Minutes of a Special Meeting of the Waupun Utilities Commission Thursday, November 16, 2023

Meeting held virtually via Zoom. President Heeringa called the meeting to order at 3:09 p.m.

Commissioners Daane, Heeringa, Homan, Siebers and Thurmer present. Commissioners Kunz and Westphal absent.

Treatment Facilities and Operations Superintendent Schramm provided a high-level overview to commission about many Wisconsin water utilities receiving class action settlement notices related to PFAS settlements with 3M and Du Pont. Water samples were gathered on May 12, 2023 from numerous entry points at the Waupun Utilities Water Treatment Facility looking for any trace of PFAS. All water samples taken came back non-detect for PFAS. On June 20, 2023, Waupun Utilities received notice that the remainder of PFAS testing was cancelled until further notice as all samples taken were non-detect.

Water utilities who opt out of the settlements do so to preserve legal rights in the event PFAS is detected in the future. If Waupun Utilities were to remain in the settlement, the only costs associated with PFAS are the sampling costs, which is minimal. Those communities who are staying in the settlement have high level of PFAS and have more costs. Communities like Waupun who do not have detect are looking to opt out. In the event future costs are incurred from PFAS for those that opted out of the settlement, they could go back after the companies for compensation.

Based on historical non-detect of PFAS, Treatment Facilities and Operations Superintendent Schramm recommends Waupun Utilities opt out of the settlements with 3M and Du Pont.

Motion by Thurmer, seconded by Siebers and unanimously carried, to opt out of 3M settlement agreement. On roll call vote, motion passed 4-0. Daane, Homan, Siebers, and Thurmer voting yay.

Motion by Thurmer, seconded by Daane and unanimously carried, to opt out of Du Pont settlement agreement. On roll call vote, motion passed 4-0. Daane, Homan, Siebers, and Thurmer voting yay.

On motion by Siebers, seconded by Daane and unanimously carried, meeting adjourned at 3:16 p.m.

The next regular commission meeting is scheduled on January 8, 2024, at 4:00 p.m.

Jen Benson Office & Customer Service Supervisor