



Marion Utilities
1540 N Washington St.
Marion, IN 46952
www.marionutilities.com

Service Board

BOARD MINUTES OF THE JANUARY 22, 2026 MEETING

The Marion Utility Service Board held their meeting on Thursday, January 22, 2026 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; Kristy Barney, Mike Graft, Al Green, and Jayda Monteiro. Isaiah Fuller 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; Kyle Persinger, Attorney; Erika Devine, City Council Liaison; Tiffany Snyder, Accounting Billing Coordinator; Misty Humphries, Secretary. Other guests included Mayor Ronald Morrell Jr.; Brian Cowgill, City Council President; Gary Fordyce, City Council; and Carlos Delgado, Marion Police Department.

CONSIDERATION OF AGENDA ADDITIONS OR DELETIONS

Reverend Green moved, seconded by Ms. Barney, to amend the agenda to allow an opening statement. Mr. Logan stated that the item could be placed under New Business. Mr. Graft suggested it could be placed under Board Comments. Reverend Green stated he would like to speak sooner rather than later if possible. Mr. Logan stated that Reverend Green's Opening Statement would be placed next on the agenda. As the vote was called for, Mr. Graft asked if a roll call vote would be taken or consensus done. Mrs. Humphries asked that a roll call vote be taken if possible as it would make the minutes easier to transcribe should she be out of the office and a backup was transcribing the minutes. A roll call vote was taken. The votes were as follows: Ms. Barney, yes; Mr. Graft, yes; Reverend Green, yes; Dr. Monteiro, yes; and Mr. Logan, yes. Motion carried unanimously.

ELECTION OF 2026 CHAIRPERSON & VICE-CHAIRPERSON APPOINTMENT

Reverend Green nominated Mr. Logan to serve as Chair. Mr. Graft nominated Ms. Barney to serve as Chair. A roll call vote was taken. The votes were as follows: Ms. Barney, voted for Mr. Logan; Mr. Graft, voted for Ms. Barney; Reverend Green, voted for Mr. Logan; Dr. Monteiro, voted for Ms. Barney; and Mr. Logan, voted for himself. Motion carried by majority. Mr. Logan then appointed Ms. Barney as the Vice Chairperson. Dr. Monteiro asked if it was a possibility that the board would be electing another Chairperson in July. Mrs. Humphries said that was correct.

OPENING STATEMENT

Reverend Green said he wanted to address comments made at the January 20th Council Collaborative Committee meeting. Reverend Green stated that in his opinion, the board Chair was treated badly. Reverend Green said that I think all of you just as well as I know that Mr. Logan has always done an excellent job on our Board. We know his love and his care that he has for this Utility company and all of its employees. Reverend Green moved to give Mr. Logan a vote of confidence at this time. Ms. Barney seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. The votes



were as follows: Ms. Barney, yes; Mr. Graft, abstained; Reverend Green, yes; Dr. Monteiro, abstain; and Mr. Logan, yes. Motion carried by majority. Mr. Logan thanked Reverend Green for his comments.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Graft moved to approve the minutes of the December 4, 2025 and December 18, 2025. Reverend Green seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. The votes were as follows: Ms. Barney, yes; Mr. Graft, yes; Reverend Green, yes; Dr. Monteiro, abstained from voting on the December 4, 2025 minutes as she was absent; Dr. Monteiro, voted yes for approving the December 18, 2025 minutes; and Mr. Logan, yes. Motion carried by majority for the December 4, 2025 minute approval. Motion carried unanimously for the December 18, 2025 minute approval.

FINANCIALS

Mrs. Snyder explained that before presenting the financials, the docket was being passed around. Mrs. Snyder stated that she wanted to explain what the docket was and how it tied into the general ledger so that everyone was looking at the same picture. The docket is essentially a summary of the financial activity. It shows what expenses occurred during the two-week docket cycle. Mrs. Snyder said that the notable items recorded include AP invoices, bond and interest payments, payroll, payroll withholdings, and customer refunds. Mrs. Snyder then explained that the general ledger (GL) is the official accounting record. Every transaction, payment, and transfer is recorded there in detail and value count number. Mrs. Snyder said to think of the GL as a source document and the docket as a snapshot. The numbers seen in the docket come directly from the GL. They are not separate. They are not estimated. The activity is pulled from the GL, grouped by category, and then summarized for the Board to sign off on. Mrs. Snyder stated that in short, the docket and the GL match. The difference between the two is the level of detail. Mrs. Snyder said that if any Board member would like to see the detail behind the number, she could trace any docket line directly to the GL. Mrs. Snyder then stated that she would like everyone to know that both the docket and the general ledger are subject to review by the State Board of Accounts. These are audited records every year to ensure that the transactions are properly recorded and presented. Mrs. Snyder then moved to the November financials for 2025.

For revenue, in 2025, all utilities except for Stormwater were meeting or exceeding all prior year sales. Solid Waste sales in November remained constant or consistent with last year reflecting stabilization following the fall rate of 2024. Mrs. Snyder reported that Water and Wastewater Revenues increased as expected due to the January 1st rate increases. As for expenses, operations and maintenance expenses across utilities were generally consistent. The Water Utility did experience some street and infrastructure repair that was not normal for approximately \$66,000. Mrs. Snyder said the costs were driven by street cuts totaling \$43,000 and an emergency water main repair at the courthouse for \$23,000. Mrs. Snyder moved on to the Water Utility financial position. She stated that the depreciation fund had remained at a zero balance for five months and the operating fund was below the targeted two months of operating reserves. Mrs. Snyder reminded the Board that in September 2025, Wastewater loaned \$1.8 million to Water which was currently supporting Water's operating fund. Without this loan, the Water operating balance would be approximately \$426,000 which was about \$200,000 below the required reserve level. As for Wastewater in November, \$3.5 million in the

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CSO litigation revenues were received and reported as non-operating revenues in the Wastewater Long Term Control Plan cash reserve fund. Mrs. Snyder summarized that overall, all utilities posted a net gain with the exception of the Water Utility which continues to require the current movements by management. Mr. Logan thanked Mrs. Snyder for an excellent report and asked if there were any questions. There being none, Reverend Green moved, seconded by Ms. Barney, to approve the November 2025 financials. A roll call vote was taken. The votes were as follows: Ms. Barney, yes; Mr. Graft, yes; Reverend Green, yes; Dr. Monteiro, yes; and Mr. Logan, yes. Motion carried unanimously.

UPDATE ON PROJECTS

Mr. Pinkerton said that the first project update was the cured-in-place liner at Lincolnshire. Mr. Pinkerton said the project was complete, and there would be a pay request on that project. The second project update was on the Home Avenue CSO tank. Mr. Pinkerton said that he thought construction would start in April. It would be a long project. Mr. Logan asked if there were any questions. There were none.

RATE PROPOSAL

Mrs. Shrader said everyone was at the Committee meeting on Tuesday. There was a request to produce for the public. Mrs. Shrader referred to the slide with an example on it. She noted that there was one typo that would be corrected. The turquoise number reading \$4.90 would be corrected to \$4.92. Mrs. Shrader said that she wanted to give the Board a preview to see what was being developed. Mrs. Shrader stated that the goal was to keep it as simple as possible but also communicate the correct information. The range of usage numbers were in units. Most residential customers fall between the one and five unit mark. Three units was closer to the average. Mrs. Shrader stated that there were other markers, and those other bills could be calculated as necessary. Mrs. Shrader reiterated that we wanted to try to be representative of the most people with the example. Mrs. Shrader expressed thanks to the employees and the Board for attending the recent City Council meetings or following the meetings on YouTube. She said it meant a lot to their support through the process. Ms. Barney asked about the December Crowe report on page 7. She said there was a detail of what the customer's bill was and the least amount of what the customer would see was \$0.83. Ms. Barney asked if that should be more visible and if a column on the bottom that shows the actual and how much it increased. Mrs. Shrader said that could certainly be done. Ms. Barney noted that she really appreciated that page because it broke down based on what their current rate was, whether it go up to \$4.00 or the exact amount, and then the new rate. Mrs. Shrader clarified that a column should be added between the 2026 rates and proposed rates which would list the amount of the increase. Ms. Barney stated that the revision would help with the perception. Mr. Logan said when it is seen in real dollars, it makes more sense than hearing percentages as people can see what the actual bill is really going to look like and places it in a much better perspective of what the reality is that we are trying to pursue. Ms. Barney asked if this would be placed in the customer's bill or where this would shared. Mrs. Shrader said that it would be shared with the Mayor's office and the City's PR staff to make sure it gets out to everyone on social media. To do a bill insert, would be an added cost. Mrs. Humphries said that the last insert with the Excel Center the cost was believed to have been around \$650 but that included the Excel Center providing the fliers. If the printing company were to have to print the fliers, it may be an extra \$300 on top of that. Ms. Barney said that as a Board, she was thinking as a resident of this community there are older members who does not utilize social media. Ms. Barney asked if that

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kind of investment cost was worthy or rather would it be beneficial to have a bill insert or would it be sufficient enough to have it on the website and social media. Mrs. Humphries said if she could just add, the billing for this month had already been completed so any bill inserts would not be included and would have to wait until the February billing cycle. Mrs. Shrader said that she thought the goal of producing this for the public was in preparation and lead up to the discussion in February with the Council to allow people to see what the proposed rate would actually look like. Ms. Barney said she understood and that would now not vote for an insert. Ms. Barney said that this is something that could be discussed later after numbers were decided. Mr. Logan noted that as Ms. Barney mentioned at the Council meeting, it would take approximately 10 months after the proposed increase is presented to the IURC to get through their process before it comes out here and any benefit of putting this into place would be seen. Mr. Logan said he thought the flier was to inform the public of what was trying to be done and what the impact would be.

TRANSFERS & PAY REQUESTS

Mr. Pinkerton presented a pay request to Inliner Solutions from Orleans, Indiana for the cured-in-place liner project done at Lincolnshire. This was the first and final request in the amount of \$97,541. There was also \$5,134 held in retainage. Mr. Pinkerton said the project came in about \$8,000 under contract. The second pay request was for the release of retainage and certificate of completion water plant for the drainage pipe installed at eh Water plant in the lime processing area. The request was to Dave’s Excavating in the amount of \$4,081. Mr. Logan asked if there were any questions. Mr. Graft asked how long did Mr. Pinkerton hold the retainage and if a bond release was also done. Mr. Pinkerton said that a bone release was done if requested. Typically, once the retainage was released, there isn’t further communication from the contractor. Retainage was held for about a month as there is not a lot of restoration. Mr. Graft commented that the work is done unground, it’s done, it’s not like repairs to the street or anything were being done. Mr. Pinkerton said the camera was ran through it to make sure that there’s not any soft parts on the liner. Mr. Graft asked Mr. Pinkerton if anyone had ever actually physically asked for a bond release or send a letter. Mr. Pinkerton said occasionally, but he was not aware of how that worked with the contractors, honestly. Mr. Pinkerton said that the bond was only good for a year. Mr. Graft said it was only good for a year, but if they’re trying to do other work, their bond is only up to a certain amount. If you don’t release it then that could keep them from doing other jobs. Mr. Pinkerton said it was about 50-50 or half the time they don’t ask or it just expires. Mr. Graft moved, seconded by Reverend Green, to approve the pay requests. A roll call vote was taken. The votes were as follows: Ms. Barney, yes; Mr. Graft, yes; Reverend Green, yes; Dr. Monteiro, yes; and Mr. Logan, yes. Motion carried unanimously.

CITY ADJUSTMENT REQUEST

Mrs. Humphries reported that she had received two lead adjustment requests from the City. The first was from the Parks Department for the Matter Park pavilion. Mrs. Humphries asked for it to be assigned to the Water Committee for review as there had already been one leak adjustment completed on the account within the last 12 months. Mrs. Humphries stated that this was the usual practice, and the City was gathering the pictures and additional information about where the repair was for us. The second request was received from the Citywide Maintenance Department for a broken pipe around a wash bay and it was requested to be assigned to the Water Committee as well. Mr. Logan assigned the two requests to the Water Committee for review. Ms. Barney asked Mrs. Humphries if she could share those again please.

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Mrs. Humphries stated that the first adjustment request was from the Parks Department on a line that received a previous adjustment in May for a leak. With this being the second request on the same line, it's always been the procedure for the Water Committee to review the request. The City is gathering the pictures and additional information about where it was and what happened for us. The second request was from the Citywide Maintenance Department. There was a broken pipe outside of one of the wash bays and information for this request is also being gathered. Mrs. Humphries said that she had been working with Regina from the Citywide Maintenance Department and Rose from the Parks Department. Ms. Barney thanked Mrs. Humphries.

LIME LAGOON SEWER INSTALLATION AT WATER BIDS

Mr. Pinkerton explained that this project came about because of a visit from IDEM. The lime lagoons, which are basically backwash water with filters and lime sludge, discharges into the creek. It's clear water. There may be a little bit of high pH but all of the water in Indiana has got a little bit of high pH from the limestone. IDEM said that the options were to put a little treatment plant out there or some solids and a pH adjustment or put it in the sanitary sewer. Mr. Pinkerton said that a line around the top of the levee was being ran which would take it out to Meridian Street where it would be tied into the sanitary sewer. Mr. Pinkerton said we advertised for bids. There were five companies that responded. Keith Sullivan's total bid was \$122,540.65; Bragg Excavating bid \$132,312; SLB Pipe Solutions which was a company Mr. Pinkerton had never heard of before, bid \$167,230; Dave's Excavating bid \$168,670.80; and Bercot which was another new company bid \$179,890. Mr. Pinkerton said since this was necessary and IDEM wants it done, he would recommend awarding it to Keith Sullivan. Ms. Barney asked if this was a local company. Mr. Pinkerton answered yes, and stated they are located on 9th Street. Mr. Logan commented that they had done a lot of work with us in the past. Mr. Pinkerton said yes. Mrs. Shrader said this project would effectively eliminate the need for one of the NPDES permits with IDEM which was more paperwork and would be nice to let go of that. Mrs. Shrader said it would also be one fewer report per month as well. Mr. Logan asked if this was budgeted for in 2026. Ms. Barney said no. Mrs. Shrader said this was one of those situations where options were not amazing, and we have to make a hard decision because IDEM is calling the ball. Mr. Graft asked what budget this would come out of. Mr. Guyer said it would come out of Wastewater since it would be going into the sanitary sewer. Mr. Graft asked if there was a not to exceed term on Sullivan's or any of the bids so that they don't come in with a change order of another \$30,000 after the fact that they find something else. Mr. Pinkerton said no, this is a unit price and the lump sums may be a not to exceed, but if they put in more pipe, it's a unit cost. Mr. Graft asked if Mr. Pinkerton as comfortable with the lineal footage that they calculated that you're not going to see. Just looking at the differential between 12" and 6" compared to some of those that are all over the board on the different cost associated with those. Ms. Barney said it was about a \$40,000 difference. Mr. Graft said it could increase rather quickly if our numbers are not right that we're giving them. Mr. Pinkerton said Keith Sullivan's price was in line with where we were expecting. Mr. Graft said the engineer's estimate was based on that then. Mr. Graft thanked them for answering his questions. Dr. Monteiro asked since this wasn't something budgeted would a budget adjustment be anticipated. Mr. Pinkerton said the project would come out of 2026. Dr. Monteiro said that she understood it would come out of 2026, but was it something that would be increased to allow for the cost. Mr. Pinkerton said there was money budgeted in construction so what might happen is that another project could be put off. Dr. Monteiro said that there were plans so...Mr. Pinkerton interjected that one

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of the other projects may have to be put off because of this one. Mrs. Shrader said the money was there. It's just a matter of the choice of projects. Dr. Monteiro said so something might not be done. Mr. Graft said as opposed to an elective that you would like to have done now that might be cut for it. Reverend Green moved, seconded by Ms. Barney, to approve the bid of Keith Sullivan. A roll call vote was taken. The votes were as follows: Ms. Barney, yes; Mr. Graft, yes; Reverend Green, yes; Dr. Monteiro, yes; and Mr. Logan, yes. Motion carried unanimously. Mr. Logan thanked Mr. Pinkerton for putting everything together and commented that it was nice to do away with one of the NPDES permits.

2025 BUDGET RECONCILIATIONS

Mrs. Shrader said that the budget reconciliations were for 2025 and Mr. Pinkerton and Mr. Guyer could answer specific questions. Mrs. Shrader explained that this was standard procedure done for the previous year's budget. This was not a requirement by the State Board of Accounts, but it helps us to see what we are spending in each area in reality versus the budget which is just a guideline at the beginning of the year. She explained that if there was a budget line where the budgeted amount wasn't spent, it would be suggested that the unspent funds be shifted to a line that needs a little extra help. Mr. Graft asked if this would take them all the way through December. Mrs. Shrader said that was correct. Mr. Graft asked how would they know that this matches since they don't have a December printout. Mrs. Humphries said that this was based off the ledgers. The reconciliations were done based off of all the expenses paid and there would be no more expenses paid out of the 2025 ledgers. Mrs. Humphries said that Jennifer Wilson was working to finish the 2025 financials which were far more complex than the budgets. Mr. Graft said he knew there were conversations about another firm looking...so what numbers would they be able to review to give their opinion on. Mrs. Humphries said they were given a copy of the ledgers with each one being about 492 pages long. Mr. Graft asked if on the water budget, was there a line on there where we're paying back \$1.8 million. Mrs. Humphries said no, because that is for the upcoming year. Mr. Logan asked if the amounts on the left side equaled the same amount on the right hand side. For the Water budget reconciliations, there was an amount of \$583,852 on one side and the other side is \$221,674. Does that mean that's the shortfall that we have in this budget? We have to really rebalance the budget too. That's what I interpreted it as. Yes, Mrs. Shrader said, There is also a small number at the very bottom. Mr. Guyer said it was \$362,178. Mr. Logan thanked them for the clarification. Mrs. Shrader said the Wastewater budget was under by \$453,932.56. Stormwater, similarly, was under budget as well. Mrs. Shrader said the approved budget was \$2,347,800 and the actual expenditure was \$1,810,494. Mrs. Shrader said that Solid Waste's budget was also under and those funds go back into the equipment replacement reserves. Mrs. Shrader said those were built up intentionally for when a larger vehicle needs replaced. Mr. Graft said that was about 1.5 vehicles. Mr. Pinkerton said yes depending on which vehicle. He also reminded the Board that Solid Waste still owes Stormwater \$260,000. Mr. Pinkerton said looking at November's financials, there is also a lease payment coming up which will be the last lease payment on half of the equipment. Mr. Pinkerton said that Stormwater would be repaid and then funds would start to accumulate because the trucks were 10 years old and those repair bills were adding up. Mr. Pinkerton said the other thing to note was that employee health insurance was \$52,000 over. He was not exactly sure what that was, but there was a big hit in 2024 came due in 2025. Since then there has been a refund but that showed up in 2026 so it's not going to be able to offset the 2025. Regardless, Mr. Pinkerton said that Solid Waste was under budget for the year. Mrs. Humphries said the reason for the large hit was that the 2024 insurance plan was a self-insured plan.

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Whenever the plan was moved back to a fully insured plan in 2025, there was still a period for run off claims for 2024 services paid in 2025. Mrs. Humphries stated that the run off period has closed but the refund was just received and won't be reflected until the January 2026 financials. Mr. Logan asked for further questions. Mr. Graft asked with the difference in Water and the shortfall what was being done to take care of that. Mrs. Shrader said the \$1.8 million loan from Wastewater to Water was helping to sustain Water. Mr. Graft moved, seconded by Reverend Green, to approve the budget reconciliations. A roll call vote was taken. The votes were as follows: Ms. Barney, yes; Mr. Graft, yes; Reverend Green, yes; Dr. Monteiro, yes; and Mr. Logan, yes. Motion carried unanimously.

SENIOR LEADERSHIP REPORTS

M. Humphries, Executive Assistant/Administrative Manager

Mrs. Humphries reported that she was working on the last items for the data request and the additional items requested at the collaborative meeting on Tuesday. Mrs. Humphries said that the Board would most likely receive some notifications from the ShareFile folder as items were uploaded. Mrs. Humphries said at the next board meeting there would be a slip with requested information for each board member in order to complete the IURC report. The report requires us to list each members' principal employer and position. Mrs. Humphries shared that there was also a card going around to thank the Board from the employees. Mrs. Humphries also thanked the Board for agreeing to change the voting process from consensus to roll call. It will really help when someone else might have to transcribe the minutes. Mr. Graft asked if Mrs. Humphries had tried Otter. Mrs. Humphries said we had tried Otter, but it didn't catch everything. However, our IT Coordinator, and Mrs. Humphries said she was going to give him a minute of praise, is amazing. He came up with something and developed it on his own whenever we thought that we also would have to broadcast our meetings on YouTube. Mrs. Humphries said that the meetings were recorded and then the IT Coordinator flips everything to a transcript so Mrs. Humphries can clean everything up. It's a lot easier. Mrs. Humphries said that she had reached out to Aisha Richards and asked what she used some time ago which is how she heard of Otter.

P. Pinkerton, Assistant Director for Engineering & Solid Waste

Mr. Pinkerton said for 2025, the Transfer Station had over 1,100 tons of drop offs where people brought things in to the Transfer Station. This gave Solid Waste an added revenue of over \$102,000. The total for the year was 10,400 tons of solid waste went through the Transfer Station. Recycling had 54 tons of plastic, paper, and cardboard. There was 16 tons of glass, 6.7 tons of steel and another 10 tons of metal came from the Transfer Station from drop offs or items in totes that was easily pulled out. Mr. Pinkerton said that recycling products were king of at a low right, but there was over \$10,000 in revenue which didn't pay for the part-time employees in the Recycling Center but does help. Ms. Barney asked if there was any way to increase drop offs and if Mr. Pinkerton thought that everyone was aware of that added benefit. Mr. Pinkerton said some of the drop offs are free items that can be dropped off or picked up. Mr. Pinkerton said a social media campaign could be done. Mr. Graft asked what the tipping fee was. Mr. Pinkerton said he didn't have the fees in front of him, but it was based on volume. Mr. Graft said he didn't know if it was advantageous for contractors to bring loads here versus driving to Wabash. Mr. Pinkerton said that the rates are in ordinance so would need to update ordinance to increase any fees. He added that it does pay for itself but the time will come where fees need increased. Mr. Graft commented that it would help moving the landfill to Wabash. Mr. Pinkerton said yes, it would.

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C. Guyer, Assistant Director for Operations & Maintenance

Mr. Guyer had no report at this time.

R Shrader, Director

Mrs. Shrader shared wanted to share that website is used for educational and informational purposes. There are some recent videos about dripping faucets and things of that nature. Mrs. Shrader said that throughout the water rate case discussion there has been a lot of misunderstandings that have circulated online. So, in response, we would like to include a statement on our website and social media as our hope is to provide customers with opportunities to be as informed as possible about what’s actually going on. Mrs. Shrader said that unless anyone had significant suggestions or anything like that the statement would be posted tonight or first thing in the morning. The statement read, “In today’s world, information can be shared instantly thanks to a wide range of media platforms available around the clock. Unfortunately, that same speed also makes it easy for misinformation often unintentional to spread just as quickly. When topics are complex or involve detailed financial or operational issues, misunderstandings can arise. Recently, Marion Utilities has spent significant time before the City Council discussing the need for a water rate adjustment. This proposed change would affect only the water portion of your bill and would result in an increase of approximately \$4 to \$8 per month for the vast majority of residential customers. As expected, this has generated a great deal of discussion on social media along with opportunities for confusion or incomplete information. Additionally, a recent audit found a \$49,132 discrepancy cause by syncing issues and duplicate entries between our billing and accounting systems which added up over 10 years of time. No actual money is missing and the issue will be resolved soon as we move to a single billing accounting system later this year. To help residents stay informed and separate fact from fiction, we encourage you to rely on the following trusted sources. City Council meetings are recorded and available to the public on YouTube allowing you to hear discussions in their full context. (There will be a link there to go to those.) Second, all Marion Utilities’ financial records are public information. As a municipal utility, we are audited annually by the Indiana State Board of Accounts to ensure accuracy, transparency, and fiscal responsibility. These audit reports can be found here. (Again, we will have a link where people can go for that.) We are always available to answer questions. If you need clarification or would like more information, please email us or stop by our office during normal business hours. Thank you for taking an active interest in your community and for being a thoughtful and informed customer.” Mrs. Shrader said that we would like to publish the statement. People are obviously entitled to their thoughts and opinions. We don’t want to change that, but we do want to make sure that they have an opportunity to see all of the correct information. Mr. Logan asked if there were any objections. Reverend Green said he was okay with the statement and it’s publishing.

BOARD MEMBERS’ COMMENTS

Dr. Monteiro thanked everyone for their hard work. She also wanted to acknowledge Mrs. Shrader for sending her a very friendly email after she had expressed her concerns regarding communication. Dr. Monteiro wanted to clarify that her concerns regarding communication were not in any way questioning the integrity of this board or the integrity of the executive team here. It’s merely because there’s so much misinformation happening that this board also needs to be a point of contact for the public. Dr. Monteiro said that she knows this information is coming out, and if she doesn’t know what’s happening, if someone says, XYZ occurred, then she cannot respond appropriately. Dr. Monteiro said that she understands this board has been around for a longer period than she’s been appointed to it and probably longer than she has been alive. She also

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Kyle Persinger

understands how things have been done historically. Dr. Monteiro said that we're always evolving history is not always the best way of practice. As she left the City Council meeting earlier the other day, she didn't hear everything, but she did hear a commitment to everyone working together in clearing the lines of communication, and she thought that could be increased with this board.

Ms. Barney thanked Dr. Monteiro for her thoughts and statements. Ms. Barney said she wanted to tell the entire board how honored she was to serve alongside of them. This has not been easy, and it's a difficult time. There have been multiple discussions and she would like to piggy back off of Dr. Monteiro. Transparency is key. Ms. Barney said that she is constantly evolving and never stops learning. She tries to learn something new every day. Ms. Barney is always trying to improve, and she feels like as a Board all of our careers are different. Ms. Barney said she covers eight different states so she travels and is on the road. There have been times when she has not been physically present so she would challenge each member and herself to read the minutes, that we continue the collaboration with Mrs. Shrader, her executive team, and be in the know. Ms. Barney said her principles were God, family, career, and self. If we're not physically here, we still have a responsibility to know what was discussed. There has been times she has not been here. Ms. Barney said she could improve that herself because there have been times when she has not been in attendance. Ms. Barney said she challenges us as board members as this is a critical time and more than ever our serving hearts are evident, we have a fabulous community in our residents and each other. Ms. Barney then encouraged everyone to call with questions if there are any. If we don't know we can reach out to our resources and go from there.

CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS

Mr. Logan thanked the Mayor and the City Council representatives present at tonight's meeting.

The next meeting was scheduled for 5:30 p.m. on Thursday, February 5, 2026.

There being no further business before the Board, Dr. Monteiro moved, seconded by Ms. Barney, to adjourn the meeting. A roll call vote was taken. The votes were as follows: Ms. Barney, yes; Mr. Graft, yes; Reverend Green, yes; Dr. Monteiro, yes; and Mr. Logan, yes. Motion carried unanimously.

All board members present voted aye. Motion carried unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 6:26 p.m.

Robert Logan, Chairman
Marion Utilities Service Board

ATTEST



Misty Humphries, Its Secretary

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)

BOARD ATTORNEY

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