MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE RICHLAND CENTER

MUNICIPAL UTILITY COMMISSION

Wednesday, July 8, 2026, 5:30p.m.,

Council Room, Municipal Building, 450 S Main St, Richland Center WI 53581

This Meeting was held in person and via Teams

Members present: Sawle, Collins, Walters, and Hoffman

Members absent: Jones, Coppernoll, and Wallace

Others present: Edwards, Gald, Fischer and Rod Perry

President Sawle called the meeting to order at 5:30p.m. The meeting had been properly posted.

Motion by Hoffman, second by Walters to approve the minutes of the May and June meetings as printed. All voting aye upon voice vote, motion carried.

The Treasurer's Report was received and filed.

Motion by Collins, second by Sawle to approve the Electric Bills for July totaling $852,063.61. Also acknowledges the balance for June, thus totaling $953,786.37. All voting aye upon roll call, motion carried.

Motion by Walters, second by Collins to approve the Water Bills for July totaling $60,893.00. Also acknowledges the balance for June, thus totaling $143,583.13. All voting aye upon roll call, motion carried.

Motion by Walters, second by Sawle to approve the Sewer Bills for July totaling $149,873.57. Also acknowledges the balance for June, thus totaling $235,935.32. All voting aye upon roll call, motion carried.

For safety Gald reported that our seasonal summer help went to load the lawn mower on Monday, he thought the trailer was secure. He went to drive up; the trailer came up and put a dent in the tailgate of the truck. Scott wrote a report. Steve Ellers sent out a note to employees about working in extreme heat.

Scott included information from WPPI regarding the contract extension. He is taking some of the commissioners and councilmembers to WPPI to tour the facility and learn more about the services that are offered. There will be a joint meeting of the Richland Center Common Council and The Utility Commission on July 15th. Mike Peters (WPPI) will be here for a presentation and answer any questions. Collins would like to see investments be more common sense driven and not politically driven. Sawle feels that WPPI is thoroughly investigating every avenue of workable energy. He also really

appreciated that Mayor Teply attended the dinner with WPPI back in May. She is also going to WPPI on Friday.

Water Superintendent report: Greetings from Hong Kong, I will be back at work on Monday July 13th. Major bill items include the budgeted mini-split air conditioner units for Wells 6 and 7 that were ordered in late 2025 but installed in the first part of June. Also included are the bills for the replacement mixer at the Southeast Reservoir, and the 5-year ROV inspection of the same. 1) Up to 1140 AMI meter changes. Down to 1 day per week dedicated plus fill in time for summer. Will ramp back up this fall. 2) Devin has done some painting of the floor at Well 7. 3) Lead and copper results were received back from the lab June 23rd. We have passed this round and next sampling should be in 3 years. This will be a challenge to again find new sites as all Utility side lead will hopefully be gone by then. Will have to move to customer galvanized that formally had lead or customer copper with lead solder in their houses. Customers have been notified of results and reporting to DNR completed. 4) Will be starting Utility side lead replacements upon return from vacation. 5) Annual Consumer Confidence Report has been certified with DNR. 6) Have more to watch on the Hwy 14 project now that work is in the East bound lanes and the water main is on that side of the road with multiple valve boxes on the South edge of the shoulder. 7) G-Pro estimating early to mid-July as a start date for the Valley View Drive project. Preconstruction meeting for staff scheduled for July 15th and public meeting for residents in the project zone on site for July 22nd. If weather allows, we will be holding this meeting in the neighborhood so we can look at specific property questions at the house instead of on paper. 8) Continue to research direction for the woodpecker damaged antenna pole at the East Reservoir. Potential of a light-weight tower, fiberglass pole or moving to fiber cable. Scott and I had a call with Genuine-Telecom about fiber. I have also reached out to LW Allen about what changes need to be made in control cabinets for a move away from radio to fiber. Last SCADA upgrade system wide was in 2009 with the Well 8 project, 20 year component life. In conversation with LW Allen our alarm dialer is also on borrowed time as copper phone lines disappear, and fiberglass antennas are recommended to be replaced at 10 years along with the antenna cables due to uv light damage. Ours are from 2009, another reason to convert to fiber if possible. 9) The May 11th cybersecurity meeting attended by Scott and myself has led to a 2 hour evaluation conducted by EPA rescheduled from July to August 18th with a report for the Utilities benefit. 10) Staff has been working on the 2026 valve exercising list with good progress being made, about ½ way through this years list. 11) I have developed a list of 30 questions/scenarios for staff development for our discussion and training to challenge them about what if's and I am gone. Have had good discussion on the few we have talked about so far. Keeping a log of this training and a recommended additional review of the topics based on feedback of staff and if we have delt with the particular issue in real time. 12) Early discussions with City staff on 2027 street project ideas. 13) WI Dot form has been filled out

acknowledging receipt of plans for Hwy 80 North project in 2028 starting in the city. Conflicts due back to DOT in mid- August. 14) A letter dated June 12, 2026, from WI DNR is requiring new testing for us based off of an event in Williams Bay that occurred late last summer. They have launched a Statewide Nitrification Investigation Initiative, conducting ammonia source water testing at municipal drinking water systems. The project aims to understand ammonia occurrence, identify high-risk systems, and help facilities optimize chlorine management and treatment to prevent distribution system issues. We will have to be testing for Ammonia this fall along with most all water systems in the state. Too much ammonia can lead to increased nitrate levels. Letter states more information to follow late this summer on the testing. 15) Water service lateral installation is completed in Stori Field by the developer's contractor.

Wastewater Superintendent Fischer reported everything is executed with the contractor to purchase for the Richland Square lift station. We are hoping for this October but if not then this spring. Todd is moving forward to get the videos attached to the mapping. Currently there are videos on CDs from when we had our camera van. So if a plumber calls and says he is looking for the lateral at a certain address, Todd must get the CD and load it into a disk drive. He is going forward with a way to get the videos added to mapping so then all that is needed to do is click on the address and the video will show. Todd is hoping to get everything set up so Maggey can upload the videos. Todd has an employee that was off last week for vacation, he came back and worked Monday and is off for the next 2 weeks for surgery. Todd will be on vacation starting next Thursday; he will be on an Alaskan Cruise.

Electric Superintendent/Utility Manager Gald reported that there were a couple blinks. Scott has been working with Forester and the PSC to get construction authorization for the Olson Sub and new transformer. We will need to order the transformer because there is 3-to-4-year lead time and we will have to put 30% down. A new transformer can be 1.8 million dollars. Scott has been working with Elhers. Also, he has been working with them for the Valley View Street project for the city portion that they are borrowing. We did get fiber installed at the Brewer Sub. We will be launching our Outage Management System with Open Point. The utility new website will be up and running in the next couple weeks and oms will be on there. Customers will be able to see where outages are in real time with AMI meters. Steve is working on a hydrant to donate for the Walk with GRACE auction. This week Scott, Ashley and Mayor Karin visited Allied Machinery. Next week they are meeting with Schriebers. At Stori Field, water and wastewater is live but for electric there is We Energies anode field and they want electric to stay away from it. Rp3 Application is due in September, and he has started working on that. Scott appreciates everyone that is going to WPPI on Friday and the joint meeting of the commission and common council to get everyone's' questions answered. Scott was in Boston last week for the APPA National Conference.

For correspondence we received 2 thank you cards. One from G & A Tire and Auto for allowing their business to repair a tire for the water utility. The other one was from Arizona Bailey for the scholarship she received.

Former Commission President Rod Perry was in attendance as a member of the public to express how important it is for the commission to extend the contract with WPPI. Perry was the president of the commission when the contract was signed in the teens. He said they researched and decided there were many benefits to sign.

Hoffman noticed that WPPI seemed to be the least expensive and they are diversifying their power.

Motion by Collins, second by Walters to adjourn. All voting aye upon voice vote, motion carried without dissent at 6:08p.m. Meeting adjourned.

Minutes Submitted by:

Angie Edwards