



BOARD MINUTES OF THE DECEMBER 4, 2025 MEETING

The Marion Utility Service Board held their meeting on Thursday, December 4, 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; Kristy Barney, Isaiah Fuller, Mike Graft, Al Green, and Herschel Lewis. Jayda Monteiro was 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 Tiffany Snyder, Accounting Billing Coordinator.

CONSIDERATION OF AGENDA ADDITIONS OR DELETIONS

There were no modifications, additions or deletions.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Lewis moved, seconded by Ms. Barney, to approve the minutes of the November 20, 2025 meeting. All board members in attendance voted aye. Motion carried unanimously.

UPDATE ON PROJECTS

Mr. Pinkerton reported that he was still waiting on a start date for the cured-in-place project at the Lincolnshire neighborhood. Mr. Pinkerton said the hope was that the contractor start on the project before January, but it would be hard to tell now with the upcoming holidays. There was plenty of time on the contract though. Mr. Pinkerton then reported that bids would be advertised for the sewer line at the Water Plant to drain the lime sludge lagoons into the sanitary sewer per IDEM's instructions. The project would then be brought back in January.

2026 BUDGET PRESENTATION

Mrs. Shrader presented final drafts of the 2026 budgets. Mrs. Shrader said that there was a change on Wastewater budget. The bond amounts in the 800s section on page 3 were able to be calculated. Mr. Logan asked if the insurance numbers had been updated. Mrs. Shrader answered yes. Mr. Graft asked if there was a line item for actual capital projects. Mrs. Shrader explained that those items were typically covered in the 900s section located on the last page of each budget under Capital Expenses. Mrs. Shrader said that the breakdown of the larger items could be seen in the comments section. Mr. Graft thanked Mrs. Shrader. Mr. Logan noted that the goal was to make sure that everyone understood what was included in the budgets and what was being approved as there were events like equipment breakdowns or other items that would occur as the year ensued. Reverend Green moved, seconded by Mr. Lewis, to approve the 2026 budgets as presented. All board members in attendance voted aye. Motion carried unanimously. Mr. Logan thanked everyone for their hard work on the budget preparation,



review, and approval. He said that budget preparations were not easy and appreciates all of the thoughtfulness, time, and talent that goes into preparing the budgets for approval. Ms. Barney added that she appreciated the layout of the budgets so that operational costs versus capital costs could be identified.

TRANSFERS & PAY REQUESTS

There were none.

EJP CONTRACT APPROVAL

Mr. Guyer presented a contract with EJP for an inventory management program. Mr. Guyer explained that EJP was the supply company most of the components for the distribution system and its repairs were purchased from. Mr. Persinger had looked over the contract and suggested some changes that were made. The contract would include software hosting, manpower to inventory supplies and entering those items into a database, and start a monitoring program so that item usage can be accurately detailed to know what items were being used in order to eliminate over or under stocking. Mr. Guyer said that the contract could be terminated at any time. The caveat to the contract was that supplies would be purchased from them primarily. However, if supplies were not available from them or if the prices were out of line, the supplies could be purchased elsewhere. Mr. Guyer said that there were other benefits to entering into the contract as well. EJP has insert a valve services. If those services were used on an after-hours basis, there would be a charge. If those services were used during business hours, there would not be a charged. Another benefit was access to a larger network in which to access supplies. If a clamp was needed in the middle of the night and was not in inventory, a call could be made and everyone that was party to this inventory system contract could supply the clamp. Mr. Guyer said that the Distribution Supervisor, Brad Plank, thought this would be a beneficial service for his team and Mr. Guyer agreed as there was no cost to us. Mrs. Shrader reiterated that Mr. Persinger had looked over the contract as well. Mr. Graft asked what the term length of the contract was. Mr. Guyer said it was an annual contract. Mr. Graft clarified that there were contractual terms that would prohibit us from terminating the contract. Mr. Persinger said that he had worked to avoid termination clauses and penalties. Mr. Lewis asked for clarification on the supply group. Mr. Guyer said if a clamp was needed and Ft. Wayne had the clamp, we could get it from them. Mrs. Shrader said it's not that this wasn't done already. However, the phone calls have to be made by us. EJP would be able to look at their database and see who had the part. The EJP salesperson would then go get the part and bring it back to us. Mr. Guyer added that EJP would provide the labor to sort through all current inventory and put it in the database. Mr. Graft added that the system could only be as good as the person taking the part out. Mr. Guyer said Mr. Graft was correct and there would be training on that as well. Mr. Lewis moved, seconded by Mr. Graft, to approve the EJP contract as presented. All board members present voted aye. Motion carried unanimously.

SENIOR LEADERSHIP REPORTS

P. Pinkerton, Assistant Director for Engineering & Solid Waste

Mr. Pinkerton said that for November, there was 803 tons which average 50 tons per day that went through the Transfer Station which was an amazingly boring number. Mr. Pinkerton said he had still been working on the next landfill contract. Insurance terms were being negotiated. He hoped to bring the contract to the next board meeting. Mr. Pinkerton said that the current contract ends on December 31, 2025. The contract with Claypool could be renewed for another 10 years. However,

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

Kyle Persinger

Republic Services' proposal was looking good if insurance terms could be worked out. Mr. Pinkerton said that by moving from Claypool to Republic Services, the trucks would drive 353,000 miles less. Mr. Logan said that could equate to a rather large savings not only for truck maintenance but also for diesel charges. Mr. Pinkerton thought it would save 70,000 gallons of diesel. Mr. Logan said that historically, if a second meeting was needed in December, it would be scheduled at 11:00 a.m. on the same day, but before the Christmas luncheon, so that the board attend the meeting and the luncheon without multiple trips. Mrs. Shrader said that could be arranged for this year should the contract be ready for approval. Mr. Graft asked if Republic Services had been contracted with previously. Mr. Pinkerton said not by the Solid Waste Utility. Mr. Pinkerton explained that when the Solid Waste Utility was formed, Republic Services was in its last year with the City. The Solid Waste Utility then managed that contract. After that the Transfer Station was constructed and started handling those services and entered into a landfill contract. Mr. Graft asked if Republic had bid at that time for landfill services. Mr. Pinkerton said yes, but Claypool was considerably cheaper at the time. Mr. Graft asked if it was the Republic Services' landfill in Wabash that would be used. Mr. Pinkerton said yes and added that the Wabash landfill was almost exactly half of the distance.

C. Guyer, Assistant Director for Operations & Maintenance

Mr. Guyer had no report at this time.

R Shrader, Director

Mrs. Shrader shared that she had met with the City Council Committee and the City Council earlier this week to discuss the potential water rate increase. The meetings were lengthy but allowed for some good discussion. Mrs. Shrader said that the potential rate increase was passed to a third reading and would be presented at the next City Council meeting. Mrs. Shrader then reminded the board of the Christmas luncheon on December 18th.

BOARD MEMBERS' COMMENTS

Mr. Fuller asked what happened to the customer request that involved the curb stop. Mrs. Shrader explained that the line had been repaired, and the services had been restored by noon the next day. Mr. Fuller said that he was glad to hear the customer had services restored for Thanksgiving. Mr. Lewis said that he lives in a historical home and every line had been replaced with the exception of the kitchen so he knows the work that goes into that kind of thing. Mr. Fuller said that he had heard that Thanksgiving was the busiest day for those in the plumbing business both for clean and waste services.

CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS

Mr. Logan thanked everyone for their attendance at tonight's board meeting.

The next meeting was scheduled for 11:00 a.m. on Thursday, December 18, 2025 if needed before the Christmas luncheon. If there were no items for review or board decision, the meeting would be rescheduled for January.

Mr. Logan encouraged everyone to attend as it was a nice time to get to spend time and talk with employees as well as enjoy some great food.

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

Meeting adjourned at 5:52 p.m.

Robert Logan, Chairman
Marion Utilities Service Board

ATTEST



Misty Humphries, Its Secretary

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