



**CITY OF RIVER FALLS WISCONSIN  
UTILITY ADVISORY BOARD AGENDA  
CITY HALL – COUNCIL CHAMBERS  
August 19, 2019**

The meeting was called to order by Utility Advisory Board Chair Adam Myszewski at 6:30 p.m.

**Utility Advisory Board Present:**

Adam Myszewski, Scott Morrissette, Kevin Swanson, Mark Spafford, Tim Thum, Kellen Wells-Mangold, and Patrick Richter

**Staff Present:**

Utility Director Kevin Westhuis; Utility Administrative Assistant Lanae Nelson; Conservation and Efficiency Coordinator Mike Noreen; and WPPI Energy Services Representative Stacie Running

**Approval of Minutes:**

Regular Meeting Minutes: 07-15-2019

**MSC Morrissette/Swanson approve minutes. Unanimous.**

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

Chair Myszewski opened the floor for comments.

William Hansen, N8723 1025 Street spoke in favor of the proposed renewable River Falls (100 Percent Renewable Energy Declaration for City Facilities).

Joel Palmquist, 222 Locust Street spoke in favor of the proposed renewable River Falls (100 Percent Renewable Energy Declaration for City Facilities).

**CONSENT AGENDA:**

Acknowledgment of the following minutes:

West Central Wisconsin Biosolids Facility Commission: 06-20-2019

**MS Morrissette/Richter moved to approve the minutes.** Swanson asked about clarification on new business of the West Central Wisconsin Biosolids Facility Commission (WCWBFC) minutes regarding members contract expiration in 2025.

Utility Director Westhuis said RFMU is evaluating the potential contract extension. Morrissette clarified that in the WCWBFC minutes, it was a member proposal discussion. The motion was made to propose member contract extension until 2040; it is just a proposal and is subject for member approval.

**With no further discussion, Myszewski asked for a vote. The motion passed unanimously.**

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**Resolution - Recommendation to Establish Renewable River Falls (100 Percent Renewable Energy Declaration for City Facilities)**

Westhuis introduced Conservation and Efficiency Coordinator Mike Noreen. Noreen presented a recommendation to establish "Renewable River Falls," a program to have 100 percent renewable energy declaration of the City's facilities. He reviewed details about renewable energy in the City including

environmental impact, renewable energy options, financial impacts on conservation to save money, and leadership in renewable energy.

Noreen felt green blocks program is the best option for renewable energy as it is flexible, can accommodate the City's consumption and it can bridge the gap between the green rate and future programs. Morrissette asked how many solar panels have been purchased from the City's solar garden. Noreen said they are sold out. Noreen talked about efficiency programs that reduced energy consumption of the buildings by 13% in 10 years. The estimated 2019 annual billed energy costs for all City buildings would be \$217,894. The estimated 2019 annual energy charges for City buildings use and green blocks would be \$235,177.01. The proposal of having all City facilities be 100 percent renewable energy with this new green block investment would be an annual cost of \$12,339.01. The goal is to have 100% renewable energy for all City facilities by January 1, 2020. This program would reduce 16,112 tons annually of carbon dioxide emissions.

Noreen emphasized that the City's leadership in renewable energy. Currently, the City is ranked #1 in the state and fifth in the nation for green block purchase. Among, WPPI members, the City is in the top three for residential and business solar installations. Having the City's buildings be 100% renewable energy will demonstrate the City's commitment to the community and to the environment.

The UAB members discussed the need for more specific details of the plan. The UAB requested information on the hydroelectric dam's generation and the existing consumption that is already being used in renewable energy which was not in the presentation. They would also like the generation from the hydros included in the financial impact of using green blocks and renewable energy.

**MS Morrissette/Swanson moved to table the resolution. As there was no further discussion, Myszewski asked for a vote. The resolution to be tabled passed unanimously.**

#### **REPORTS:**

##### WPPI Wholesale Bill Explanation

Westhuis introduced WPPI Energy Services Representative Stacie Running who gave further details on the WPPI Wholesale Bill rates. Running explained how wholesale rates are determined and developed annually in the fall as part of the budget. Westhuis is the WPPI Chair of the Rates Services Advisory Group (RSAG). The RSAG reviews and recommends the rates, then they are reviewed and recommended by the WPPI Executive Committee (EC), and in December, the WPPI Board of Directors approve the rates.

Running reviewed the wholesale billing demand related costs, energy related costs, and member related cost that WPPI recovers from providing electric energy to members' customers. Running provided an example of a bill and explained the current month billing data, other monthly charges, bill adjustments and pass-through charges, and the statistical data.

Morrissette would like a follow up to see where the credit for the hydroelectrical dam generations are as this information was not included in this report. Westhuis explained that is already accounted for in the grid of the WPPI system. Westhuis will send the information to the UAB.

##### Finance Report

Westhuis gave a brief overview of the finance report, which was included in the packet.

Westhuis gave a FERC update that was requested last month on the FERC Studies Financial updates. There is an open purchase order of \$30,200 with Ayres Associates for studies on the dissolved oxygen/temperature monitoring in the Kinnickinnic River. This study was one of the mandatory studies from FERC.

Utility Dashboards

The 2019 July utility dashboards of Electric, Water, Wastewater Treatment Plan and POWERful Choices! were included in the UAB packet for review.

Monthly Utility Report

The 2019 July monthly utility reports were in the UAB packet for review.

Morrisette asked Westhuis if he had a stormwater update on the washout problem on Golfview Drive. Westhuis will get an update and send it to him.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

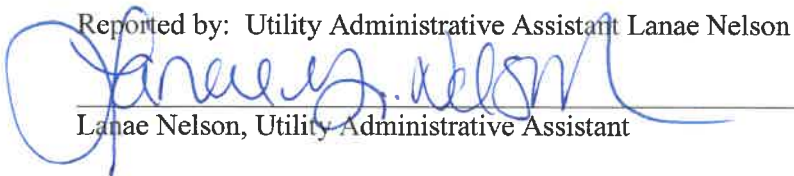
Westhuis announced RFMU will be awarded at the 2019 Smart Energy Provider Award at American Public Power Association (APPA) Customer Connections Conference in New Orleans, Louisiana, in October. This is a new APPA award category for which Noreen and Running applied. The award recognizes the public power utilities that demonstrate leading practices in the areas of energy efficiency, distributed generation, environmental stewardship and renewable energy.

Westhuis thanked Wells-Mangold and Swanson for their participation in the 2019 Customer Appreciation Event held August 15. The event was successful with just under 1,000 customers in attendance.

ADJOURNMENT:

**MSC Morrisette/Swanson move to adjourn. Unanimous.  
Myszewski announced meeting adjourned at 8:03 p.m.**

Reported by: Utility Administrative Assistant Lanae Nelson



Lanae Nelson, Utility Administrative Assistant