lenz to approve the December accounts receivable write-offs.

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

Motion Carried

It was moved by Pennie Thiele, seconded by Sue Hennes that checks numbered 1429 through 1450, and checks numbered 77385, and 79355 through 79549 in the amount of \$8,758,655.19 be approved for payment.

Roll Call Vote:	John Moore	aye
	Pennie Thiele	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 Greg Lenz 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 6:09 p.m.

All members voted aye.

Motion Carried

It was moved by Paul Van Berkel, seconded by John Moore to return to the open session at 6:45 p.m.

All members voted aye.

Motion Carried

It was moved by Paul Van Berkel, seconded by Greg Lenz to authorize the General Manager to direct WPPI Energy to draft the formal agreement for Kimberly and John St. hydro plants and work with legal counsel to determine how to properly execute the agreement.

All members voted aye.

Motion Carried

It was moved by Paul Van Berkel, seconded by Tony Penterman that based on the options presented, it is recommended to proceed with Option 2A for the John Street hydro plant which involves investing approximately \$800,000 to rebuild the gearboxes for all three units along with performing structural repairs of the facility, contingent on the ability to self-serve after the contract expires May 31, 2024 or as soon as practical thereafter, as soon as all agreements are in place.

All members voted aye.

Motion Carried

It was moved by John Moore, seconded by Tony Penterman to adjourn.

All members voted aye.

Motion Carried

The meeting ended at 6:47 p.m.

John P. Moore
Secretary

Minutes taken by Amy Brick