



Marion Utilities

1540 N Washington St.

Marion, IN 46952

www.marionutilities.com

Service Board

BOARD MINUTES OF THE FEBRUARY 20, 2025 MEETING

The Marion Utility Service Board held their meeting on Thursday, February 20, 2025 at 5:30 p.m. in the L.E.A.D. Center, Building 101, at Marion Utilities, 1540 N. Washington Street, Marion, Indiana.

Mr. Logan began the meeting with a moment of silence in honor of Mr. Conner.

Roll was then called and those board members present were: Robert Logan, Chairman; Doug Carl, Isaiah Fuller, Al Green, and Jayda Monteiro. Kristy Barney and Herschel Lewis were absent.

Also present at the meeting were: Robin Shrader, Director; Pat Pinkerton, Assistant Director for Engineering & Solid Waste; Chad Guyer, Assistant Director for Operations & Maintenance; Tiffany Snyder, Accounting/Billing Coordinator; Misty Humphries, Secretary; Kyle Persinger, Attorney; Brianna Coffing, Chronicle-Tribune.

Mr. Logan welcomed Mr. Persinger as the Board's attorney and introduced him to everyone present.

CONSIDERATION OF AGENDA ADDITIONS OR DELETIONS

There were no additions or deletions to the agenda.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Carl moved, seconded by Reverend Green, to approve the minutes of the January 23, 2025 meeting. All board members present voted aye. Motion carried unanimously.

FINANCIALS

Mrs. Snyder presented the financials for December, 2024. She explained that sales for all of the Utilities were steady with the exception of Solid Waste. Solid Waste experienced a significant increase to do the rate increase implemented last fall. Mrs. Snyder stated that operations and maintenance expenses for all Utilities were consistence. She noted that the loss in the Water and Wastewater Utilities was caused by an increase in employee benefits and bond payments. There was a change to the employee health insurance policy for the 2025 year. However, there were payments that had to be made in December due to the change in policy which was consistent practice with other years. Mrs. Snyder detailed that the Wastewater Utility paid Commonwealth engineering costs for the Long Term Control Plan which were close to \$250,000. The interest payments for 2015 and 2021 bonds were also reflected in the numbers. Mrs. Snyder concluded by stating that overall, there was an increase in net operating receipts over 2023 for all utilities. Mr. Carl asked if the financials had been reviewed and finalized by Crowe and Jennifer Wilson. Mrs. Snyder answered yes. Mr. Carl moved, seconded by Reverend Green, to approve the December financials. All board members present voted aye. Motion carried unanimously.



UPDATE ON PROJECTS

Mr. Pinkerton said all projects were on hold due to the weather. The service line work for the Next Level Trails project was also put on hold. The fiber optics company was the only one working in the area right now.

TRANSFERS & PAY REQUESTS

There were none.

2024 BUDGET RECONCILIATION

Mrs. Shrader stated that the 2024 year end budget transfers needed for reconciliation were in front of each board member. Any line item that was underspent had a balance that was transferred to a line item that had overspending. Mr. Carl asked if the budget had to be increased. Mrs. Shrader said that any overspending in the Water Utility was funded by cash reserves and was approved at the time the expense was incurred. Mr. Logan stated that a rate increase would be needed as soon as possible. Mrs. Shrader said that there had been some discussions regarding this already. Mrs. Shrader also stated that some of the SRF projects were coming in under budget so things would hopefully not look as bad later as they look now. Mr. Carl moved, seconded by Reverend Green, to approve the year end budget transfers as presented. All board members present voted aye. Motion carried unanimously.

2304 S ADAMS, 2005 S NEBRASKA, 2449 W 14TH REQUESTS

Mrs. Humphries presented three customer requests. The first was from 2304 S Adams Street. The first two requests were similar in that they both experienced water in their basements although the causes were different. The customer at 2449 W 14th Street had historically used one to two cubic feet. Her usage went to 109 cubic feet. The customer service representatives reached out to her regarding the usage. The customer then went outside and found that someone had turned on her outside spicket. Mrs. Humphries requested that the items presented be assigned to the Water Committee for further review and discussion. Mr. Logan assigned the requests to the Water Committee as requested.

CROWE AGREEMENT

Mrs. Shrader said that the Crowe agreement was a renewal of the contract in order to continue working with Jennifer Wilson. The costs did not change. The change made was a swap out of Mr. Binkerd's name to Mrs. Shrader's name. Mrs. Shrader reminded everyone that Mrs. Wilson had assisted with monthly financials, year-end reporting, SRF, and bonding. Mr. Logan added that Crowe had been used for many, many years and was very familiar with Utility business. Mr. Carl asked what category Mrs. Wilson was. Mrs. Shrader answered a Director. Reverend Green moved, seconded by Mr. Carl, to approve the contract with Crowe. All board members present voted aye. Motion carried unanimously.

COMBINATION TRUCK BIDS

Mr. Pinkerton said that a replacement for the 2012 Combination Truck was budgeted for this year. There were two bids received. Mtech bid \$439,674 and they sell Camel. Jack Doheny bid \$425,639.96 and they sell Vac which Mr. Pinkerton said was the current brand. Mr. Pinkerton also stated that the Mtech bid did not meet the specification. Mr. Pinkerton recommended Jack Doheny. He believed delivery could be May. Mr. Green asked what the truck did. Mr. Pinkerton

explained that the truck was used to jet or vacuum mains, lines, manholes, or catch basins. Mr. Carl asked if a 12 year replacement was a good life span. Mr. Pinkerton said that the vacs used to be replaced at 10 years, but the life spans had been to stretched to 12 or 13 years. Mr. Logan asked what amount was budgeted. Mr. Pinkerton said \$400,000, but there was enough to cover the additional \$25,0000. Dr. Monteiro moved, seconded by Mr. Carl, to approve the bid submitted by Jack Doheny. All board members present voted aye. Motion carried unanimously.

SENIOR LEADERSHIP REPORTS

M Humphries, Executive Assistant

Mrs. Humphries reported that at the January meeting the Board had agreed to sponsor the Walk-A-Mile event in February. This inspired a group of employees to sign up, and they will be walking while representing the Utilities. Mrs. Humphries also reported that customers were still being advised to let faucets drip. The Customer Service Team was anticipating drip adjustment requests to come in. Mrs. Humphries stated that she was happy to report that illegal usage had decrease to nine for this month with no repeats. Lastly, Mrs. Humphries reported that Robert Barnett and Sherry Loshnowsky had been out rounding up sponsors for the H2O Community cards. The cards were anticipated to be in and available at the beginning of April. There had been several customers asking about them.

P Pinkerton, Assistant Director for Engineering & Solid Waste

Mr. Pinkerton said at the last meeting, there was a truck pictured in front of Superior Metals. The Superior Metals was located at 1819 S. Branson. The truck pictured was used to pick-up solid waste. The body of the truck was made in Marion, Indiana.

C Guyer, Assistant Director for Operations & Maintenance

Mr. Guyer presented a picture of the dewatering unit that was approved at a recent meeting. He said the unit would arrive in March. Mr. Carl asked how long it would take to set up. Mr. Guyer said it would be quick especially since the pilot was done.

R Shrader, Director

Mrs. Shrader expressed her appreciation to everyone working. Mrs. Shrader then explained that the Invest Program was an internal program that occurs each month for the growth and development of employees. Programs had included end of life planning, health and wellness, Live to Lead by Randy Wheeler, and tomorrow Mrs. Shrader was going to lead the Invest program. The program would include a history of the Utilities, the Utilities' goals and culture, along with a get to know you session with employees and Mrs. Shrader. Mrs. Shrader invited the Board to attend as well if they would like at any time. Mr. Logan stated that this was a great way to support others.

BOARD MEMBERS' COMMENTS

There were none.

CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS

Mr. Logan state that it was nice to have Mr. Persinger in attendance, and again the firm's service over the years was appreciated. Mr. Logan also mentioned that Ms. Barney was ill, and he hoped she felt better soon.

The next meeting was scheduled for 5:30 p.m. on Thursday, March 6, 2025.

There being no further business before the Board, Mr. Carl moved, seconded by Dr. Monteiro, to adjourn the meeting. All board members present voted aye. Motion carried unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 5:59 pm

Robert Logan, Chairman
Marion Utilities Service Board

ATTEST

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Misty D. Humphries". The signature is written in dark ink on a light-colored background.

Misty Humphries
Its Secretary