MEETING OF THE BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS
July 7, 2026
303 S. Anthony St, Kennett, MO 63857

Members Present:	Others Present:	
John Robertson	Jamie Chitester, CEO	
Towny Sparks	Crystal Belote, CFO	Melissa Combs, City Admin.
Randy Baker	Lisa Stacks, Admin. Assistant	
Phil D. Gurley	Jill Rickman, CHRO	Dennis Pelts, Council Member

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

The June 16, 2026 open and closed session meeting minutes were presented for approval. Mr. Sparks made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Mr. Gurley seconded the motion, and all were in favor.

The March 2026 financials were presented. No action was required.

COO Report: Mr. Johnson was absent so Mr.Chitester provided department updates.
Water/Wastewater: Crews are working on the lift station on 2nd street and repaired a leak on Russell street. They received a new backhoe this week.
Power Plant: We have generated 13 hours in July because of the high power prices. Crews will be trying to start engine #8 today; it has been out of operation for over a decade. We are still experiencing issues with engine #10 and are actively working to find solutions.
Property: We will be sending out bids for demolition of the Shaker's building soon. New AEDs have been ordered and roofing repairs on properties are being done by Quality Roofing.
Electric: Crews installed a new service at FCC and a new transformer at McDonald's.
Sanitation: Management is working with Republic Trash Services on their commercial customer count. We are interviewing this week for a Commercial Driver. The bulk pickup continues to go well and the waiting list is one month out.
Gas: Crews are working to provide gas service to engine #8.
IT: Crews repaired the fiber connection to SCADA equipment in a substation for the electric department. The old copper phone lines are being removed and replaced with new fiber phone lines.

CEO Report: Mr. Chitester provided his report.
Mr. Chitester shared that the stay interview summary was presented to all employees during a meeting. Management and one board member attended the APPA conference last week. Evergy would like to buy any additional capacity that KPW has. A contract is being worked on. Mr. Chitester shared two recent customer complaints and the resolutions. He reported that in June the Sanitation collected 43,000 lbs of bulk pickup at customers' homes for a total of 144,000 lbs since we began collecting in March. Mr. Chitester shared that MPUA annual conference registration is open for the meeting in October. There has been no movement on the solar project tax credits.

Miscellaneous general:
Mr. Robertson asks for a closed session for personnel to be placed on the next board agenda.

Mr. Sparks led a discussion on bulk pickup charges and possible solutions and opportunities for customers. He also led a discussion on demand charges. Mr. Chitester stated he will look at the demand charge income generation verses what it type of residential, commercial, and industrial rate increases would be needed to supplement a change to demand charges.

The next meeting will be on July 21, 2026 at 11:30 a.m.

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

Attest:

Randy Baker Secretary