



**APPROVED**

**UTILITIES COMMISSION**  
FRIDAY, MAY 8, 2015, 7:15 A.M.  
Water Treatment Plant, 555 Lincoln St.  
Large Conference Room

Members Present: D. Everhart, D. Grumman, D. Lanyon, J. Nieuwsma, E. Rosenberg, M. White  
Staff Present: K. Jensen, A. Price, D. Stoneback  
Guests Present: L. Kulman, R. Shure  
Presiding Member: D. Lanyon

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**DECLARATION OF QUORUM**

A quorum being present, Chair Lanyon called the meeting to order at 7:15 a.m.

**APPROVAL OF THE APRIL 10, 2015 MEETING MINUTES**

It was moved and seconded to approve the minutes of the April 10, 2015 meeting. A voice vote was taken and the April 10, 2015 meeting minutes were unanimously approved with a minor change.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS / COMMUNICATIONS**

**a. Forthcoming Utilities Department activities**

Mr. Stoneback said that National Drinking Water Week ends this Sunday, May 10<sup>th</sup>, and the last events will be the public tours of the Water Treatment Plant on Saturday, May 9<sup>th</sup>. He said that the Mobile Water Trailer is being scheduled for events around town, and new imprinted water tumblers have been purchased for distribution to residents at city events.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**a. Work Plan Item 1.1 Update on development of a building energy efficiency initiative – Discussion of June 9 stakeholders group meeting agenda and demonstration of the Portfolio Manager database tool**

Chair Lanyon introduced Lee Kulman, School District 65 Industrial Arts Teacher and Energy Manager/Specialist, to the Commission. Mr. Kulman said that in 1997 the District was approached by an energy conservation company called Cenergistic. He said that Cenergistic came up with a program to hire someone within the District, train them, and provide support for the first four years for a fee, after which they would still provide support in the form of seminars and some assistance without charging a fee. He said that one of the things they offered assistance with was benchmarking using Energy Star Portfolio as a tool to compare how District 65 schools were doing compared to other schools nationwide. He said that Cenergistic conducted audits by a certified engineer at no additional cost, saving the District thousands of dollars, and then they assisted with the paperwork to get the Energy Star applications completed. He said that Cenergistic continues to be a great resource, and he uses a program they initiated called EnergyCap, which is primarily where he does most of his

benchmarking and data work. He then provided the Commission with a demonstration of how he enters and uses data in EnergyCap, noting that he can look at data for each school, from year to year and investigate why higher usage happens, and to see what the cost savings are after efficiency improvements have been made.

Chair Lanyon said that the letters have gone out for the June 9<sup>th</sup> stakeholders meeting. He said that representatives from the Citizens' for a Greener Evanston (CGE), and the Environment Board will co-chair the meeting, and he will provide a more detailed slide show presentation on benchmarking and building energy tracking for existing commercial and large residential buildings than was presented at the March 16<sup>th</sup> council meeting.

**b. Work Plan Item 2.1 Investigate the potential for water conservation and wastewater reuse in city-owned buildings update – Discussion deferred until a future meeting**

**c. Dusk-to-Dawn Street Lighting – Status of efforts to select circuits for testing**

Mr. Stoneback said that he has received a list back from ComEd of the lighting changes that the city has made. He said that it appears to be correct but he wants to look it over carefully and will reach out to Mr. Freeman for his assistance.

**STAFF REPORTS**

**a. Recent Electric System Outages, Basement Flooding Concerns and Water Service Interruptions, and status of 2014 improvement projects**

Mr. Stoneback reported the following:

There were five power outages in April that were all scheduled to perform different types of work. There was one 311 request about a power outage that was not on the circuit level on April 10<sup>th</sup>.

There was a basement backup again at 915 Isabella on April 9<sup>th</sup>, which has been happening whenever there is a large rain event since a new property was built along Ridge Avenue. They have been changing out the restrictors and trying to figure out what to do to prevent this from recurring.

There were a higher number of Sewer Repair Permits obtained than there were at this time last year because residents are now starting to line their private laterals.

Water Service Repair Permits were also higher than this time last year because residents are now required to fix the water main on their side of the line when a leak has been found.

There were no water main breaks in April.

The contractor is back on site working on the 48" Intake Improvement project. Staff has reviewed the proposals for the Plant Reliability Improvements project

and will be making a recommendation to award at the June 8<sup>th</sup> council meeting. The contractor has begun preliminary staging at the north standpipe. The Sheridan Road Water Main bids came in extraordinarily high, and were rejected as a result. Therefore, he will meet with Northwestern University next Tuesday, May 12<sup>th</sup>, and then go back out for bid.

- b. Status of negotiations with potential new wholesale water customers**  
Mr. Stoneback said that negotiations with the potential new wholesale water customers remain ongoing.
- c. Community-wide Water Conservation Initiative – Ideas on development of a city water use efficiency policy for city buildings**  
Mr. Jensen reported that there has been no movement on the Rain Barrel Program because the MWRD to doing a little reshuffling of their program, and he is waiting for something in writing from them stating that downspout disconnections would not require an exception to their ordinance.

#### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

- a. Inactive task: Work plan item 1.2 Develop a plan to reduce energy consumption at the water treatment plant – Item complete pending pump replacement schedule**
- b. Inactive task: Work plan item 1.3 Develop a baseline for energy consumption in municipal buildings update – Status of energy consumption database update and update of the Aukman report**
- c. Inactive task: Work plan item 2.2 Reduce the amount of stormwater entering the combined sewers in sandy subsoil areas of the City – Item complete pending the annual report of the Director of Public Works on the Complete and Green Network Approach for Construction Projects in the Public Right of Way**
- d. Inactive task: Work plan item 2.4 Evaluate the potential impact of pending USEPA sewer/water regulations on the sewer system and water treatment plant**

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Angela Price  
Executive Secretary  
Utilities Department