

Kaukauna, WI  
June 18, 2025

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, Dave Pahl, Zach Moureau, Andy Vanden Heuvel, Amy Brick, and Sam Brittnacher from KU; Brian Roebke; and Richard Heinemann from Boardman Clark.

It was moved by Sue Hennes, seconded by John Moore to approve the minutes of the May 21, 2025 Commission meeting.

All members voted aye.

Motion Carried

Environmental & Compliance Manager Zach Moureau informed the Commission that in the last few years, there have been several significant water breaks on the Henry Street water main between Thelen Avenue and Glenview Avenue near the current water relay project planned for Linda Court/Thelen Avenue. During repair of the two most recent water breaks located less than 20 feet from each other, it was noted the piping had significant deterioration. If left in its current state, water breaks would continue in frequency and severity with the potential to cause a loss of pressure on the water main. The deteriorated water main consists of approximately 550 feet of 10" ductile iron pipe installed in the 1960's that has served its useful life. The water main would be replaced with 12" C900 PVC pipe. The Utility Commission previously awarded the water and sewer relay for Linda Court and Thelen Avenue area to Carl Bowers & Sons Construction Company for \$671,027. A cost estimate was prepared, including this section of deteriorated water main, into the Linda Court/Thelen Avenue Project because it is directly connected to the planned relay project. This cost estimate is approximately \$215,000, which is comparable to the price received for the Linda Court/Thelen Avenue Project.

It was moved by Paul Van Berkel, seconded by Tony Penterman to authorize the General Manager to declare a public emergency to address significantly deteriorated water main on Henry Street and authorize the General Manager to award the additional scope on Henry Street, between Thelen Avenue and Glenview Avenue, to Carl Bowers & Sons Construction Company in the amount not to exceed \$215,000 in the interest of public health and welfare.

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

General Manager Michael Avanzi informed the Commission that financing options for the Water Treatment System Improvement (WTSI) project have been under evaluation since September 2024. The evaluation involved consultation with our bond counsel (Baird) to determine the most economical funding mechanism for the WTSI Project. The evaluation focused on the Wisconsin Safe Drinking Water Loan

Program (SDWLP) and traditional revenue bonds as the two main funding mechanisms. The evaluation determined that a hybrid approach using both the traditional revenue bonds (15-year term) and the SDWLP (30-year term) would be the most favorable option for financing the project. This would involve \$5,000,000 in traditional revenue bonds and approximately \$15,000,000 in SDWLP funds. The traditional revenue bonds would fund costs incurred this year and early next year, while the SDWLP funds would cover the remaining project costs. This hybrid approach results in approximately \$800,000 in savings versus financing the entire project through the SDWLP. Any cash that we pay for the WTSI Project that we would like reimbursed with the traditional revenue bond funds require the City of Kaukauna to pass a reimbursement resolution. This resolution states that we will pay cash for the WTSI Project until the issuance of the bonds.

It was moved by John Moore, seconded by Sue Hennes to approve the 2025 water revenue bonds reimbursement resolution and authorize staff to submit to the Kaukauna Common Council for their review.

All members voted aye.

Motion Carried

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 staff met with Dave Roloff, Roloff Manufacturing, to help him better understand the rate case and how it impacts his business in relation to how they use power. Recruitment continues for the Mechanical Technician position as well as the Finance & Administration position. Initial planning has begun for Gallup to complete the next employee engagement survey. Staff have been notified that KU was awarded the grant for the Geothermal project. Due to the recent outage Cellcom experienced, staff have been exploring all communication options and how KU can be more resilient in the future. KU is holding their first Business Appreciation Brat Fry on Thursday, October 9<sup>th</sup>. June is Public Power Month of Giving and to celebrate, KU donated gratitude baskets filled with treats – fueled by gratitude to local public service organizations. Habitat for Humanity completed two home builds in Kaukauna with KU donating smart thermostats and electric lawn mowers to support the projects. The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR) was onsite June 10<sup>th</sup> for the Sanitary Survey that occurs every three years. There were no significant issues identified.

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 May 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 Greg Lenz, seconded by Sue Hennes that checks numbered 1805 through 1822, 10379 through 10512, and checks numbered 81847 through 81926 in the amount of \$5,155,239.29 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 Paul Van Berkel, seconded by John Moore to adjourn.

All members voted aye.

Motion Carried

The meeting ended at 4:56 p.m.

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John P. Moore  
Secretary

Minutes taken by Amy Brick