

Bagley Public Utilities
Commissioners Meeting
May 18, 2023

Chairman Thomas Lillegaard called to order the regular meeting of the Bagley Public Utilities Commission on May 18, 2023 at 2:00pm. Also present for the meeting were Commissioners Dennis Merschman and Stuart Lien, and managers Bill Masterson and Vicky Fletcher.

Merschman made a motion to approve the minutes as written for the regular board meeting held April 12, 2023. Lien seconded, motion carried.

Lien moved to approve the April 2023 expenditures as listed. Motion was seconded by Merschman and carried.

The Board reviewed bills presented for payment in May 2023. Lien made a motion to authorize payment of the May bills and Merschman seconded. Motion carried.

Fletcher requested authorization to draw funds from interim financing to pay Reiersen Construction Inc. invoice. Board held discussion on difference between the total invoice charges of \$106,400.00, and the net amount determined eligible for payment with interim funds by Angela Bokovoy with USDA. Masterson stated charges were for de-watering and all de-watering was related to water and sewer construction, therefore 100% of charges should qualify as eligible expenses. Commission agreed, and Masterson will ask Bokovoy for clarification. Motion made by Lien to submit Draw #5 for amount authorized by USDA as eligible funds after de-watering charges are reviewed by Masterson, Karvakko, and Bokovoy. Motion was seconded by Merschman and carried.

Commission and staff again discussed the WSN invoice for engineering services provided on Hwy #92 Project. Fletcher will contact MaryJane Schultz with MN PFA to determine if BPU can request final disbursement of funds, and then the Board will then decide on final payment to WSN.

Masterson requested permission to order a second truck when the opportunity is available. The second truck would be to replace gas truck, and probably cost about \$50,000 as it would be smaller truck and without boom. Discussion held on revising designated funds as presented by Fletcher. Motion by Merschman authorizing Masterson to order two trucks as discussed. Lien seconded and motion carried.

Masterson informed Commission about recent applicant for licensed utility worker position. Board approved for BPU to hire three temporary utility workers for the summer to cover mowing, watering flowers, etc for the Public Utilities and City. In exchange the City will cover gas expense. If needed to balance out, BPU will bill the City for portion of wages and taxes. Wages approved for summer help positions are Jackson Kaiser at \$12.00 per hour, as he is returning for 2nd season, and Zack Netland and Dylan Gray at \$11.75 per hour.

Masterson reported on the gas line hit by customer installing mailbox post. Masterson stated BPU will compile and send bill to the customer for expenses incurred, but MNOPS will likely not impose a fine as it was residential customer.

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Lien made a motion authorizing Fletcher to renew the Turner Networks agreement through NCTC. Merschman seconded, motion carried.

Fletcher asked Commission to increase wage for Ashley Shongo to 95% of Office Assistant Full Time effective May 16, 2023. Motion by Lien to increase wage for Shongo, seconded by Merschman and carried.

Board again discussed the funds City of Bagley received through the American Rescue Plan Act, and directed staff to determine how money can be spent, when must funds be spent, and paperwork involved.

Being no further business to come before the Commission, a motion was made by Merschman, seconded by Lien, and carried to adjourn the meeting.

Thomas Lillegaard, Chairman

Attest:

Vicky Fletcher, Business Manager