

Kaukauna, WI
April 15, 2026

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, Paul Van Berkel, and Tony Penterman. Also present were Michael Avanzi, Dave Pahl, Tara Schmitz, Aaron Wallin, Amy Brick, Andy Vanden Heuvel, and Sam Brittnacher from KU, Richard Heinemann from Boardman Clark, and Brian Roebke.

General Manager Michael Avanzi expressed appreciation to Pennie Thiele for her service on the Commission and extended his best wishes.

WPPI Energy Services Manager Frank Barth informed the Commission KU was awarded the APPA Reliable Public Power Provider (RP3) “Diamond” Certification for 2026 – 2029.

Human Resources Director Tara Schmitz informed the Commission KU was awarded the 2025 APPA Diamond Level Safety Award of Excellence.

Engineering and Operations Director Dave Pahl informed the Commission KU was awarded the 2025 APPA Certificate of Excellence in Reliability.

It was moved by John Moore, seconded by Tony Penterman to approve the minutes of the March 17, 2026 Commission meeting.

All members voted aye.

Motion Carried

Water Superintendent Andy Vanden Heuvel discussed replacement of the water main that crosses the river adjacent to Riverside Park. The project will replace 850 feet of 12-inch ductile iron water main with 12-inch C900 PVC pipe. The current water main was installed in 1975 and has served its useful life. Four bids were received and evaluated.

Contractor	Bid Amount
Advance Construction, Inc	\$475,304
De Groot, Inc.	\$712,086.62
Mid City Corporation	\$946,000
Carl Bowers & Sons Construction Co., Inc.	\$496,000

It was moved by Tony Penterman, seconded by Greg Lenz to authorize the General Manager to award the river crossing watermain replacement under the 2026 Capital Budget Project Code WM26-01 to Advance Construction, Inc. in the amount of \$475,304.

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 replacement of the main office building heating, venting, and air conditioning (HVAC) informing the Commission at the February commission meeting, they approved moving forward with a traditional HVAC replacement with a budget not to exceed \$1,300,000. Five bids were received with Tweet/Garot Mechanical being the lowest bid. However, after evaluation of all the proposals, the decision was made to move forward with the second lowest bidder, IKM Building Solutions, who staff believe will provide the best value for KU. Some of the main reasons the IKM proposal provides more value:

- Included higher circuit breaker rating and new conductors due to the requirements of the roof top units.
- Included roof repairs after placing the new roof top units.
- Included insulation repairs for ductwork on the roof.
- Replaces our proprietary controller with an open-source controller that will provide KU with future cost savings on all the auxiliary devices that will be replaced over time. The open-sourced approach will allow KU the ability to integrate alarms and controls directly into the supervisory control and data acquisition (SCADA) system and potentially the security system.

Contractor	Bid Amount
Tweet/Garot Mechanical	\$609,219
Ahern	\$732,100
Hurkman Mechanical Industries	\$862,180
August Winter and Sons	\$969,450
IKM Building Solutions	\$656,900

It was moved by John Moore, seconded by Pennie Thiele to authorize the General Manager to award the HVAC contract to IKM Building Solutions in the amount of \$656,900.

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

General Manager Michael Avanzi provided an update on the 2026 Work Plan and Key Performance Indicators.

Engineering and Operations Director Dave Pahl informed the Commission bids for the generator and gearbox replacement project at John Street Plant were received on March 12th coming in higher than the budgeted amount. Currently, staff do not recommend making any further capital investments into the facility.

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, as previously mentioned, this is the last commission meeting for Pennie Thiele. After her replacement is determined, he will be meeting with him/her to orient them to KU. The next commission meeting is Wednesday, May 27th. WPPI Energy will be asking members to extend their contracts this year. McKinley's co-generation unit came back online on March 26th. Frank Barth scheduled the bi-annual meeting with key account customers that will be held on May 6th. A commercial customer was selected for the National Electric Vehicle Infrastructure (NEVI) EV fast charging station grant and are moving forward with installation of four dual head fast chargers. The seasonal position has been filled with a returning student and recruitment efforts continue to fill the Junior Project Engineer position. Previously discussed in the March commission meeting was a bid for a truck with a regular cab in the amount of \$179,877. The price has increased to \$184,932 due to the previous amount not being for an extended cab. The additional cost does not change the result of the low bid vendor, and the vehicle is still under the \$250,000 amount that was budgeted.

Engineering and Operations Director Dave Pahl informed the Commission staff have engaged TDS as a secondary gigabit (GB) internet service provider to enhance network redundancy. In addition, KU's primary internet service provider (Spectrum), has been upgraded to a 1 GB connection. These upgrades strengthen KU's ability to maintain reliable internet connectivity and provide greater resiliency for critical applications by enabling improved failover and redundancy options.

General Manager Michael Avanzi stated four linemen were sent to Gresham to assist with mutual aid for two days after the recent ice storm.

Finance Director Aaron Wallin informed the commission the electric rate case was on the Public Service Commission (PSC) agenda on April 9, 2026. All contested issues were decided. Commissioners were aligned with PSC staff recommendations of a \$1.55M or 2.77% increase. The next step is receiving the official order allowing KU to implement the rates. KU received payment for the first year of the 3-year capacity agreement for Elm Street. We also received final credit approval from the Midcontinent Independent System Operator (MISO) and have submitted cash collateral of \$135,000.

General Manager Michael Avanzi stated staff continue to work with the Department of Energy (DOE) on two grant projects, the Electric City Resiliency Project and the Cybersecurity Grant. A water treatment project updated was posted on March 18th that was shared on our website, social media, the website project page, March/April bill message, and the KU Connect customer newsletter. A leaking underground storage tank was discovered at Elm Street Turbine. The tank was abandoned in place in early 2000 when the fuel oil supply tank was relocated from the Elm Street Plant to the Island Street Peaking Plant. The tank will be removed on April 22nd. The engineer for the new middle school solicited pricing to upsize the water main loop at the school from 8" to 12". The increase in size will significantly impact fire flows and resiliency on the water distribution system as well as provide sufficient capacity for future development around the middle school. Spring hydrant flushing started on April 6th.

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.

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 Pennie Thiele, seconded by Greg Lenz that checks numbered 2001 through 2018, 11507 through 11619, 82305, 82420, and checks numbered 82478 through 82516 in the amount of \$11,529,408.89 be approved for payment.

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 Tony Penterman to adjourn.

All members voted aye.

Motion Carried

The meeting ended at 5:20 p.m.

John P. Moore
Secretary

Minutes prepared by Amy Brick