

CITY OF BARRON  
MINUTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE BARRON UTILITY COMMISSION  
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 2018, 9:30 A.M.  
CITY HALL-COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 1456 E LASALLE AVE

1. Call to order

President Amundson called the meeting to order at 9:30 AM. Quorum was declared. Commissioners in Attendance: Marvin Amundson, Joe Johnson, Gene Redlich, Ken Petersen and Bob Missling.

Others Present: Deputy Clerk/Treasurer Hattie Widiker, Utility Manager Rick Jari, Mayor Ron Fladten, MSA City Engineer Teresa Anderson and Office Coordinator Sande Hause.

2. Approval of the minutes from August 13, 2018 Regular Commission Meeting (Open Session and Closed Session) and August 21, 2018 Special Meeting.

Motion by Missling, seconded by Petersen, to approve the minutes of August 13, 2018 (Open Session and Closed Session) and August 21, 2018, as printed, voice vote:

Ayes-5                  Nays-0                  Motion carried.

3. Approval of the bills.

Motion by Petersen, seconded by Redlich, to approve the September bills, including ratifying late bills, as presented, voice vote:

Ayes-5                  Nays-0                  Motion carried.

4. Review Financial Reports.

Widiker presented the July 2018 Electric, Water and Sewer Utilities balance sheets/financial statements. On the Income Statement the Miscellaneous General Expense for electric and water departments were up due to the assistance for the sewer department aerator project.

5. Plant Operations Reports.

The plant operations report, profit and loss statements for electric service to City of Barron and Jennie-O Turkey Store, peak demands report and water sold vs. water pumped reports were reviewed. Jari reported the peak demand and revenue sales were up compared to last year. The profit and loss statements seem to be on a normal trend.

6. Discussion of outcomes of previous business.

See item #9.

7. Discuss and consider purchase of water tower property.

Anderson shared a handout with projects updates. Anderson reported that Ashley Coss is willing to sell 3 acres (not the ½ acre that was originally requested). Motion by Redlich, seconded by Amundson, to authorize MSA Engineering to proceed with acquiring the 3-acre parcel with appraisals, voice vote:

Ayes-5                  Nays-0                  Motion carried.

8. Discuss and consider Auditors to look into a rate hike and true cost to treat waste water.  
The Commission discussed and are concerned with our current rates. Motion by Petersen, seconded by Johnson, to approve Jari to contact the Auditors to look into Electric, Water and Waste Water preliminary proposal for rate adjustments.

Ayes-5            Nays-0            Motion carried.

9. Discuss and consider Well #3 rehab.

Jari reported that the suggestion is to rehab wells every 10 years, it has been 20 years for well #3. The bids cover removal and reinstalling the pump, they do not cover any repairs and/or additional materials – that would be additional costs. Motion by Petersen, seconded by Redlich, to approve recommendation by Jari to accept McCarthy Well quote, voice vote:

Ayes-5            Nays-0            Motion carried.

10. Discuss and consider capacity purchase for 2020-2030.

Jari reported that Vince with AEPEP found a capacity supplier for 6/1/20-5/31/25 and partial capacity supply for 6/1/25-5/31/30 at \$3.25/kW-Mo, which is less than previous years. The supplier will do an initial study and if some additional investment is required and exceeds the price, they will not move forward. Motion by Redlich, seconded by Johnson, to authorize Rick Jari and Marv Amundson to sign contract amendment to purchase capacity, voice vote:

Ayes-5            Nays-0            Motion carried.

11. Discuss and consider extending rental for south property to Kevin Herrman.

Jari presented a request from Kevin Herrman to extend the rental agreement for the south property at the same price and for multiple years. Motion by Johnson, seconded by Redlich, to continue renting to Kevin Herrman for 2019.

12. Projects update.

Jari reported that the tennis court lights are in and also the drinking fountain in Anderson Park. The OCR's will be installed in November. The MEUW district dinner is November 13 at Lehman's in Rice Lake.

13. Plant Performance Graph.

Jari reported that all is going well. Cameron flow is decreasing a little bit. The Influent BODs are still high, but with the extra aerators – all is being handled.

14. Adjournment.

Duly moved to adjourn by unanimous consent at 10:55 AM.

Prepared by Sande Hause, Office Coordinator – Barron Light & Water