

MEETING OF THE BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS

February 19, 2025

Virtual Meeting – Microsoft Teams Meeting ID 240 054 590 495

Members Present:

John Robertson  
Tony Parr  
Towny Sparks  
Randy Baker

Others Present:

Jamie Chitester, CEO  
Crystal Dennis, CFO  
Jill Rickman, CHRO  
Marty Johnson, COO

Jake Crafton, Mayor  
Mark Bryant, Council Member  
Lisa Dry, Council Member

Mr. Robertson called the meeting to order and presented the agenda for approval. Mr. Sparks made a motion to approve the agenda. Mr. Parr seconded the motion, and all were in favor.

The February 4, 2025 meeting minutes were presented. Mr. Baker made a motion to approve all minutes as presented. Mr. Parr seconded the motion, and all were in favor.

The October, November, and December 2024 financials were presented. No action was required.

Ms. Dennis reported that four banks submitted loan proposals for the \$4.4 million for capital projects, First State Bank & Trust had the low bid with a rate of 4.25% for 15 years with 5 years fixed. Mr. Sparks made a motion to approve the low bid from First State Bank & Trust and submit a request to the City Council to match the financing in the bid or to approve the loan as bid and presented. Mr. Parr seconded the motion, and all were in favor.

Chief Operating Officer:

Mr. Johnson reported that the wastewater collection system saw a one million gallon increase over the last two rain events. Over the weekend, there were issues with our liftstations due to flooding from all the rain.

Chief Executive Officer:

Meetings-The APPA annual conference is June 6<sup>th</sup> in New Orleans and the Kennett Chamber of Commerce Banquet is March 13<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Chitester asked for board members to RSVP directly to him.

Generation- Staff met with management from Paragould Municipal Utilities regarding future generation. At this time, Paragould is looking for dual fuel generation and that is not something that KBPW is interested in. We will continue contact with PMU's management regarding our research and decision making.

New Water Treatment Plant-The test well produced a good volume of water. Water quality testing results have not been completed. Staff have chosen the pressure vessel option for the treatment plant based on its reduced cost compared to other options.

Solar Farm-All of the solar panels have been delivered. An early completion date of sometime late summer is now expected. Mr. Chitester and the Evergy team do not anticipate any funding issues due to the federal funding freeze.

Sanitation-The architects are making final changes to the transfer station design. Mr. Chitester spoke with staff from DNR who expect we will receive the transfer station permit within the next few weeks.

Miscellaneous general:

The next meeting will be March 4, 2025 at 11:30 a.m.

Adjournment:

There being no further business, Mr. Parr made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Sparks seconded the motion, and all were in favor.

Attest:

Randy Baker

Secretary