

A REGULAR MEETING OF THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF VIRGINIA, MINNESOTA WAS HELD AT THE OFFICE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC UTILITIES ON MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 2023 AT 3:30 P.M.

Item 1. - Commission Vice-President Makowsky called the meeting to order at 3:30 PM.

**Approved**

Present: Commissioners Hale, Johnson, Makowsky and Petroskey  
Absent: Commissioner Marwick  
Also Present: Greg French – General Manager; Cassandra Belak – Director of Finance; Mary Johnson – Supervisor – Customer Relations; Liz Motley – Virginia City Council; Representative – Virginia Public Access TV

Item 2 – A motion was made by Commissioner Petroskey and supported by Commissioner Johnson to approve the meeting agenda. Motion carried unanimously. Mr. French noted an updated Monthly Summary Injury Report as well as the minutes from the last Safety Committee Meeting were put on the table for the Commission.

Item 3 – None

Item 4 (a) and (b) - A motion was made by Commissioner Petroskey and supported by Commissioner Johnson to approve financial resolution No. 5342 - Authorizing the payroll dated September 7, 2023 in the amount of \$96,950.62, direct deposits #37440 through #37490; and the payroll dated September 21, 2023 in the amount of \$89,424.14, direct deposits #37491 through #37539; and the bills dated August 28, 2023 through September 22, 2023 in the amount of \$1,262,031.50, checks #115565 through #115728 and wire and electronic transfers in the amount of \$939,665.11; and Net Payment Adjustments for the month of August 2023 in the amount of (\$31,543.21); and the Regular Commission Meeting minutes from the August 28, 2023 meeting.

Item 5 (a) – Mr. French stated there was one injury reported resulting in no restrictions or lost time.

Item 6 (a) – Mr. French reported startup of the 306 - transformer has been moved from late fall to approximately January due to a shipment delay of the switchgear.

Item 7 (a) – Mr. French asked for a formal motion approving the sale of wood boiler parts to HPU. He clarified that the parts will be priced based on their condition, and that HPU staff or HPU contractor's will be responsible for all removal and transport. A motion was made by Commissioner Petroskey and supported by Commissioner Johnson to sell wood boiler parts to HPU. Motion carried unanimously.

Item 7 (b) – Mr. French informed the Commission that the two pumps in the new Midway booster station were both recently tested at 50% rated capacity. He explained that VPU would like to replace one of the pumps with a new \$52,000 pump, and have the other two rebuilt leaving one pump on the shelf for future use. A motion was made by Commissioner Petroskey and supported by Commissioner Johnson approving the purchase of a new pump and the cost to have one of the existing pumps rebuilt. Motion carried unanimously. Mr. French stated he would update the Commission on the cost to rebuild the pump, and a decision to rebuild the second pump could be made at that time.

Item 8 (a) – Mr. French gave an operations update stating the plant has been running approximately 21,000 lbs/hr of steam utilizing the package boilers, alternating between boiler #1 and #2 every two weeks. He further stated steam production is down by 8000 lbs/hr since shutting down the college line. He said crews are removing the line, and he's hopeful the ground can be hydroseeded yet this fall. Mr. French also updated on VPU's health and dental coverage stating dental premiums increased by 7% while health increased by 17.9%. He stated VPU is working with NE Service Coop to see if any reductions can be made. Finally, he stated that the Malone Hall demo is complete and that crews have been out flushing and winterizing fire hydrants.

Item 8 (b) – Mr. French provided Commissioner Hale with a brief overview of the changes to the steam district over the last 5 years.

Item (9) – A motion was made by Commissioner Petroskey and supported by Commissioner Hale to adjourn at 3:45 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

ATTEST:

APPROVED:

\_\_\_\_\_  
James Petroskey, Secretary

\_\_\_\_\_  
Jeff Marwick, President