

MEETING OF THE BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS

April 7, 2026

303 S. Anthony St, Kennett, MO 63857

Members Present:

John Robertson  
Tony Parr  
Randy Baker

Others Present:

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

Jake Crafton, Mayor  
Randy Carter, Council Member  
Lisa Dry, Council Member

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

The March 17, 2026 meeting minutes were presented for approval. Mr. Parr made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Mr. Baker seconded the motion, and all were in favor.

The 2026 Rate Adjustments were presented by Mr. Chitester with a recommendation of Electric – 0% increase, Gas – 0% increase, Wastewater – 0% increase, Sanitation – 0% increase, Internet Packages will not change rates, and Wastewater – 2% increase. Mr. Baker made a motion to approve the 2026 rate adjustments as presented. Mr. Parr seconded the motion. A voice vote was taken – Baker, aye, Parr, aye, and Robertson, aye. The motion passed with all in favor.

COO Report: Mr. Johnson provided department updates.

Mr. Johnson reported that the Water/Wastewater department has been installing a new fire hydrant on Independence and Russell, the Power Plant is performing maintenance including cleaning and painting. The Electric department is working in Linden Circle and Westgate to replace worn poles and equipment, and the Tree Trimmers are mowing and conducting vegetation management around poles. The Gas department has completed their 3,000 ft bore and are working to pressurize the line and will begin their annual leak survey soon. The IT department is working to remove landline telephones from the office as AT&T will be converting copper lines to cellular service soon. The Safety department had a visit from MIRMA to review evaluation requirements with the new Director. While here, MIRMA and the Safety Director conducting hazard surveys and one recommendation was made and it is being remedied. The Sanitation department's bulk pickup is booked out through the end of July. Management is looking into solutions to provide this service more often. Mr. Johnson concluded his report by sharing that everything is working as it should for the Water/Wastewater Treatment department.

CEO Report: Mr. Chitester provided an executive update.

Mr. Chitester reported that purchasing power in real-time vs day-ahead scheduling saved about \$25,000 in March. The solar plant has produced over 2,400 MWH of power so far, and now is the peak of power production during the cooler but sunny weather. The Gas department is experiencing some delays in their grant due to an easement. Staff continue to work with the grant administrators to move the project forward. Prepaid Utility Service is now live and we will begin marketing it soon. Mr. Chitester asked if having a large debt at KBPW would jeopardize a Landlord's business license with the City. The Mayor took this under advisement. KBPW and City of Kennett staff will meet this week to review broker of record proposal responses.

Miscellaneous general:

The next meeting will be on April 21, 2026 at 11:30 a.m. Prior to the meeting and employee/board appreciation meal will be held at 11:00 a.m. at the IT Barn.

Mr. Parr shared that he is purchasing a home that is outside of the city limits of Kennett. The Mayor stated that he will seek guidance from the City Attorney.

Adjournment:

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

Attest:

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Randy Baker

Secretary