

**CITY OF SHEBOYGAN**  
**BOARD OF WATERWORKS COMMISSIONERS MINUTES**  
**Monday, November 20, 2023**

---

**OPENING OF MEETING**

The meeting was called to order at 3:30 PM by President Van De Kreeke.

Present: President Van De Kreeke (by phone), Secretary Howe, Member Dale. Superintendent Trueblood.

1. Pledge of Allegiance

All honored the flag of the United States of America.

**MINUTES**

2. Approve minutes from the Oct. 16, 2023 meeting

Commissioner Dale made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Howe, to approve the minutes of the Oct. 16, 2023 meeting. Motion passed unanimously.

**REPORTS**

3. Financial reports and approval of vouchers

Superintendent reviewed the monthly financial report prepared by Senior Accountant Gottsacker including the general vouchers of \$5,888,739.21 and gross payroll of \$199,879.53. Commissioner Dale made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Howe, to approve the report and voucher. Motion passed unanimously.

4. Superintendent's report including operations, construction-maintenance, customer relations/fiscal, and the RWI project

Superintendent presented updates on operations, construction-maintenance, and customer-relations/fiscal, and also reviewed an update report on the Raw Water Improvements project. The intake pipeline itself is now out to 6,000' with another 500' to go. With substantial completion set for Feb. 6, 2024, the contractor is in reasonable position to make that deadline.

**ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION**

5. Election of officers

Commissioner Howe nominated Commissioner Van De Kreeke for the position of President. There were three calls for any other nominations and there were none. Commissioner Dale seconded the nomination motion, which passed unanimously. Commissioner Van De Kreeke then nominated Commissioner Howe to the position of Secretary. There were three calls for other nominations and there were none. Commissioner Dale seconded the nomination motion, which passed unanimously.

6. Request to write-off account balances due to bankruptcy and/or uncollectibles

Commissioner Van De Kreeke made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Dale, to write off uncollectible water bills in the amount of \$719.20. Motion passed unanimously.

7. Request purchase of replacement quad axle truck and purchase/lease of mini excavator

Superintendent noted the Board had budgeted \$300,000 for replacement of the 2005 quad axle Kenworth dump truck. Supervisor McMillan and Lead McDonald had solicited quotes for a Western Star 47X with Allison vocational package and Bibeau BMT tapered side asphalt dump body package and for a Kenworth T880 with similar package and the same dump body. Truck Country provided a price of \$225,857.00 for the Western Star and \$35,000.00 for the 2005 Kenworth as trade-in. Wisconsin Kenworth (Fond du Lac) provided a quote of \$262,377.00 for the Kenworth but would not take the 2005 unit on trade.

Superintendent advised that the C-M crew had identified the value in having a mini-excavator unit to supplement the existing large wheeled excavator and backhoe. Due to the savings on the quad axle, Superintendent requested that the Board entertain proposals for a mini excavator. Supervisor McMillan had provided pricing for a Takeuchi TB290 unit from Kelbe Brothers of Green Bay at \$122,729.00 but they also offer a two year leasing program without much additional overall cost if the unit is purchased at the end. Bruggink's of Sheboygan had provided a quote of \$102,800.00 for a used Yanmar VIO80 unit but no lease program. After discussion, Commissioner Dale made a motion to purchase the Western Star quad axle from Truck County with trade-in and to enter into a two year lease agreement for the Takeuchi TB290 from Kelbe Brothers at \$3,029 per month and to purchase the necessary heavy duty trailer from Brugginks for \$35,000. Commissioner Van De Kreeke seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

8. Approval of proposal to remove filter media

Superintendent reminded the Board of the upcoming filter cap replacement project and the need to remove the media. Supervisor Swearingen had solicited proposals to hydro-vac the media out of the beds but only one vendor responded, which was Valley Hydro-Excavation, LLC, at a total cost of \$36,000 to remove all media from two additional filters. Superintendent noted this was the same price as earlier in the year. Commissioner Van De Kreeke made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Howe, to approve the proposal as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

9. Approval of water treatment chemical proposals

Superintendent reviewed the annual water treatment chemical bids prepared by Supervisor Swearingen. Commissioner Van De Kreeke made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Dale, to approve the low costs bids, which were ChemTrade for food grade alum at \$423.00 per dry ton; Hawkins for fluoride at \$5,078.26 per dry ton; Hydrite for sodium hypochlorite at \$1.88 per gallon; and Hawkins for orthophosphate at \$10.89 per gallon. Motion passed unanimously.

10. Update on PFAS testing and possible settlement

Superintendent noted that the City expressed interest in submitting a claim in the current PFAS settlement reached by a class action against two chemical manufacturers. Superintendent had provided test and flow data to the City Attorney's office for the submission. Superintendent noted that the Utility had not detected any PFAS chemicals in 2013 out of six compounds tested; had detected one PFAS compound (PFOS) in 2021 at 2.0 ppt out of 18 compounds tested; had detected two compounds (PFOS and PFOA) in 2023 first quarter at 1.9 ppt; and had not detected PFOS or PFOA in 2023 second quarter testing. These results are below any current anticipated contaminant levels and do not indicate the need for any additional treatment methods. Superintendent noted that probably the claim submission would receive a relatively low score due to the very low detections.

## **PERSONNEL**

11. Update on Utility Support Specialist recruitment

Superintendent noted that candidates have been screened and some are continuing in the process.

## **NEXT MEETING**

12. Next meeting will take place on: December 18, 2023

## **ADJOURN**

13. Motion to Adjourn

At 4:24 PM, Commissioner Dale made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Howe, to adjourn. Motion passed unanimously.