

**REGULAR MEETING  
RIVER FALLS UTILITY ADVISORY BOARD  
July 18, 2016 6:30 p.m.  
Council Chambers, City Hall**

The Regular Meeting of the River Falls Utility Advisory Board was called to order by President Hanson at 6:30 p.m. Present: Kevin Swanson, Patrick Richter, Diane Odeen, Grant Hanson, Duane Pederson, and Adam Myszewski. Absent: Tim Thum Staff present: Kevin Westhuis, Utility Director; Rhonda Davison, Utility Program Coordinator; Julie Bergstrom, Finance Director; Ron Groth, Water/Wastewater Superintendent; Wayne Siverling, Electric Operations Superintendent; Reid Wronski, City Engineer Other: Ron Quanbeck, TKDA

**M/S Odeen/Swanson to approve minutes of the June 20, 2016 Regular Meeting. Motion Carried.**

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

**CONSENT AGENDA:**

1. Acknowledgment of the following minutes:  
POWERful Choices Committee – 06-09-16

**RESOLUTIONS:**

2. Resolution Recommending South Fork Relay Replacement Project. Utility Director Westhuis and Electric Operations Superintendent Siverling gave a brief presentation. Siverling talked about the importance of relay equipment in a substation and stated that the existing equipment is outdated, have had failed breaker control switches, and a hard time finding replacements for those. This project includes SCADA equipment replacement and backup battery power (scheduled to be replaced – battery backup is on a 20 year replacement schedule). These are vital pieces that make the substation work properly. Westhuis explained that the timing of this project in 2016 recognizes the increased risk of extended power outages given the 2017 Power Plant Substation construction outages, thus this project is timed to improve the reliability of South Fork in advance of the reconstruction of the Power Plant. The price of the project includes \$55,000 for engineering and \$220,000 for equipment with a total of \$275,000 for this project. Westhuis asked the board to recommend resolution 2016-11 for authorization for professional services and equipment purchases for the South Fork substation control replacements. M/S Pederson/Odeen approved resolution 2016-11. Motion Carried.
3. Resolution Accepting Recommendations of Technical Memorandum Regarding Downstream Interceptor Plan for North Interceptor. Reid Wronski, City Engineer and Ron Quanbeck from TKDA gave a presentation. Wronski stated in March of 2016 the Utility Advisory Board and City Council adopted a resolution to enter into an agreement with TKDA for professional services necessary to complete initial work for the North Interceptor Sewer Project. Wronski stated he wanted to get the downstream interceptor planning and preliminary design to the UAB as soon as possible. This will help with the coordination of the upcoming substation project and the Heritage Park to Division Street trail project. Ron Quanbeck from TKDA stepped through his recommendations as outlined in the Technical Memorandum provided in

the Utility Advisory Board packets. Advisory Board Member Swanson asked about the In Situ techniques and how much can you expand the pipe. Quanbeck answered depending on the method used. Pipe bursting can increase pipes confidently one size and pipe reaming you can increase the pipe size greater (2 or 3 pipe sizes). Swanson also asked if need be how would you go under the river and is this potentially the big area where development will be? Quanbeck responded that would be a challenge and was discussed. There are a couple of options like micro tunneling but after talking with people the most likely way would be open cutting across the river. Westhuis stated our development seems to be going north towards the interstate. Westhuis asked Quanbeck what is the current condition of our pipe. Quanbeck stated the current conditions of the pipe can accommodate out to the urban area boundary. Odeen stated just to clarify it sounds like the two river crossings do not need to be done this time but those would be places to look at in the future. Quanbeck confirmed that is correct. M/S Odeen/Myszewski to accept Resolution 2016-12 accepting recommendations of Technical Memorandum regarding downstream interceptor plan for north interceptor. Motion Carried.

4. Resolution Recommending Purchase of VAC Truck and Camera. This purchase has been on staff's radar for a while and after a year's worth of evaluation, research, and adding additional staff it would be a good time to purchase a VAC Truck and Camera. Utility Director Westhuis explained that a VAC truck is a tank truck that is outfitted with a heavy duty vacuum and is designed to load solids, liquids, and sludge through suction lines. A VAC truck can also be used for cleaning sewers, televising sewers and emergency bypass situations. The truck will be used primarily by the Water Department for a minimum of 384 hours per year cleaning sewers and wet wells and an estimated 64 hours cleaning pump lift stations. The Public Works department will also use the vacuum truck on various projects and the Sewer department will use the truck to clean the two scum pits at the Waste Water Treatment Plant. Westhuis explained that in the last twelve years the City has spent an average of \$38,963 per year and a total of \$467,557 on contracting the sewer cleaning and TV inspection. Currently the City contracts out all of the City's vacuum truck needs. The cost for the 2007 Vactor Vacuum Truck and the televising camera totals \$240,000. Westhuis stated the truck would be purchased from Envirotech with an agreement to give us the right of refusal when they deliver the truck. Staff can look it over and if they are not satisfied Envirotech will take it back. The truck will also have a three month warranty which Ron Groth stated was very uncommon with a used truck. Staff recommended the Utility Advisory Board approve the resolution with a recommendation to City Council approving the purchase of the 2007 Vactor Vacuum Truck and Televising Camera. Pederson asked if this purchase would replace the current trailer VAC. Ron stated that the City would keep the trailer VAC as the Street Department has use for it. Swanson asked if there are any concerns with technology being nine years old on the truck. Groth stated it is not the most up-to-date but the mechanics are the same and the pump is similar technology to the newer models. The camera is a newer camera and was used as a demo camera and has a one year warranty on it. M/S Odeen/Pederson to recommend Resolution 2016-13 recommending purchase of vacuum truck and camera to City Council. Motion Carried.

**REPORTS:**

5. Utility Project Updates. Utility Director Westhuis gave a presentation on the current Utility Projects. These projects include: The Waste Water Treatment Plant rehabilitation project that is well under way and scheduled to be complete by November 2016; the Power Plant a \$4M project that will update outdated and inefficient equipment; the Sycamore Water Tower reconditioning project scheduled to be complete first week in August; Radio Road boring a crucial piece of infrastructure for our Electric Utility that moves 3-phase power to Mann Valley and moves us close to redundancy with a loop feed for Sterling Ponds Corporate Park; Chapman Drive, a conduit installation for future 3-phase and street lights; South Fork Relay Replacement Project, the four distribution (feeder) relays are mid 1990's; 2016 Sanitary Sewer Lining scheduled to start on September 6<sup>th</sup>; and North Interceptor Project in coordination with Reid Wronski, City Engineer. Swanson asked if the Chapman Drive road is being raised. Westhuis and Wronski stated it is not being raised. Pederson asked about the Community Solar Panels and the concerns with the neighbors. Westhuis stated he has met with those concerned neighbors several times and working on resolutions including fencing, landscaping, and safety ideas.
6. Finance Report: Financial reports were included in the Utility Advisory Board packet for review. Bergstrom pointed out that storm water financial statements are now included in the packets as the Utility Advisory Board reviews storm water. Baker Tilly, the City's auditors will be presenting the results of the 2015 audit report at next Tuesday's Council meeting on July 26<sup>th</sup>. Bergstrom invited board members to come to the meeting or watch online. Bergstrom reported that the outcome of the audit is positive.
7. Utility Dashboards for, Electric, Water, Waste water and Powerful Choices were included in the UAB Packets.
8. Monthly Utility Report was included in the UAB packets for review. Westhuis stated that there have been a high number of electric outages recently. Nothing consistent as the outages have ranged from a car hitting a pole, primary failures, motors burning up in substations and storms. Hats off to the Electric Crews for restoring power. Westhuis handed t-shirts to the board celebrating RFMU being number one in the state for Renewable Energy. Westhuis encouraged board members to wear their shirts at the upcoming Customer Appreciation Event.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

M/S Myszewski/Pederson moved to adjourn at 7:33 p.m. Unanimous.

Reported by: Kristi Hartmon, Administrative Assistant

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Duane Pederson, Secretary