

Service Board

BOARD MINUTES OF THE OCTOBER 2, 2025 MEETING

The Marion Utility Service Board held their meeting on Thursday, October 2, 2025 at 5:30 p.m. in the L.E.A.D. Center, Building 101, at Marion Utilities, 1540 N. Washington Street, Marion, Indiana.

Roll was called and those board members present were: Robert Logan, Chairman; Isaiah Fuller, Mike Graft, Al Green, and Herschel Lewis. Kristy Barney and Jayda Monteiro 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; Kyle Persinger, Attorney; Erika Devine, Council Liaison; and Misty Humphries, Secretary.

CONSIDERATION OF AGENDA ADDITIONS OR DELETIONS

There were no modifications, additions or deletions.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Lewis moved, seconded by Reverend Green, to approve the minutes of the September 18, 2025 meeting. All board members in attendance voted aye. Motion carried unanimously.

UPDATE ON PROJECTS

Mr. Pinkerton reported that there was a pre-bid meeting on the CSO 009 tank. The bid opening is scheduled for October 23, 2025, but there was a possibility that it could also be pushed back a week. Mr. Pinkerton said that there were 10 or so people present between contractors and subcontractors so there seems to be good interest in it.

CSO TANK

Mrs. Shrader said that unfortunately she was still waiting on paperwork for the vote.

WATER RATE RECONSIDERATION

Mrs. Shrader explained that there had been a of couple new developments on this item. She had been in discussion with financial advisors and attorneys to analyze everything. Mrs. Shrader said that there would be more conversation within coming weeks and would keep the board updated as the conversations took place.

TRANSFERS & PAY REQUESTS

There were none.





SEWAGE BONDS

Mrs. Shrader said this was a big issue. It involves the Clark Street & Home Avenue tank project that was included in the Long Term Control Plan. Mrs. Shrader explained that other bonds had been sought in conjunction with the Long Term Control Plan so this was fairly routine business. The process begins with the Utility Service Board passing a resolution to recommend to the City Council that bonds be sought. The City Council would then consider an ordinance, hold a public hearing, and then hopefully pass the ordinance. Mrs. Shrader reminded the board that the last time this happened 15 years ago, there was also an annual incremental rate increase in Wastewater in order to carry the debt service that was required by the loan. Mrs. Shrader stated that the financial advisors said that we have enough leeway because of those rate increases which was by design in 2010. The amount of the bond should not exceed \$12.2 million. Financial advisors have suggested because of the rating adjustment from A+ to A, the market will have a little more volatility. The financial advisor stated that in her opinion the Indiana Bond Bank will be the better way to go. Mr. Logan explained that the resolution was a recommendation for the City Council to review and hopefully approve an ordinance for the issuance of bonds. Mr. Logan reiterated that this was for a project that was part of the Long Term Control Plan. Mr. Lewis moved, seconded by Reverend Green, to adopt Resolution 3-2025 to take to City Council. All board members in attendance voted aye. Motion carried unanimously. Mr. Lewis asked why the rating was lowered from an A+ to an A. Mrs. Humphries explained that Dunn & Bradstreet conduct an audit of the City and the Utilities because when the bonds were issued, the bonds were actually in the City's name. Mrs. Humphries stated that there were some reporting issues that Dunn & Bradstreet wanted to see shored up. Mrs. Shrader added that the audit was a routine occurrence and the rating could go back up.

SENIOR LEADERSHIP REPORTS

M. Humphries, Executive Assistant

Mrs. Humphries said that she only had good news to report. There had not been any complaints made pertaining to the removal of the kiosk. Mrs. Humphries explained that the Customer Service Team wanted to thank the board for removing the kiosk because if it was too hot or too cold, the kiosk would beep the entire day. The beeping would then come through the drive thru speaker for during the business day. The second item related concerned community members that called in. A gentleman on Adams Street called to say, "he really appreciates all of us because Marion has the best tasting water around! Most people call in when they have a complaint. He called just to say thank you." Mrs. Humphries said a second gentleman, Mr. Sutton, stated, "Your guys have always been very helpful to me, on all calls I've made to get water issues taken care of...they are always professional and helpful...thankyou and your employees for being helpful, always." Mrs. Humphries said that was always good to hear a compliment, and she wanted to share. Mr. Logan commented that it's easy to turn the faucet on or off and not think about everything it takes to deliver good tasting water to our faucets. Mrs. Humphries said the final item pertained to the H2O Fund, which stood for Help to Our Community. The program was developed by employees as a way to give back and serve the community and especially those customers that be struggling to pay their utility bills. The program can assist those customers who might be struggling with the choice to make needed repairs on their homes or to pay other bills. The program was funded by payroll deductions. Mrs. Humphries reported that year to date, employees have contributed \$2,940. Funds for the program were also generated by partnering with community businesses to provide discounts on the H2O Community cards that sell for \$5.00 each. Mrs. Humphries said that the Customer Service Team were rock stars at selling. Jessica Barnett, Ebony Davis, Michelle Osborne, Eric Peters, and Katie Smith have sold 444 cards adding another \$2,220 to the program. Lastly, another \$674 was raised

MARION UTILITY SERVICE BOARD MEMBERS

MAYORAL APPOINTMENTS (4-YEAR TERMS)

Isaiah Fuller (7/2024-7/2028) Al Green (7/2023-7/2027) Herschel Lewis (7/2022-7/2026) Jayda Monteiro (7/2025-7/2029)

CITY COUNCIL APPOINTMENT (4-YEAR TERMS)

Kristen Barney (7/2024-7/2028) Mike Graft (7/2025-7/2029) Robert Logan (7/2022-7/2026)

at the Earth Day event. In total, this brings the contributions to \$5,834. Mr. Logan asked who managed the fund. Mrs. Humphries answered the United Way. Mr. Fuller asked if a customer wanted to apply for assistance if they would go to the United Way. Mrs. Humphries said yes, and that customers could also visit the United Way's website and apply online. Mr. Fuller said this was a good program, and he was glad to hear about it.

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR FOR ENGINEERING & SOLID WASTE - P. PINKERTON

Mr. Pinkerton had nothing further to report.

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR FOR OPERATIONS & MAINTENANCE - C. GUYER

Mr. Guyer had no report.

DIRECTOR – R. SHRADER

Mrs. Shrader reminded the board that the Trunk-or-Treat event would be held on Friday, October 31st from 5-7 p.m. in the 301 building. There would be several candy stations set up for those that would like to participate. If anyone in the community was interested in participating, they were welcome to do so and there was no charge.

BOARD MEMBERS' COMMENTS

There were no comments.

CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS

Mr. Logan thanked everyone for their attendance and participation in a shorter meeting. He stated that it was important to meet as the Resolution needed to be presented in order to move forward with City Council.

The next meeting was scheduled for 5:30 p.m. on Thursday, October 16, 2025.

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

Meeting adjourned at 5:44 p.m.

Robert Logan, Chairman Marion Utilities Service Board

ATTEST

Misty Humphries, Its Secretary

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