

Special Meeting

January 10, 2008

Members present: President Donald H. Walser; Vice President David Wetterling; Secretary Dwight Bordson; Commissioner Robert Hantge; General Manager Michael Kumm; Attorney Marc Sebra.

Member absent: Commissioner Craig Lenz

President Walser called the meeting to order at 3:45 p.m.

Attorney Sebra explained the letter of intent with Phoenix Solutions. The letter of intent summarizes a proposal with Fluidyne Engineering Corporation d/b/a Phoenix Solutions. HUC would be the demonstration site of plasma gasification using renewable feedstock and HUC would be able to use the plasma gasification demonstration unit for power production. Further, the letter of intent would be subject to the negotiation and execution of a definitive agreement. This letter of intent does not constitute a binding contract between Phoenix Solutions and HUC.

After further discussion, a motion was made by Vice President Wetterling, seconded by Commissioner Robert Hantge to proceed with the letter of intent with Phoenix Solutions. Motion was unanimously carried.

There being no further business, a motion was made by Vice President Wetterling, seconded by Secretary Bordson to adjourn the meeting at 3:55 p.m. Motion was unanimously carried.

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Dwight Bordson, Secretary

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
Donald H. Walser, President

## Regular Meeting

January 30, 2008

Members present: President Donald H. Walser; Vice President David Wetterling; Commissioner Robert Hantge, General Manager Michael Kumm; Attorney Marc Sebor.

Members absent: Secretary Dwight Bordson; Commissioner Craig Lenz

President Walser called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.

President Walser called for the Commission reorganization.

Vice President Wetterling nominated Donald Walser for the position of president. A motion was made by Vice President Wetterling, seconded by Commissioner Hantge to elect Donald Walser as president. Motion was unanimously carried.

Commissioner Hantge nominated David Wetterling for the position of vice president. A motion was made by Commissioner Hantge, seconded by Commissioner Wetterling to elect David Wetterling as vice president. Motion was unanimously carried.

President Walser appointed Dwight Bordson as secretary.

President Walser appointed Marc Sebor as legal counsel.

President Walser appointed Lin Madson as recording secretary.

A motion was made by Vice President Wetterling, seconded by Commissioner Hantge to designate Citizens Bank & Trust Company and Wells Fargo as depository for utility funds. Motion was unanimously carried.

The minutes of the December 26, 2007 regular meeting were reviewed. A motion was made by Vice President Wetterling, seconded by Commissioner Hantge to approve the minutes as written. Motion was unanimously carried.

The minutes of the January 10, 2008 special meeting were reviewed. A motion was made by Vice President Wetterling, seconded by Commissioner Hantge to approve the minutes as written. Motion was unanimously carried.

The December payables were discussed. A motion was made by Commissioner Hantge, seconded by Vice President Wetterling to ratify the payment of bills in the amount of \$4,461,274.18 (detailed listing in payables book). Motion was unanimously carried.

GM Kumm presented the financial statements/budget year-to-date. After discussion, a motion was made by Vice President Wetterling, seconded by Commissioner Hantge, to approve the financial statements/budget year-to-date. Motion was unanimously carried.

GM Kumm presented contracts for services for: Legal, HR, IT and Energy Tree Planting Programs. These contracts explain the services these departments provide for HUC and fees associated with those services. After discussion, it was decided to incorporate suggested changes and bring this back to the board for approval at the next commission meeting.

Commissioner Hantge explained that he talked with a new commercial customer who had concerns regarding the policy on commercial deposit requirements. After discussion, it was decided to leave the policy as is.

GM Kumm explained that he talked with an existing commercial customer who paid their deposit but are now requesting a partial refund. After discussion, Vice President Wetterling made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Hantge to deny the request for a partial refund of their meter deposit. Motion was unanimously carried.

Position descriptions for HUC Commissioners were discussed. This is a part of our strategic plan for 2008. Changes and additions were suggested as well as incorporating HUC's mission statement into the position descriptions. GM Kumm will include the suggestions and bring it back to the board for approval at the next commission meeting.

Independent Contractor Agreement was presented. This is an agreement between HUC and Pat Wright for janitorial services. Attorney Sebor has reviewed the contract. After discussion and suggested changes, a motion was made by Vice President Wetterling, seconded by Commissioner Hantge to approve the independent contractor agreement for daily janitorial services with the changes mentioned. Motion was unanimously carried.

Discussion was held on the Strategic Plan – Vision Statement One – Strategic Objectives. Each section will be reviewed at upcoming meetings. A formal review of HUC's strategic plan is done annually.

Steve Lancaster presented the Professional Service Agreement with Liesch Associates Inc. for Plant 1 Fuel Oil Tank Replacement. Attorney Sebor has reviewed the agreement. A motion was made by Vice President Wetterling, seconded by Commissioner Hantge to approve the Professional Service Agreement with Liesch Associates Inc. for Plant 1 Fuel Oil Tank Replacement. Motion was unanimously carried.

GM Kumm presented the Service Territory Agreement with McLeod Cooperative Power Association. This agreement will ensure service to the Industrial Park as well as the development east of Menards. It also ensures a good working relationship with MCPA. A motion was made by Vice President Wetterling, seconded by Commissioner Hantge to authorize the Service Territory Agreement with McLeod Cooperative Power Association. Motion was unanimously carried.

Two advertisements for bids were presented. Both of these are budgeted items. A motion was made by Commissioner Hantge, seconded by Vice President Wetterling to approve advertisement for bids for the following: Construction and Assembly of Piping for New Centrifugal Chiller; and Chiller Building Addition. Motion was unanimously carried.

Two bid tabulations were presented. Both of these are budgeted items. A motion was made by Commissioner Hantge, seconded by Vice President Wetterling to approve the following bid tabulations:

1/0 15 kV URD Primary Conductor – awarded to Border States Electric

40' Aerial Man Lift Device w/Service Body – awarded to ABM Equipment & Supply

Motion was unanimously carried.

Six requisitions were presented. A motion was made by Commissioner Hantge, seconded by Vice President Wetterling to approve the following requisitions. Motion was unanimously carried.

#002918 for 2008 4WH Tahoe – replaces unit 441  
awarded to Thane Hawkins Polar Chevrolet

#002928 for fuel oil

awarded to Lube Tech

Jan Sifferath will research to make sure we are in compliance with the purchasing laws on fuel oil.

#002929 for CEMS Computer Upgrade  
awarded to Mechanical Systems Inc.

#002932 for Handheld Meter Reading Devices  
awarded to Hydro Metering Technology

#002943 for Unit 7 Power Cylinders Repair  
awarded to Mid-Continent Sales

#002946 for Fiberglass Utility Service Body for Replacement Trucks #943 and #643  
awarded to ABM Equipment and Supply

Steve Lancaster presented requisition #002934 for three trucks:

2008 F350 4x4 – replaces truck 943

2008 F350 4x4 – replaces truck 643

2008 F550 4x4 – replaces truck 062 bucket truck

A motion was made by Commissioner Hantge, seconded by Vice President Wetterling to approve requisition #002934 for three 2008 replacement trucks. Motion was unanimously carried.

GM Kumm presented the MISO TO Membership Analysis Update w/MRES. GM Kumm recommended changes for the allocation percentages for transmission expenses. After discussion, Commissioner Hantge made a motion, seconded by Vice President Wetterling to approve the MISO TO Membership Analysis Update w/MRES. Motion was unanimously carried.

Because of conflicting schedules for the February Commission meeting, a motion was made by Commissioner Hantge, seconded by Vice President Wetterling to reschedule February's meeting for March 3, 2008 at 3:00 p.m. pending a quorum. Motion was unanimously carried.

Attorney Marc Seborá presented the Data Practices Act and Public Records Request Policy. Changes have been made as requested, and reviewed by GM Kumm. A motion was made by Vice President Wetterling, seconded by Commissioner Hantge to approve HUC Data Practices Act and Public Records Request Policy. Motion was unanimously carried.

John Webster presented the Natural Gas Facility Extension Policy for discussion. Additions suggested were developing rural rates for outside the city limits. The suggestions will be incorporated into the policy and will be presented at the next commission meeting for approval.

Steve Lancaster presented the Contract with Landform for Plant 1 Improvement. A suggestion for change was the external reimbursement expenses from 15% to 10%. A motion was made by Vice President Wetterling, seconded by Commissioner Hantge to approve the contract with Landform for Plant 1 improvement with the noted changes. Motion was unanimously carried.

#### Division reports

Electric – Steve Lancaster  
None

Gas – John Webster

- Started pandemic flu program
- Extended invitation to Commissioners for Pipeline CAER meeting
- Hired new employee on January 29, 2008, he quit January 30, 2008

Business – none

#### Legal Update

Met with City Council and Legislators on the Phoenix Solution plasma gasification project. They do give us full support on this project.

#### Unfinished Business

Memorandum of Understanding with MRES

Tabled from September 26, 2007; October 31, 2007; November 28, 2007

GM Kumm explained his disapproval of having to get MRES' authorization any time we enter into any kind of a renewable project. After discussion, a motion was made by Vice President Wetterling, seconded by Commissioner Hantge to table the memorandum of understand with MRES until further notice. Motion was unanimously carried.

New Business

GM Kumm explained that he will do some research as to the last time the Commissioners had a pay raise. He will come back to the Board with a recommendation after his research.

There being no further business, a motion was made by Commissioner Hantge, seconded by Vice President Wetterling, to adjourn the meeting at 5:15 p.m. Motion was unanimously carried.

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Dwight Bordson, Secretary

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
Donald H. Walser, President

## Regular Meeting

March 3, 2008  
(February 27, 2008 - Rescheduled Meeting)

Members present: President Donald H. Walser; Vice President David Wetterling, Secretary Dwight Bordson; Commissioner Craig Lenz; Attorney Marc Sebor; General Manager Michael Kumm.

Member absent: Commissioner Robert Hantge.

President Walser called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.

President Walser noted a change to agenda item #6: Approve Position Descriptions for HUC Commissioners for New Member Orientation. Change made to read: Approve Position Descriptions for HUC Commissioners.

The minutes of January 30, 2008 regular meeting were reviewed. A motion was made by Vice President Wetterling, seconded by Commissioner Lenz, to approve the minutes as written. Motion was unanimously carried.

Jan Sifferath, Business Manager explained the remodeling and construction of the north building expansion project (Consolidated Freightways Building) and introduced Jim Haugen, Haugen Architecture, who gave a presentation on the project. This is phase one of a two-phase project. An advertisement for bids will be presented for approval at the March 26<sup>th</sup> Commission meeting. Phase one is budgeted for \$550,000 and work should be completed by fall of 2008. At the board's request, Jan will e-mail an estimated figure for the cost of phase two.

The January payables were discussed. A motion was made by Commissioner Lenz, seconded by Vice President Wetterling, to ratify the payment of bills in the amount of \$4,880,744.52 (detailed listing in payables book). Motion was unanimously carried.

GM Kumm presented the financial statements/budget year-to-day. After discussion, a motion was made by Commissioner Lenz, seconded by Secretary Bordson, to approve the financial statements/budget year-to-date. Motion was unanimously carried.

GM Kumm presented the contracts for services for: Legal fees, Human Resources, Information Technology and Energy Tree Planting Programs. GM Kumm will add the total fee to the contract for Energy Tree Planting Programs. After discussion, Vice President Wetterling made a motion, seconded by Secretary Bordson, to approve the contracts for services. Motion was unanimously carried.

GM Kumm presented the position descriptions for HUC Commissioners. After discussion, it was decided this will be part of the orientation packet. Commissioner Lenz made a motion, seconded by Vice President Wetterling, to approve the position

descriptions for HUC Commissioners. Motion was unanimously carried. President Walser noted that he would like an agenda item for March's meeting to include Commissioner behavioral rules as it relates to performing their responsibilities as a board member.

GM Kumm presented the Strategic Plan - Vision Statement Two - Strategic Objectives for discussion.

GM Kumm presented the natural gas extension policy. Because we already serve customers outside the city limits of Hutchinson, it was decided by staff not to incorporate a different rate into the policy for servicing outside the city limits of Hutchinson. After discussion, a motion was made by Commissioner Lenz, seconded by Vice President Wetterling, to approve the natural gas extension policy as written. Motion was unanimously carried.

GM Kumm presented graphs showing comparisons of residential and natural gas rates. HUC has the lowest gas rates when compared with CenterPoint Energy, Austin Utilities, Owatonna Public Utilities and New Ulm Public Utilities. HUC has the lowest electric rates when compared with cities that also do not use hydro power: Xcel Energy, McLeod Cooperative, Saint Peter, Glencoe and New Ulm. Litchfield, Marshall, Alexandria Willmar and Otter Tail Power are lower because they use hydro power. Graphs are updated each year.

Steve Lancaster, Director Electric Division, presented the results of the bid tabulations for construction and assembly of piping for new centrifugal chiller, and chiller building addition. After discussion, a motion was made by Commissioner Lenz, seconded by Vice President Wetterling, to approve the award of the bid tabulation for the construction and assembly of piping for new centrifugal chiller to Paul Lemke and Sons Inc., and to approve the award of the bid tabulation for the chiller building addition to Marcy Construction Company. Motion was unanimously carried.

Steve Lancaster presented requisition #002961 for 3 phase padmounted switches. These are for capital projects. After discussion, a motion was made by Vice President Wetterling, seconded by Secretary Bordson, to approve requisition #002961 for 3 phase padmounted switches from WESCO. Motion was unanimously carried.

Steve Lancaster presented requisition #002972 for two 2008 Chevrolet Silverado 4x4 pickups. These are replacement trucks. After discussion, a motion was made by Vice President Wetterling, seconded by Commissioner Lenz, to approve requisition #002972 for two 2008 Chevrolet Silverado 4x4 pickups from Thane Hawkins Polar Chevrolet. Motion was unanimously carried.

GM Kumm presented requisition #002990 for phase 2 of unit #1 RTU/MMI upgrade. This is a software upgrade to the Scada System on unit #1. A motion was made by Vice President Wetterling seconded by Secretary Bordson, to approve requisition #002990

for phase 2 of unit #1 RTU/MMI upgrade from C3 ILEX System. Motion was unanimously carried.

Steve Lancaster presented advertisement for bids for aboveground storage tank removal and aboveground storage tanks installation. These are located at plant #1. After discussion, a motion was made by Commissioner Lenz, seconded by Vice President Wetterling, to approve advertisement for bids for aboveground storage tank removal and aboveground storage tanks installation. Motion was unanimously carried.

Steve Lancaster presented a schedule update on the plant #1 beautification project. An advertisement for bids will be presented at the March Commission meeting for this project.

GM Kumm noted that he had a meeting with Geronimo Wind Energy. They will give a presentation at the March meeting to conduct a feasibility study on wind analysis. MRES had hired them and was satisfied with their study. They specialize in 20-100 megawatts and HUC would be looking at 40 megawatts (with 20 megawatts going to MRES). There is \$50,000 in the HUC budget for alternative energy projects. Geronimo Wind Energy would charge between \$50,000 and \$60,000 to do the analysis.

GM Kumm reported on the plasma gasification project. At this point we don't know if we will get the bonding bill passed. We are rated as medium priority, but will be recommended to the Emerging Technology Committee.

GM Kumm also reported that McLeod Cooperative did not accept the service territory agreement that was presented to them.

#### Division reports

##### Business – Jan Sifferath

- Did research on fuel oil purchases – if it's used for generation, don't have to go out for bids.
- Auditors will present their report at the March meeting.
- Have received pandemic flu supplies
- CIP started March 1<sup>st</sup> – have received many calls

##### Electric – Steve Lancaster

- Operator position has been placed in the Hutchinson Leader Newspaper

##### Gas – John Webster

- With the natural gas extension policy, there are two areas interested
- Have had three meetings with Jo-Max, Gary Van Cleve was present
- Damage Prevention luncheon on March 12<sup>th</sup> – have received 250 RSVP's
- Attended damage prevention meetings
- CAER meeting with several city departments – 42 attended

Legal Update

Attorney Seboria asked that the City resolution in support of a locally-owned wind power generation facility be a part of HUC's integrated resource plan.

Unfinished Business:

Discussion was held on commissioner's compensation pay. This has not been looked at since 1994. Since that time sales have grown and it should be evaluated to see if it's time for an increase. GM Kumm has prepared a spreadsheet with his recommendations as to a pay raise. This will be an agenda item at the March Commission meeting.

New Business:

HUC is sponsoring a breakfast meeting on March 18, 2008, for all HUC employees, Commissioners, Mayor, Councilpersons, the ten largest electric customers, and the ten largest gas customers. A motion was made by Commissioner Lenz, seconded by Vice President Wetterling, to declare the breakfast meeting scheduled for March 18, 2008 as an open meeting. Motion was unanimously carried.

There being no further business, a motion was made by Vice President Wetterling, seconded by Secretary Bordson to adjourn the meeting at 4:53 p.m. Motion was unanimously carried.

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Dwight Bordson, Secretary

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
Donald H. Walser, President

## Regular Meeting

March 26, 2008

Members present: President Donald H. Walser; Vice President David Wetterling; Secretary Dwight Bordson; Commissioner Robert Hantge, General Manager Michael Kumm; Attorney Marc Sebora

Member absent: Commissioner Craig Lenz

President Walser called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.

The minutes of the March 3, 2008 regular meeting (the February 27<sup>th</sup> rescheduled meeting) were reviewed. A motion was made by Vice President Wetterling, seconded by Commissioner Hantge, to approve the minutes as written.

Noel P. Rahn and Charlie Daum, representatives from Geronimo Wind Energy, were welcomed to the meeting. A presentation was given regarding doing a wind energy analysis. After discussion, authorization was given to GM Kumm to work with Jeff Peters of Missouri River Energy Services in partnering during the first stage of this study.

Paul Harvego of Conway, Deuth & Schmiesing was welcomed to the meeting to present the financial audit for 2007. After discussion, the board thanked GM Kumm for the good job he has done in the past two years. GM Kumm thanked the whole of Hutchinson Utilities for the team work involved in improving our financial stability. A motion was made by Vice President Wetterling, seconded by Secretary Bordson, to approve the financial audit for 2007. Motion was unanimously carried.

The February payables were discussed. A motion was made by Secretary Bordson, seconded by Commissioner Hantge, to ratify the payment of bills in the amount of \$4,567,294.34 (detailed listing in payables book). Motion was unanimously carried.

GM Kumm presented the financial statements/budget year-to-date. After discussion, a motion was made by Commissioner Hantge, seconded by Vice President Wetterling, to approve the financial statements/budget year-to-date. Motion was unanimously carried.

Hutchinson Utilities Commissioner's responsibilities and behavioral rules were discussed. It was decided to add verbiage regarding 'code of conduct/ethics' to the rules and responsibilities. A motion was made by Commissioner Hantge, seconded by Secretary Bordson to approve HUC Commissioner's responsibilities and behavioral rules with the addition of code of conduct/ethics as part of the Commissioner's orientation packet. Motion was unanimously carried.

GM Kumm presented a table showing the need for an increase in compensation for the Commissioners. There has not been an increase since 1994 and more decisions are

being made now than they have in the past, HUC's net income has more than doubled, and they are more involved and more visible than ever before. President Walser stated that the Commissioner's compensation pay increase must be approved by the City Council. A motion was made by Commissioner Hantge, seconded by Vice President Wetterling to make a recommendation to City Council to increase the Commission member's salary from \$439.90 a month to \$665 a month and to increase the President of the Commissions salary from \$439.90 a month to \$1000 a month. Motion was unanimously carried. Attorney Sebora will draft a resolution for the council to approve the increase in compensation.

The strategic plan - vision statement three - strategic objectives, was reviewed. Some tasks have already been completed. We have heard from two areas outside the city limits that are interested in natural gas service.

Advertisement for bids for construction of new materials center and remodel of existing warehouse on north complex was presented for approval. A motion was made by Vice President Wetterling, seconded by Commissioner Hantge, to approve the advertisement for bids for construction of new materials center and remodel of existing warehouse on north complex. Motion was unanimously carried.

Advertisement for bids for 2008 trencher w/ancillary equipment including trade of Ditch Witch 7020 trencher, backhoe and redi-haul trailer was presented for approval. This is a replacement and has been budgeted. A motion was made by Secretary Bordson, seconded by Commissioner Hantge, to approve the advertisement for bids for 2008 trencher w/ancillary equipment including trade of Ditch Witch 7020 trencher, backhoe and redi-haul trailer. Motion was unanimously carried.

Advertisement for bids for building, site and landscape improvements was presented for approval. This is a budgeted item. Small issues with MNDOT and City are being worked out. A motion was made by Commissioner Hantge, seconded by Secretary Bordson, to approve advertisement for bids for building, site and landscape improvements. Motion was unanimously carried.

Steve Lancaster, Director Electric Division, presented requisition #003032 for unit 1 vacuum pump system replacement. This is for the steam turbine at plant 2. A motion was made by Vice President Wetterling, seconded by Secretary Bordson, to approve requisition #003032 for unit 1 vacuum pump system replacement from John Henry Foster. Motion was unanimously carried.

GM Kumm presented the change to the purchasing policy. Because we will have smaller tanks for diesel fuel for generation, we will be purchasing diesel fuel more frequently. Added to the policy for purchases between \$15,000 and \$50,000: Fuel purchases for electrical generation is an exception, for additional exceptions refer to Minnesota Statutes 2003, 471.345 Uniform Municipal Contracting Law. A motion was made by Vice President Wetterling, seconded by Secretary Bordson, to approve the change to the purchasing policy. Motion was unanimously carried.

Division reports

Business – Jan Sifferath

Nothing to report

Gas – John Webster

- Developing brochure for public awareness programs
- Working with Xcel energy on the electric substation
- HUC marketing natural gas energy to Heartland

Electric – Steve Lancaster

- Will need to schedule a special meeting for the award of the bid tabulation for the tank removal and tanks installation project

Legal Update

None

Unfinished Business

GM Kumm reported that he received a letter from McLeod Coop regarding the territory agreement. They did not accept our letter of 'right to serve'. We will be contacting McGrann Shea Law Office to deal with this territory issue.

New Business

None

There being no further business, a motion was made by Vice President Wetterling, seconded by Commissioner Hantge to adjourn the meeting at 5:24 p.m. Motion was unanimously carried.

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Dwight Bordson, Secretary

ATTEST \_\_\_\_\_  
Donald H. Walser, President

Special Meeting

April 2, 2008

Members present: President Donald H. Walser; Secretary Dwight Bordson; Commissioner Craig Lenz; General Manager Michael Kumm

Members absent: Vice President David Wetterling; Commissioner Robert Hantge; Attorney Marc Sebor

President Walser called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.

The bid tabulation was presented for approval. A motion was made by Commissioner Lenz, seconded by Secretary Bordson, to approve the award of the bid tabulation for aboveground storage tank removal and aboveground storage tanks installation to Minnesota Petroleum Services, Inc. Motion was unanimously carried.

Unfinished Business

Discussion was held regarding hiring a consultant to review permitting requirements for the Plasma Torch project. Discussion was also held regarding arranging a trip to tour one of the current Plasma Torch operations in Canada or southern United States.

New Business

None

There being no further business, a motion was made by Secretary Bordson, seconded by Commissioner Lenz to adjourn the meeting at 3:30 p.m. Motion was unanimously carried.

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Dwight Bordson, Secretary

ATTEST \_\_\_\_\_  
Donald H. Walser, President

## Regular Meeting

April 30, 2008

Members present: President Donald H. Walser; Vice President David Wetterling; Secretary Dwight Bordson; Commissioner Craig Lenz; Commissioner Robert Hantge; Attorney Marc Sebor; General Manager Michael Kumm

President Walser called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.

The minutes of the March 26, 2008 regular meeting were reviewed. A motion was made by Vice President Wetterling, seconded by Commissioner Hantge to approve the minutes as written. Motion was unanimously carried.

The minutes of the April 2, 2008 special meeting were reviewed. A motion was made by Commissioner Lenz, seconded by Secretary Bordson to approve the minutes as written. Motion was unanimously carried.

Brenda Ewing, Human Resources Director, presented the changes to the family and medical leave policy mandated by Federal law. After discussion, a motion was made by Commissioner Hantge, seconded by Secretary Bordson to amend section 5, Employee Benefits, Family and Medical Leave of the HUC exempt and non-exempt employee handbooks with one verbiage change and one sentence placement change requested by the Board. Motion was unanimously carried.

The March payables were discussed. A motion was made by Vice President Wetterling, seconded by Commissioner Lenz to ratify the payment of bills in the amount of \$4,566,662.61 (detailed listing in payables book). Motion was unanimously carried.

GM Kumm presented the March financial statements/budget year-to-date. After discussion, a motion was made by Commissioner Lenz, seconded by Vice President Wetterling to approve the March financial statements/budget year-to-date. Motion was unanimously carried.

A proposal from Haugen Architecture, Inc. was presented. This proposal is for providing architectural and engineering services for the new materials center and remodeling of the existing warehouse on our north complex. Haugen Architecture has already provided the specs and drawings for this project; he needs the contract signed for business purposes and we need it for our files. A motion was made by Commissioner Hantge, seconded by Secretary Bordson, to approve proposal for architectural and engineering services from Haugen Architecture, Inc. for the construction of new materials center and remodel of existing warehouse on north complex. Motion was unanimously carried.

GM Kumm presented the service agreement with Geronimo Wind Energy. This is the first stage of the wind feasibility study. Attorney Sebor has reviewed the agreement.

After discussion, a motion was made by Commissioner Hantge, seconded by Secretary Bordson, to approve the agreement with Geronimo Wind Energy to conduct analysis. Motion was unanimously carried. At next commission meeting Geronimo will have sites selected for the board to act on.

Requisition #003048 was presented for approval. This is to stay in compliance with the 2008 Public Awareness Program. A motion was made by Secretary Bordson, seconded by Commissioner Lenz, to approve requisition #003048 for public awareness program for transmission line and distribution system for 2008 from Paradigm. Motion was unanimously carried.

Requisition #003067 was presented for approval. This is software to schedule preventative maintenance on the electric and gas distribution system. After discussion, a motion was made by Commissioner Lenz, seconded by Vice President Wetterling to approve requisition #003067 for desktop licenses and software update/support from CityWorks-Azteca Systems Inc. Motion was unanimously carried.

Requisition #003073 was presented for approval. A motion was made by Vice President Wetterling, seconded by Commissioner Lenz, to approve requisition #003073 for labor and materials for complete electrical installation on chiller and building addition from Quades. Motion was unanimously carried. GM Kumm mentioned that he has overview prints available for commissioners to view.

Bid tabulation result was presented for approval. After discussion, a motion was made by Vice President Wetterling, seconded by Secretary Bordson, to approve the bid tabulation for 2008 trencher w/ancillary equipment including trade of Ditch Witch model 7020 trencher, backhoe and Redi-Haul trailer from Ditch Witch of Minnesota, Inc. Motion was unanimously carried.

Discussion took place regarding PILOT (payment in lieu of taxes) as a line item on utility bills. A motion was made by Vice President Wetterling, seconded by Secretary Bordson, to appoint GM Kumm and Commissioner Lenz to serve on a committee to reconvene the discussions with City Council (from 2005) and revisit the formula of the PILOT program. Motion was unanimously carried.

Discussion was held on the strategic plan – vision statement four – strategic objectives. This vision statement incorporates the IRP (integrated resource plan), which we are following. Some items have already been completed.

The May 28, 2008 commissioner's meeting has been rescheduled for Monday, June 2, 2008 at 3:00 p.m.

#### Division reports

- Manpower Study

GM Kumm reported on HUC doubling its assets, without increasing the work force.

#### Business – Jan Sifferath

- Pre-bid meeting held for the materials center & remodel of north complex
- HSA (health savings account) meeting with employees
- Legislature passed purchasing limits – effective August 1, 2008. Will come before board at a future meeting with recommendation.
- Having some issues with billing software upgrade
- CIP going well

#### Electric – Steve Lancaster

- Chiller project has started
- Fuel tank removal and installation has started
- Bids for the plant beautification will be in paper next week – phase one will be over a 2-year period

#### Gas – Steve Sturges

- Replacing pipe at Rolling Greens Lane
- Several requests for natural gas service outside city limits have come in
- New services are also being installed

GM Kumm reported on the following:

- HUC was recognized by the State on Partnership for Trees – we are now eligible for the Golden Tree Award
- Received the Tree Line Award and a flag, to be placed below the US flag – only municipal in state recognized for this award

Vice President Wetterling asked about the feasibility of the Round-Up Program. This program would round up your utility bill to the nearest dollar with the extra money going back to the community. This will be discussed at a future meeting.

#### Legal Update

None

#### Unfinished Business

None

#### New Business

##### ACH Credit Cards:

- A customer had contacted us for this pay option, but with the current upgraded software it is not feasible at this time.

Commissioner Hantge mentioned the possibility of buying merchandise/vehicles during the year instead of right after the first of the year after budget approval; understanding the urgency in needing some merchandise/vehicles immediately. This will be taken into consideration in the future.

There being no further business, a motion was made by Vice President Wetterling, seconded by Secretary Bordson to adjourn the meeting at 4:26 p.m. Motion was unanimously carried.

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Dwight Bordson, Secretary

ATTEST \_\_\_\_\_  
Donald H. Walser, President

## Regular Meeting

June 2, 2008

(May's rescheduled meeting)

Members present: President Donald H. Walser; Secretary Dwight Bordson; Commissioner Craig Lenz; Commissioner Robert Hantge; Attorney Marc Sebor; General Manager Michael Kumm

Member absent: Vice President David Wetterling

President Walser called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.

The minutes of the April 30, 2008 regular meeting were reviewed. A motion was made by Commissioner Lenz, seconded by Commissioner Hantge to approve the minutes as written. Motion was unanimously carried.

GM Kumm presented the April payables for approval. After discussion, a motion was made by Commissioner Hantge, seconded by Commissioner Lenz, to ratify the payment of bills in the amount of \$4,093,698.24 (detailed listing in payables book). Motion was unanimously carried.

GM Kumm presented the financial statements/budget year-to-date. A separate print-out was included with the work order reports showing projects that have come in under budget, and it showed projects that will not take place in 2008. The excess monies will be used to cover projects that have come in over budget. GM Kumm will prepare a year end forecast for the commission to review. After discussion, a motion was made by Commissioner Hantge, seconded by Commissioner Lenz to approve the financial statements/budget-year-to-date. Motion was unanimously carried.

GM Kumm presented the purchase power amendment with CMMPA for approval. This is effective July 1<sup>st</sup> and is good for two years. This amendment would result in a decrease of approximately 3 – 6% compared to our current contract, equating to \$400,000 to \$800,000 savings per year. After discussion, a motion was made by Commissioner Lenz, seconded by Commissioner Hantge to approve the purchase power amendment with CMMPA. Motion was unanimously carried.

GM Kumm presented the amendment with MMGA pre-pay for approval. After discussion, a motion was made by Commissioner Lenz, seconded by Commissioner Hantge to approve the amendment with MMGA pre-pay. Motion was unanimously carried.

GM Kumm presented the DEED grant for discussion. If awarded the grant, HUC could receive \$500,000 from the Minnesota Department of Agriculture. We are asking for City Council to authorize this grant and to submit it on behalf of Hutchinson Utilities Commission. A motion was made by Commissioner Hantge, seconded by

Commissioner Lenz to present the DEED grant to City Council for approval. Motion was unanimously carried.

Steve Lancaster presented the bid tabulation for power plant improvements. Our recommendation is to award the bid to Nygaard Enterprises in the amount \$198,529.00. Over the course of the past few months, the scope of the project increased and the bids came in higher than budgeted (\$245,000.00). Because of the increase in the scope of the project, we divided the original Phase I Improvements into three areas explained below. In recommending the power plant improvements only, this will allow HUC to evaluate the landscaping portion of the original plan and budget accordingly for next year.

1. Plant 1 Building Improvements; consisting of general restoration of building exterior, painting, tuck-pointing, and new brick façade.
2. Phase 1A Site Improvements; consisting of fencing and landscaping along the north and west side of site.
3. Phase 1B Site Improvements; consisting of paving, landscaping and storm water management on the south and east portion of site.

After discussion, a motion was made by Commissioner Lenz, seconded by Commissioner Hantge to approve the bid tabulation for power plant improvements, from Nygaard Enterprises Inc. Motion was unanimously carried.

Jan Sifferath presented the bid tabulation for construction of new materials center and remodel of existing warehouse on north complex. In addition to the cost of the building, there is a total of approximately \$80,000 of miscellaneous items that were not part of the bid price. This brings the total job price to approximately \$643,000.

The \$80,000 difference can be taken from other projects that were under bid. It is our recommendation that we award the contract to KC Companies of Waite Park, MN for the complete job. After discussion, a motion was made by Commissioner Lenz, seconded by Commissioner Hantge to approve the construction of the new materials center and remodel of existing warehouse on north complex from KC Companies, pending attorney review of the AIA Document (standard form of agreement between owner and contractor). Motion was unanimously carried.

At this time Secretary Bordson arrived (3:36 p.m.)

Requisition #003079 was presented for approval. This is a standard item and has been budgeted. A motion was made by Commission Hantge, seconded by Commissioner Lenz to approve requisition #003079 for 7,500' conductor 500 MCM 15KV AL from Border States. Motion was unanimously carried.

GM Kumm presented the change to the interest section of the deposit requirement for residential and commercial/industrial customers in the policies and requirements booklet. This change is necessary in conjunction with the new billing software.

Interest:

Interest earned on deposits is applied to the account as a credit on ~~the anniversary date of when the deposit was paid.~~ a calendar year basis.

A motion was made by Secretary Bordson, seconded by Commissioner Lenz to approve the change to the deposit requirement section of the policies and requirements booklet. Motion was unanimously carried.

Discussion was held on the strategic plan – vision statements five and six – strategic objectives. HUC is waiting to hear from the City Administrator regarding adding a line item on our utility bills concerning the payment in lieu of taxes. Our new billing system is scheduled to go live in July.

Discussion was held on the wind feasibility study. HUC has met with Geronimo Wind Energy and they have given us a schedule for their analysis. They will have a potential site selection by mid-July.

Charge-offs was presented for approval. A motion was made by Commissioner Lenz, seconded by Secretary Bordson to approve the charge-off list of non-collectible accounts (detailed listing on page 2710 of May general journal). Motion was unanimously carried.

Division reports

Gas – John Webster

- MMUA summer meeting regarding storing wind energy
- Wind farm going up in Sibley County
- Damage prevention ads in newspapers for people on the pipeline as well as local radio stations
- Replacing steel main on Golf Course Road
- Installing natural gas services outside the city limits

Business – Jan Sifferath

- Unfinished Business: Roundup Program to be addressed at July meeting
- Working on CIP for Department of Commerce
- Bids have come in for the two pickups we are selling
- Unfinished Business: Purchasing Limit to be addressed at July meeting
- New billing software: hard parallel June 16, 2008 / live 3<sup>rd</sup> week in July

Electric – Steve Lancaster

- Nothing to report

GM Kumm

- Increase megawatts to 80 regarding the Geronimo Wind Energy project
- MMUA strategic plan – promotion to Secretary Treasurer
- Big Stone II – June 3, 2008
  - Administrative Law Judge denied certificate of need

- Interested parties to submit rebuttal
- PUC to make ruling on June 5, 2008

Legal Update  
None

Unfinished Business  
Purchasing Limit:  
Jan will report on next month

Round-up Program  
Jan will report on next month

New Business  
None

There being no further business, a motion was made by Commissioner Lenz seconded by Secretary Bordson to adjourn the meeting at 4:03 p.m. Motion was unanimously carried.

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Dwight Bordson, Secretary

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
Donald H. Walser, President

## Regular Meeting

June 25, 2008

Members present: President Donald H. Walser; Vice President David Wetterling; Secretary Dwight Bordson; Commissioner Robert Hantge; General Manager Michael Kumm

Members absent: Commissioner Craig Lenz; Attorney Marc Sebor

President Walser called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.

The minutes of the June 2, 2008 regular meeting (May's rescheduled meeting) were reviewed. A motion was made by Commissioner Hantge, seconded by Secretary Bordson to approve the minutes as written. Motion was unanimously carried.

GM Kumm presented the payables for ratification. After discussion, a motion was made by Vice President Wetterling, seconded by Secretary Bordson to ratify the payment of bills in the amount of \$4,069,152.04 (detailed listing in payables book). Motion was unanimously carried.

GM Kumm presented the financial statements/budget year-to-date for approval. After discussion, a motion was made by Commissioner Hantge, seconded by Vice President Wetterling to approve the financial statements/budget year-to-date. Motion was unanimously carried.

Discussion was held on the strategic plan – vision statement seven – strategic objectives.

### Division reports

#### Business – Jan Sifferath

- Billing software hard parallel is going better than expected – go live 7-21-08
- Waiting for signed contracts before breaking ground for new materials center
- Jan thanked the board for her tuition reimbursement – she has graduated

#### Electric – Steve Lancaster

- Using new fuel oil tanks – old ones will be removed
- Windows are being installed for the power plant improvements – painters are doing their preparation
- Chiller building is not progressing as quickly as we'd like
- Staying informed regarding the construction of the round-a-bout
- Had three outages in the last two days, reports will be sent to Commissioners regarding these outages

#### Gas – John Webster

- Nine customers outside the city limits on Adams Street have asked for new natural gas services
- Currently installing new natural gas services outside city limits at 202<sup>nd</sup> Circle and 202<sup>nd</sup> Court
- Commercial customers outside the city limits on Highway 15 North have asked for natural gas services
- Minnesota Office of Pipeline Safety will be here in July to do their annual audit
- Will speak with residents at the Village Cooperative regarding disaster recovery and to discuss our tornado response plan

#### Legal Update

None

G M Kumm reported that the charter commission will meet to discuss changing the City Charter as it relates to HUC Commission members. He went over HUC action plan explaining tasks that are completed and/or in progress for the goals set for 2008. He also reported that the PILOT committee, consisting of General Manager Kumm, Commissioner Lenz, City Administrator Plotz, Finance Director Ken Merrill, and Mayor Steve Cook, will reconvene to discuss Payment In Lieu Of Taxes. He also reported that the DEED Grant has been signed by City, and will be delivered to the State Capitol on Thursday.

#### Unfinished Business

##### Purchasing Limit:

The law on purchasing will be changed as of August 1, 2008. Some things will change for HUC but not all changes will affect us. We will revisit this when the law goes into effect.

##### Round-Up Program:

Jan Sifferath reported that the Secretary of State would set up a trust fund and the State would accept applications to be recipients of the fund – possibly the Hutchinson Foundation. She also explained how the program works. Utility bills would be rounded up to the nearest dollar, with each statement showing how much is going into the fund. Jan will check with our new billing software to see if that could be built into the new billing system. She will also check with the Secretary of State and get more information on ‘non profit organizations’. We will revisit this when all the information has been gathered.

##### DEED Grant:

The application has been passed by City Council; HUC needs to approve/adopt Resolution #1004, Greater Minnesota Business Development Public Infrastructure Grant Biomass Energy Program. After discussion, a motion was made by Commissioner Hangte, seconded by Vice President Wetterling to approve/adopt Resolution #1004 Greater Minnesota Business Development

Public Infrastructure Grant Biomass Energy Program. Motion was unanimously carried.

Reconvene PILOT Committee:

A date will be determined for a meeting to discuss Payment In Lieu Of Taxes.

New Business

None

There being no further business, a motion was made by Vice President Wetterling, seconded by Secretary Bordson to adjourn the meeting at 3:53 p.m. Motion was unanimously carried.

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Dwight Bordson, Secretary

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
Donald H. Walser, President

## Regular Meeting

July 30, 2008

Members present: President Donald H. Walser; Vice President David Wetterling, Secretary Dwight Bordson; Commissioner Craig Lenz; Commissioner Robert Hantge; Attorney Marc Sebor; General Manager Michael Kumm.

President Walser called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.

The minutes of the June 25, 2008 regular meeting were reviewed. A motion was made by Commissioner Hantge, seconded by Vice President Wetterling to approve the minutes as written. Motion was unanimously carried.

Jim Haugen, Haugen Architecture Inc. was welcomed to the meeting. Mr. Haugen presented a report from Chosen Valley Testing, Inc. on the soil testing for the new materials center building project. After discussion, a motion was made by Vice President Wetterling, seconded by Commissioner Hantge to authorize GM Kumm to approve a change order not to exceed \$75,000 for the soil correction change order. Motion was unanimously carried.

Sarah Young, McLeod County Solid Waste Management, was welcomed to the meeting. Ms. Young asked for permission to insert a flyer in our September utility billing reminding and encouraging our customers to recycle. After discussion a motion was made by Commissioner Lenz, seconded by Vice President Wetterling to approve the McLeod County Solid Waste Management's flyer with our September utility billing. Motion was unanimously carried.

GM Kumm presented the payables for approval. After discussion, a motion was made by Commissioner Lenz, seconded by Secretary Bordson to ratify the payment of bills in the amount of \$4,060,552.60 (detailed listing in payables book). Motion was unanimously carried.

GM Kumm presented the financial statements/budget year-to-date. A coding error occurred on the budget/expense report which will be corrected. After discussion, a motion was made by Commissioner Lenz, seconded by Vice President Wetterling to approve the financial statements/budget year-to-date. Motion was unanimously carried.

GM presented the HSA (Health Savings Account) Plan Design. After discussion, a motion was made by Commissioner Hantge, seconded by Secretary Bordson to approve the HSA plan, (in addition to our present health care), to fund 80% of the deductible and 80% of the premium for the non-exempt employees. Motion was unanimously carried.

Discussion was held on the health/safety program. Currently we are in a combined City of Hutchinson and Hutchinson Utilities Commission health/safety program with MMUA.

We want two separate contracts with MMUA: what we have in common with City we will continue to do together; things that are specific to HUC we would have our own contract. This has been discussed with all the managers of City and HUC and everyone is in agreement. All the safety sign-up sheets will be kept here in the HUC office.

Discussion was held on records retention schedule. This will come back to the board at the August meeting for approval of a policy specific to HUC's records retention schedule.

Discussion was held on the strategic plan – vision statement eight – strategic objections. A suggestion was given to establish a succession plan for other levels of employment; not just the General Manager/CEO. It was decided to view the organizational chart and develop a succession plan for one level below the General Manager/CEO.

#### Division reports

##### Gas – John Webster

- Installing gas services outside the city limits at 202<sup>nd</sup> Circle, 202<sup>nd</sup> Drive
- Installing pipe on Highway 15 North for 16 customers wanting gas service
- Installing pipe at 205<sup>th</sup> Drive, 205<sup>th</sup> Court
- HUC has received a safety award

##### Electric – Steve Lancaster

- One lineman was quit to take a job as a lineman in his hometown
- Meter Tech position is vacant as he filled the position of lineman
- Chiller is operational
- Fuel tank project is complete
- Beautification project at Plant 1 is still in progress

##### Business – Jan Sifferath

- We are now live with our new billing software
- Purchasing agent will contact vendors for contract pricing for our inventory of electrical components.

#### Legal Update

Attorney Sebora reported on the proposed charter commission change: a City Council member shall be on the board of the Hutchinson Utilities Commission. It was voted not to change the charter.

He also reported that Mayor Cook will appoint a city council member to fill a position on the utilities commission board that will become vacant in 2009.

#### Unfinished Business

##### Purchasing Limit :

Nothing new to report at this time

Round-up Program:

Jan talked with Secretary of State who referred her to the attorney general who in turn referred her back to our attorney. She has not had a chance to meet with Attorney Sebor.

Our new billing software will support the round-up program. It was decided to table any action at this time.

Vice President Wetterling discussed the possibility of legislation changing the law as it relates to the salary cap.

New Business

GM Kumm reported on Geronimo Wind energy study. Sites have been located; more information will be provided at the August meeting.

There being no further business, a motion was made by Commissioner Hantge, seconded by Commissioner Lenz to adjourn the meeting at 4:55 p.m. Motion was unanimously carried.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Dwight Bordson, Secretary

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
Donald H. Walser, President

## Regular Meeting

August 27, 2008

Members present: Vice President David Wetterling; Secretary Dwight Bordson; Commissioner Craig Lenz; Commissioner Robert Hantge; General Manager Michael Kumm

Members absent: President Donald H. Walser; Attorney Marc Sebor

Vice President Wetterling called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.

The minutes of the July 30, 2008 regular meeting were reviewed. A motion was made by Commissioner Hantge, seconded by Secretary Bordson to approve the minutes as written. Motion was unanimously carried.

GM Kumm presented the payables for approval. After discussion, a motion was made by Commissioner Lenz, seconded by Secretary Bordson, to ratify the payment of bills in the amount of \$3,574,070.24 (detailed listing in payables book). Motion was unanimously carried.

GM Kumm presented the financial statements/budget year-to-date. After discussion, a motion was made by Commissioner Lenz, seconded by Commissioner Hantge to approve the financial statements/budget year-to-date. Motion was unanimously carried.

Changes to the policies and requirements booklet were presented. These are verbiage changes only. After discussion a motion was made by Commissioner Hantge, seconded by Secretary Bordson to approve changes to the policies and requirements booklet. Motion was unanimously carried.

Discussion was held on the progress of the Geronimo wind energy study. The study is not complete as we are still waiting for additional information. This study will be presented at next month's meeting.

The HSA (Health Savings Account) for exempt employees was presented for approval. After discussion a motion was made by Commissioner Lenz, seconded by Secretary Bordson to continue to offer the current medical plan, and approved the HSA for exempt employees. Motion was unanimously carried.

Discussion was held on the progress of the inventory building. A special meeting may be necessary authorizing the signing of an indemnity agreement with KC Companies, Inc.

Discussion was held on the coalition of Greater MN Cities. After discussion a motion was made by Commissioner Lenz, seconded by Secretary Bordson to not participate in the coalition of Greater MN Cities program. Motion was unanimously carried.

Discussion was held on the MRES interconnection request. A request was made by Missouri River Energy Services for permission for interconnection of wind powered generation on the Hutchinson Utilities Commission 69 kV transmission system on the northwest side of town on the HUC transmission system.

Requisition #003229 was presented for approval. This is for directional boring to reroute distribution main for Faith Lutheran Church and restoration costs. After discussion, a motion was made by Secretary Bordson, seconded by Commissioner Hantge to approve requisition #003229 for directional boring for Faith Lutheran Church from Northern Pipeline Construction Company. Motion was unanimously carried.

The Natural Gas Department was presented with a 5-year safety award from APGA.

Discussion was held on the strategic plan – vision statement nine – strategic objections.

#### Division reports

Business – Jan Sifferath

- Web site for HUC is continuing to be developed

Electric – Steve Lancaster

- Meter tech applications are being reviewed and interviews will be scheduled

Gas – John Webster

- Automated meter reading is being discussed
- Heartland Corn is looking into anaerobic digestion for capturing methane gas for their process and to possibly sell to the public

GM Kumm talked about an agreement between MMUA and MREA that will appear before the legislators next session. If an agreement is reached, HUC and McLeod Coop will follow that law as it relates to territory issues.

#### Legal Update

Nothing to report

#### Unfinished Business

Round-up Program:

Jan Sifferath reported that Attorney Sebora recommended the round-up program is not in the best interest for HUC, based on the attorney general's statements. Vice President Wetterling will relay HUC's no interest in the round-up program to the Foundation.

Records Retention Schedule:

Tabled

New Business

Power may be needed for a music festival being held in Hutchinson. Steve Lancaster will look into this.

There being no further business, a motion was made by Secretary Bordson, seconded by Commissioner Lenz to adjourn the meeting at 4:30 p.m. Motion was unanimously carried.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Dwight Bordson, Secretary

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
Donald H. Walser, President

## Special Meeting

September 5, 2008

Members present: President Donald H. Walser; Secretary Dwight Bordson; Commissioner Hantge, General Manager Michael Kumm

Members absent: Vice President David Wetterling; Commission Craig Lenz; Attorney Marc Sebora

President Walser called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m.

The Indemnity Agreement with KC Companies, Inc. was presented. Attorney Sebora has reviewed agreement and inserted a hold harmless clause as it relates to soil conditions/deficiency possible deficiency of soil corrections. ~~If HUC is found to be at fault for damages resulting from soil conditions/deficiency, HUC will be responsible for the cost of both parties' legal bills. Likewise, if KC Companies, Inc is found to be at fault for damages other than soil conditions/deficiency, KC Companies, Inc. will be responsible for the cost of both parties' legal bills.~~ Chosen Valley Testing, Inc. has issued their soil analysis and the footings for the building have started and payment has been made to KC Companies, Inc. After further discussion, a motion was made by Commissioner Hantge, seconded by Secretary Bordson granting authorization to sign indemnity agreement with KC Companies, Inc. Motion was unanimously carried.

See  
minutes of  
Sept. 24,  
2008

Long term suppliers agreement with Border States was presented. This agreement will be in effect for one year and offers HUC better pricing on underground primary, underground secondary, overhead, specified streetlight and miscellaneous inventory items. After discussion a motion was made by Secretary Bordson, seconded by Commissioner Hantge to approve long term suppliers agreement with Border States. Motion was unanimously carried.

Long term suppliers agreement with J. T. Services. This agreement will be in effect for one year and offers HUC better pricing on specified streetlight inventory items. After discussion a motion was made by Secretary Bordson, seconded by Commissioner Hantge to approve long term suppliers agreement with J. T. Services. Motion was unanimously carried.

### Unfinished Business

None

### New Business

Commissioner Hantge asked about the possibility of HUC being involved in providing natural gas for in-house vehicles as well as vehicles in the community that operate with natural gas. After discussion it was decided to include this topic in our business plan, look at the market in Hutchinson, then meet and decide what to do.

There being no further business, a motion was made by Commissioner Hantge, seconded by Secretary Bordson to adjourn the meeting at 8:20 a.m. Motion was unanimously carried.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Dwight Bordson, Secretary

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
Donald H. Walser, President

## Regular Meeting

September 24, 2008

Members present: President Donald H. Walser; Vice President David Wetterling, Secretary Dwight Bordson; Commissioner Hantge; Attorney Marc Sebor; General Manager Michael Kumm.

Member absent: Commissioner Craig Lenz

President Walser called the meeting to order at 3:05 p.m.

The minutes of the August 27, 2008 regular meeting were reviewed. A motion was made by Vice President Wetterling, seconded by Secretary Bordson to approve the minutes as written. Motion was unanimously carried.

The minutes of the September 5, 2008 special meeting were discussed. A motion was made by Secretary Bordson, seconded by Commissioner Hantge to approve the minutes as per the changes requested: fourth paragraph, remove the third and fourth sentences and add 'possible deficiency of soil corrections'. Motion was unanimously carried.

Blake Nixon, President of Geronimo Wind Energy and Charlie Daum, Director of Development of Geronimo Wind Energy were welcomed to the meeting. Mr. Nixon gave a presentation on the wind farm feasibility study conducted for Hutchinson. Per HUC's business plan, we chose wind project as our benchmark. We will look at other projects for a comparison as it relates to renewable energy. President Walser mentioned a conference in Mankato on renewables and asked if it would be worth our while to attend. GM Kumm will attend the conference. After discussion it was decided we will wait with the progression of Geronimo Wind Energy's next step of installing anemometers.

GM Kumm recommended the abolishment our PowerStat Billing System. According to the PUC, we may not be in compliance with the notifications of disconnections to our powerstat customers when their display reaches zero and their power goes out. Attorney Sebor has researched this and has found that the use of powerstats is discouraged in Minnesota. Nate Smutka, Accounts Supervisor explained that getting support has been difficult when needing maintenance; the updated card readers are not compatible with our existing system; parts are hard to find; and according to the PUC this procedure may be in violation during the cold weather rule months. Nate has developed a procedure where he will send out mass mailing to all powerstat customers and will complete the removal by the end of 2008. After further discussion, a motion was made by Commissioner Hantge, seconded by Vice President Wetterling to approve the removal of the powerstat billing system which will update that section of our polices and requirements booklet. Motion was unanimously carried.

GM Kumm presented the Meter Reader Contract. This is an annual contract with AnneMarie Dammann for reading electric, gas and water meters. Nate Smutka explained that he has reviewed it with AnneMarie as well as Ken Merrill, city finance director. HUC administers the contract and City is billed for the number of water meters read. The fee remained the same at \$.35 per meter read. A motion was made by Secretary Bordson, seconded by Commissioner Hantge to approve the meter reader contracts. Motion was unanimously carried.

GM Kumm presented the August 2008 payables. After discussion a motion was made by Secretary Bordson, seconded by Commissioner Hantge to ratify the payment of bills in the amount of \$4,068,756.59 (details listing in payables book). Motion was unanimously carried.

GM Kumm presented the financial statements/budget year-to-date. After discussion a motion was made by Vice President Wetterling, seconded by Commissioner Hantge to approve the financial statements/budget year-to-date. Motion was unanimously carried.

GM Kumm presented the addendum to MMUA safety program contract. Currently we have a combined contract with City for the MMUA safety and health program. HUC needs two full days of safety training to be in compliance with certain OSHA requirements whereas the City needs one day. This addendum will contract us with MMUA for the safety training needed. After discussion a motion was made by Commissioner Hantge, seconded by Secretary Bordson to approve the addendum to MMUA safety program contract. Motion was unanimously carried.

When HUC combined with the City for the safety and health program, it included the AWAIR plan (a workplace accident, injury reduction). In so doing, our old AWAIR policy was not rescinded. A motion was made by Vice President Wetterling, seconded by Secretary Bordson to rescind the AWAIR policy. Motion was unanimously carried.

IBEW Local 949 received documentation from MMUA as it relates to leather boots. Per MMUA's standard operating protocol, leather boots are required for employees who work in an arc and flash zone, so this is not an additional benefit. HUC has contacted Carly's Shoes downtown to assist us in sizing and ordering the required boots. Two sets of boots (winter and summer) totaling \$300 will be effective as of January 1, 2009, with a change-out scheduled every two years.

HUC will follow the records retention schedule adopted by City Council. In so doing, HUC needs to amend Resolution #137, Records Retention Schedule. HUC will comply with Minnesota Statutes 138.17 and the procedures mandated by the Minnesota Historical Society, State Archives Department by properly maintaining a retention schedule of destroyed and/or retained records. A motion was made by Vice President Wetterling seconded by Secretary Bordson to approve the amendment to records retention schedule (tabled from August 27, 2008). Motion was unanimously carried.

GM Kumm presented changes to the policies and requirements booklet. This is a part of our scheduled review of policies. No change was needed for deposit requirement – residential, or to deposit requirement – commercial. A change in the ‘definition of your bill’ section was made to reflect the information on customer’s billing as a result of the new billing software. A motion was made by Secretary Bordson, seconded by Vice President Wetterling to approve changes to the policies and requirements booklet. Motion was unanimously carried.

Discussion was held regarding natural gas for transportation. HUC could spearhead efforts for the community if someone wants to provide natural gas for vehicles. GM Kumm will include this effort in the business plan and it will be in the budget for 2009.

Requisition #003234 for pad mounted transformers was presented for approval. These transformers are for inventory. A motion as made by Vice President Wetterling, seconded by Commissioner Hantge to approve requisition #003234 for pad mounted transformers from RESCO. Motion was unanimously carried.

#### Division reports

##### Gas – John Webster

- We have installed 59 natural gas service lines – 33 of them were for outside the city limits. We have about 20 more that will be installed outside city limits.

##### Electric – Dan Lang and Steve Lancaster

- Dan presented requisition #003263 for approval. Testing and maintenance need to be performed on the transformer at plant #1 and the oil will need to be changed. Because we don’t have all the costs associated with correcting the problem, we are asking for authorization for GM Kumm to sign requisition when the costs are known. A motion was made by Vice President Wetterling seconded by Secretary Bordson, authorizing GM Kumm to sign requisition, not to exceed \$60,000, to correct the problem with the transformer. Motion was unanimously carried.
- Steve reported that a conditional letter of employment has been offered for the position of meter technician.

##### Business – Jan Sifferath

- Our 3<sup>rd</sup> annual Public Power/Natural Gas Week open house is October 9, 2008 from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.
- We are moving forward with the new construction of the materials center– framing will start the week of September 29.

#### Legal Update

Nothing to report.

Unfinished Business  
None

New Business  
None

There being no further business, a motion was made by Secretary Bordson, seconded by Commissioner Hantge to adjourn the meeting at 5:20 p.m. Motion was unanimously carried.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Dwight Bordson, Secretary

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
Donald H. Walser, President

## Regular Meeting

October 29, 2008

Members present: President Donald H. Walser; Vice President David Wetterling; Secretary Dwight Bordson; Commissioner Craig Lenz; Attorney Marc Sebor; General Manager Michael Kumm

Member absent: Commissioner Robert Hantge

President Walser called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.

The minutes of the September 24, 2008 regular meeting were reviewed. A motion was made by Vice President Wetterling, seconded by Secretary Bordson to approve the minutes as written. Motion was unanimously carried.

GM Kumm presented the September 2008 payables. After discussion, a motion was made by Commissioner Lenz, seconded by Secretary Bordson to ratify the payment of bills in the amount of \$4,029,708.73 (detailed listing in payables book). Motion was unanimously carried.

Mark Schnobrich, City Forester, was welcomed to the meeting. Mr. Schnobrich thanked the board for HUC's donation of \$30,000 for the Energy Tree Planting project. He gave a presentation on how successful the 2008 program was for the City of Hutchinson. Of the 384 trees planted, 233 were purchased with the donated funds from HUC. On our behalf Mr. Schnobrich will submit the Tree Line USA application to the National Arbor Day Foundation which will award HUC as a Tree Line USA Utility.

Mr. Schnobrich also talked about the Emerald Ash Borer insect that is causing a disease in ash trees. He presented a vial of what the insect looks like and what to look for if the insect has invaded any ash trees.

GM Kumm presented the financial statements/budget year-to-date. After discussion, a motion was made by Vice President Wetterling, seconded by Commissioner Lenz to approve the financial statements/budget year-to-date. Motion was unanimously carried.

GM Kumm also mentioned that the 2009 budget will be presented for discussion at the November meeting, special meeting to review it in early December, then at the regular December meeting for approval.

Changes to the policies and requirements booklet were presented. After discussion, it was decided to re-do the section on 'explanation of billing procedure' to make it clearer as it relates to late payment charges and dishonored check charges. This will come back to the board at the November meeting.

GM Kumm presented the "Red Flags Rule" (Identity Theft Prevention Program). It is

required by the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) that government entities have a procedure in place to stop the spread of identity theft. The effective date on this was November 1, 2008, but a six-month delay was announced by the FTC. After discussion, it was decided to bring to the board HUC's internal procedures at the April Commission meeting to show that HUC is in compliance by the May 2009 effective date.

GM Kumm presented the changes to our purchasing policy. Legislature has changed the purchasing limit which allows us to change our formal bid process from \$50,000 to \$100,000. After discussion a motion was made by Commissioner Lenz, seconded by Secretary Bordson to approve the changes to our purchasing policy. Motion was unanimously carried.

Discussion was held on changes at the HATS facility (Hutchinson Area Transportation Services). Because of City budget issues, they are cutting back on services they provide HUC. City will provide HUC with a list of services they will no longer provide and HUC will develop specifications for these services and go out for bids. After discussion it was decided that these specifications be presented at the November Commission meeting for discussion. The changes at the HATS facility go into effect January 2009.

The November and December regular commissioner meeting dates were rescheduled. A motion was made by Vice President Wetterling, seconded by Secretary Bordson to:

- reschedule the November regular commission meeting for November 25, 2008 at 3:00 p.m.
- reschedule the December regular commission meeting for December 30, 2008 at 3:00 p.m.
- Also a special commission meeting was scheduled for December 15, 2008 at 3:00 p.m. to approve the 2009 budget.

Motion was unanimously carried.

A motion was made by Commissioner Lenz, seconded by Vice President Wetterling to approve the recognition / holiday party scheduled for December 12, 2008 as an open meeting. Motion was unanimously carried.

#### Division reports

##### Business – Jan Sifferath

- Awarded contract for snow removal to L&J Tree Service – 2 year contract
- Meeting scheduled with Drop & Go shipping on November 17<sup>th</sup> to see if he can process our mailing of the utility billing statements.
- HSA meeting held with employees
- Construction of the new inventory building has stopped because of the collapse of the building. Insurance companies will handle the matter of the collapse; in the interim the carpenters will work on the skin on the CF building.

##### Electric – Steve Lancaster

- 3/4 of the powerstats have been removed – should be completed by the

3<sup>rd</sup> week in November

- New meter tech has been hired and is being trained on the removal of the powerstats
- Transformer work has been started

Gas – John Webster

- Natural gas service line will go all the way out to Saint Anastasia's Cemetery on Highway 15 North.

Legal Update

Nothing to report

Unfinished Business

None

New Business

Integrated Resources Plan and Staffing Levels:

Discussion was held on the possibility of hiring a project manager as we get closer to deciding what direction we will go in developing HUC renewable energy plans.

There being no further business, a motion was made by Commissioner Lenz , seconded by Secretary Bordson to adjourn the meeting at 4:30 p.m. Motion was unanimously carried.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Dwight Bordson, Secretary

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_

Donald H. Walser, President

## Regular Meeting

November 25, 2008

Members present: President Donald H. Walser; Vice President David Wetterling, Secretary Dwight Bordson; Attorney Marc Sebora; General Manager Michael Kumm.

Members absent: Commissioner Craig Lenz; Commissioner Robert Hantge

President Walser called the meeting to order at 3:02 p.m.

The minutes of the October 29, 2008 regular meeting were reviewed. A motion was made by Vice President Wetterling, seconded by Secretary Bordson to approve the minutes as written. Motion was unanimously carried.

Nate Smutka, Accounts Supervisor, presented the charge-offs. At the time of the printing of this report, one payment has been received. The total dollar amount to be written off will be less than what is showing on the report. After discussion, a motion was made by Vice President Wetterling, seconded by Secretary Bordson to approve the charge-offs (detailed listing on page 2,719 of the November general journal). Motion was unanimously carried.

Jon Guthmiller, Energy Conservation Administrator, presented the CIP Report for 2009. It was also noted that Mr. Guthmiller has completed the American Public Power Association Key Accounts Program and is now a key accounts representative for HUC as it relates to the commercial/industrial base customers in the state of Minnesota. After discussion, a motion was made by Secretary Bordson, seconded by Vice President Wetterling to approve the CIP report for 2009. Motion was unanimously carried.

Jason Sturges, Inventory Agent, presented the HUC vehicle maintenance changes. Meetings have been held with City personnel from the HATS facility to discuss the transition of maintenance to HUC. It was decided, based on past performance and competitive pricing, HUC will stay with the vendors and/or service centers that HATS was using for the maintenance of HUC's vehicles. Therefore it will not be necessary to develop specifications and go out for bids for vehicle maintenance.

GM Kumm presented the October 2008 payables. After discussion, a motion was made by Secretary Bordson, seconded by Vice President Wetterling to ratify the payment of bills in the amount of \$3,167,086.80 (detailed listing in payables book). Motion was unanimously carried.

GM Kumm presented the October financial statements/budget year-to-date. After discussion, a motion was made by Vice President Wetterling, seconded by Secretary Bordson to approve the October financial statements/budget year-to-date. Motion was unanimously carried.

GM Kumm presented the 2009 budget. Discussion was held regarding conducting a rate study in 2010 to analyze HUC electric and natural gas rates. This timeline is in line with our business plan: three years – informal study; five years – formal study.

GM Kumm talked about the need to be more pro-active in communicating to the community as it relates to what HUC is doing with energy efficiency projects. GM Kumm will meet with Bill Radio from MRES who is scheduling meetings with local newspapers to discuss the status of these energy projects. Suggestions were offered by the Board as to what messages they would like to see presented.

GM Kumm presented the changes to the policies and requirements booklet. A motion was made by Vice President Wetterling, seconded by Secretary Bordson to approve the changes to the policies and requirements booklet. Motion was unanimously carried.

John Webster, Director Natural Gas Division, presented the 3M transportation agreement. After discussion, a motion was made by Vice President Wetterling, seconded by Secretary Bordson, to approve the 3M transportation agreement as per their suggested clarification changes. Motion was unanimously carried.

#### Division reports

##### Gas – John Webster

- Joining task force with APGA to implement the best practice for natural gas vehicles
- 99 natural gas service lines installed: 63 outside city limits; 36 within city limits

##### Business – Jan Sifferath

- Long-term supplier agreement with JT Services is not working out. Will amend agreement with Border States who will also provide us with street light poles. This will be an agenda item at the December meeting.
- The League of MN Cities has retained an attorney as it relates to our new inventory building that collapsed.

##### Electric – Steve Lancaster

- Conducting tour of power plant tonight for Cub Scouts

#### Legal Update

Nothing to report

#### Unfinished Business

None

#### New Business

President Walser appointed himself ~~Vice President Wetterling~~ and Secretary Bordson to a committee to look into compensation issues. (See *minutes of December 30, 2008*.)

There being no further business, a motion was made by Vice President Wetterling, seconded by Secretary Bordson to adjourn the meeting at 5:20 p.m. Motion was unanimously carried.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Dwight Bordson, Secretary

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
Donald H. Walser, President

December 15, 2008

Special Meeting

Members present: Vice President David Wetterling, Secretary Dwight Bordson; Commissioner Craig Lenz; Commissioner Robert Hantge; Attorney Marc Sebor; General Manager Michael Kumm

Member absent: President Donald Walser

Vice President Wetterling called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.

The first item discussed was new business: joint meeting. Each commissioner will e-mail their available dates to GM Kumm for a joint meeting with City Council. GM Kumm will then contact City Administrator Gary Plotz and set a definite date for the joint meeting. Discussion was held on possible items for the agenda at the joint meeting.

At this time Commissioner Hantge arrived at the meeting - 3:10 p.m.

GM Kumm presented the 2009 budget. Updated changes were distributed and discussed. An informal rate study has been completed and a formal rate study is scheduled for the first part of 2010. Given the state of the economy in Hutchinson, the staff recommended deferring any rate changes until after the formal rate study analysis in 2010, or as needed. After further discussion, a motion was made by Commissioner Lenz, seconded by Commissioner Hantge to approve the 2009 budget. Motion was unanimously carried.

There being no further business, a motion was made by Commissioner Hantge, seconded by Commissioner Lenz to adjourn the meeting at 4:13 p.m. Motion was unanimously carried.

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Dwight Bordson, Secretary

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
Donald H. Walser, President

## Regular Meeting

December 30, 2008

Members present: President Donald H. Walser; Vice President David Wetterling, Secretary Dwight Bordson; Commissioner Craig Lenz; Attorney Marc Sebor; General Manager Michael Kumm.

Member absent: Commissioner Robert Hantge

President Walser called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.

The minutes of the November 25, 2008 regular meeting were reviewed. A motion was made by Commissioner Lenz, seconded by Vice President Wetterling to approve the minutes with changes to New Business: "President Walser appointed himself ~~Vice President Wetterling~~ and Secretary Bordson to a committee to look into compensation issues." Motion was unanimously carried.

The minutes of the December 30, 2008 special meeting were reviewed. A motion was made by Vice President Wetterling, seconded by Secretary Bordson to approve the minutes as written. Motion was unanimously carried.

GM Kumm presented the November 2008 payables. After discussion, a motion was made by Secretary Bordson, seconded by Vice President Wetterling to ratify the November 2008 payables in the amount of \$2,960,753.63 (detailed listing in payables book). Motion was unanimously carried.

GM Kumm presented the November 2008 financial statements/budget year-to-date. After discussion, a motion was made by Vice President Wetterling, seconded by Commissioner Lenz to approve the November 2008 financial statements/budget year-to-date. Motion was unanimously carried.

A resolution to the comp time issue was presented. A motion was made by Commissioner Lenz, seconded by Vice President Wetterling to approve the following changes to the overtime provision of the exempt employee handbook:

"Exempt employees may earn compensatory time on an hour-for-hour basis for all hours worked in excess of 40 hours per week. Exempt employees must use their compensatory time by December 31 of the year in which it is earned or it will be forfeited. Accrued compensatory time shall not be paid out to exempt employees upon separation from employment."

After further discussion, and to settle current comp time issues for certain employees, the following was presented:

- GM Kumm, electric division director Steve Lancaster, and gas division director

John Webster would be paid for 50% of their accumulated comp time hours. They could elect to receive payment in 2008, or in 2009, or split the amount between the two years. We will need to split GM Kumm's payment in order to stay within the salary cap.

- These three employees would carry over the other 50% of the comp time. That comp time, and any comp time accruing in 2009, would have to be used by December 31, 2009, or lost.
- Other salaried employees will carry over all accumulated comp time to be used by December 31, 2009.
- In the fall of 2009, we will review the history of comp time taken and used in 2009 to determine whether there is a need for hiring another employee to alleviate the problem of these three employees not being able to use their comp time.

Motion was made by Vice President Wetterling, seconded by Secretary Bordson resolving comp time issues and amending the exempt employee handbook. Motion was unanimously carried with exception for 2009 pursuant to previous motion.

President Walser discussed GM Kumm's performance review. The board congratulated Mike on his positive attitude and on how he has advanced the utilities forward. Mike thanked the board for their professionalism in working with each of them and for the cooperation in working with the employees of Hutchinson Utilities. A motion was made by Commissioner Lenz, seconded by Secretary Bordson to approve the performance review and to approve the salary recommendation. Motion was unanimously carried.

As per our policy review schedule, we need to rescind the budget payment policy update from February 27, 2002 as this is a part of the policies and requirements booklet. A motion was made by Commissioner Lenz, seconded by Secretary Bordson to rescind budget payment policy update from February 27, 2002. Motion was unanimously carried.

Changes to the budget payment plan were presented. A motion was made by Vice President Wetterling, seconded by Secretary Bordson to approve changes to budget payment plan section of the policies and requirements booklet. Motion was unanimously carried.

As per our policy review schedule, we also need to rescind automatic payment plan from August 27, 2003 as this a part of the policies and requirements booklet. A motion was made by Secretary Bordson, seconded by Vice President Wetterling, to rescind automatic payment plan from August 27, 2003. Motion was unanimously carried.

Changes to the automatic bill payment plan were presented. After discussion, a motion was made by Vice President Wetterling, seconded by Secretary Bordson to approve the changes to the automatic bill payment plan section of the policies and requirements booklet with the suggested changes made by the board. Motion was unanimously carried.

Business Manager Jan Sifferath presented the Medica contracts. There are two contracts for approval. One is for the new HSA contract and one is the current contract. A motion was made by Commissioner Lenz, seconded by Secretary Bordson to approve the Medica contracts subject to asking for a change to Article 2, Section 2.1: Term and Renewal. Motion was unanimously carried.

Jan also presented the Midwest Dental Benefits contract. There are no adjustments to the contract and the administrative fee will be waived. A motion was made Commissioner Lenz, seconded by Secretary Bordson to approve the Midwest Dental Benefits contract with Medica. Motion was unanimously carried.

GM Kumm presented changes to the By-Laws. After discussion, a motion was made by Vice President Wetterling, seconded by Secretary Bordson to change wording only in Article III: Section 10 – Terms of Commissioners. The word ‘except’ will be added to the second sentence so that it will read: “Each Commissioner’s term shall expire on December 31<sup>st</sup> of the last year of that Commissioner’s appointed term, **except** Commissioner shall continue in office until their successor has been appointed and qualified.” Motion was unanimously carried.

Advertisement for bids for directional drilling contractor for 2009 – 2010 was presented. This is a labor contract and we obtain bids every two years. A motion was made by Commissioner Lenz, seconded by Secretary Bordson to approve the advertisement for bids for directional drilling contractor for 2009 – 2010. Motion was unanimously carried.

The agreement for professional services with Power System Engineering, Inc for Advanced Metering Infrastructure Services was presented. Discussion was held regarding the terms and conditions for risk allocation and ownership of documents. After discussion, a motion was made by Secretary Bordson, seconded by Vice President Wetterling to table the agreement and look into changing the risk allocation number as well as changing the ownership of documents. Motion was unanimously carried.

#### Division reports

##### Business – Jan Sifferath

- The long-term supplier agreement with Border States to provide street light pole is not yet complete. We’ll continue to follow current procedure and go out for bids as needed.
- League of MN Cities to settle claim by end of week on the new inventory building. KC Companies to start rebuilding January 12, 2009.

##### Electric – Steve Lancaster

- Finished with 2008 projects – will be working on 2009 projects.
- More of the downtown plant beautification project to start in 2009

##### Gas – John Webster

- Finished with 2008 projects – will be working on 2009 projects

GM Kumm reported:

- Utilities Plus will no longer provide HUC with a base load contract as of December of 2009. We will look into acquiring a different base load in March.
- Possible dates for the joint meeting: January 13, 26, 27, & 29. Will contact Gary Plotz to determine City Council availability.
- Will visit with Sue Winter on her comp hours and will resolve any issues so she does not lose any hours worked.

Legal Update

Nothing to report

Unfinished Business

JoMax claim – This issue has been completed.

New Business

None

There being no further business, a motion was made by Secretary Bordson, seconded by Vice President Wetterling to adjourn the meeting at 4:41 p.m. Motion was unanimously carried.

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Dwight Bordson, Secretary

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
Donald H. Walser, President