

**Minutes of the Moorhead Public Service Commission**  
**Hjemkomst Center, Auditorium**  
**Tuesday, May 19, 2026 – 4:30 PM**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Paul Baker (Interactive Technology—Personal), Lisa Borgen, Amy Lammers, Matthew Leiseth, Steve Lindaas, and Jason Ness

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** None

**OTHERS PRESENT:** General Manager Travis Schmidt; Staff Members Taylor Holte, Tyler Kari, Jake Long, Mark Moilanen, Ryan Nelson, Lisa Norstad, Marc Pritchard, Devan Schuler, and James Sumba; MPS Attorney John Boulger; Catherine Vollmer, GreatBlue Research; Janeen Hathcock, Eide Bailly, LLP; Assistant City Manager Mike Rietz

**1. CALL TO ORDER.**

Commissioner Leiseth called the meeting to order at 4:30 PM. A quorum of the following members was present: Baker, Borgen, Lammers, Leiseth, Lindaas, and Ness.

**2. APPROVE AGENDA.**

*Commissioner Lindaas made a motion to approve the agenda. Commissioner Borgen seconded the motion. The motion passed with a 6-0 vote. Voting Yes: Baker, Borgen, Lammers, Leiseth, Lindaas, and Ness. Voting No: None.*

**3. APPROVE CONSENT AGENDA.**

*Commissioner Borgen made a motion to approve the consent agenda. Commissioner Lindaas seconded the motion. The motion passed with a 6-0 vote. Voting Yes: Baker, Borgen, Lammers, Leiseth, Lindaas, and Ness. Voting No: None.*

[The consent agenda approved above includes all items shown herein with an asterisk (\*). These items were considered routine or non-controversial by the Commission and were enacted by the Commission in one motion, which is the motion above to approve the consent agenda.]

**\*4. APPROVE MINUTES OF APRIL 14, 2026.**

*Commissioner Borgen made a motion to approve the minutes of April 14, 2026. Commissioner Lindaas seconded the motion. The motion passed with a 6-0 vote. Voting Yes: Baker, Borgen, Lammers, Leiseth, Lindaas, and Ness. Voting No: None.*

**\*5. APPROVE BILLS FOR PAYMENT.**

*Commissioner Borgen made a motion to approve the bills for payment. Commissioner Lindaas seconded the motion. The motion passed with a 6-0 vote. Voting Yes: Baker, Borgen, Lammers, Leiseth, Lindaas, and Ness. Voting No: None.*

**\*6. APPROVE TASK ORDER NO. 17 WITH DGR ENGINEERING FOR NORTHEAST SUBSTATION TRANSMISSION LINE EXTENSION PROJECT.**

*Commissioner Borgen made a motion to approve Task Order No. 17 with DGR Engineering, Inc., for Moorhead Public Service's Northeast Substation Transmission Line Extension Project in the amount of \$35,000. Commissioner Lindaas seconded the motion. The motion passed with a 6-0 vote. Voting Yes: Baker, Borgen, Lammers, Leiseth, Lindaas, and Ness. Voting No: None.*

**\*7. APPROVE 2026 FARM LEASE AGREEMENT.**

*Commissioner Borgen made a motion to approve the Farm Lease Agreement with Matthew Krabbenhoft, President of Krabbenhoft and Sons Inc., for 2026 at the current annual rate of \$50 per acre. Commissioner Lindaas seconded the motion. The motion passed with a 6-0 vote. Voting Yes: Baker, Borgen, Lammers, Leiseth, Lindaas, and Ness. Voting No: None.*

**\*8. APPROVE TASK ORDER NO. 17 WITH KLM ENGINEERING FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES RELATED TO AT&T'S EQUIPMENT UPGRADE ON MPS' OAKPORT WATER TOWER.**

*Commissioner Borgen made a motion to approve Task Order No. 17 with KLM Engineering, Inc., for professional services for plan review and inspection services related to AT&T's upgrade of existing telecommunications equipment on Moorhead Public Service's Oakport Water Tower. Commissioner Lindaas seconded the motion. The motion passed with a 6-0 vote. Voting Yes: Baker, Borgen, Lammers, Leiseth, Lindaas, and Ness. Voting No: None.*

**\*9. APPROVE SPECIFICATIONS AND AUTHORIZE ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS FOR 2026 LEAD SERVICE LINE REPLACEMENT PROJECT.**

*Commissioner Borgen made a motion to approve the specifications and authorize advertisement for bids for the 2026 Lead Service Line Replacement Project. Commissioner Lindaas seconded the motion. The motion passed with a 6-0 vote. Voting Yes: Baker, Borgen, Lammers, Leiseth, Lindaas, and Ness. Voting No: None.*

**\*10. APPROVE TASK ORDER NO. 4 WITH TERRACON CONSULTANTS FOR 2026 CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS TESTING.**

*Commissioner Borgen made a motion to approve Task Order No. 4 with Terracon Consultants, Inc., for 2026 construction materials testing, contingent upon final legal approval. Commissioner Lindaas seconded the motion. The motion passed with a 6-0 vote. Voting Yes: Baker, Borgen, Lammers, Leiseth, Lindaas, and Ness. Voting No: None.*

**11. CUSTOMERS TO BE HEARD/RECOGNITIONS.**

There were no customers to be heard.

General Manager Travis Schmidt recognized Water Treatment Plant Chemist Christopher Knutson for reaching his 15-year milestone and Lineman Tyler Kari for reaching his 5-year milestone.

**12. OLD BUSINESS.**

There was no old business to discuss.

**13. REPORTS.**

**City Council**

Commissioner Borgen stated that the Moorhead City Council (Council) recently approved construction of a roundabout at the intersection of 40th Avenue and 14th Street South in Moorhead, which is scheduled to begin in early June 2026. Borgen also mentioned that support for a federal separation ordinance regarding immigration enforcement activities was discussed but not approved.

**Public Service Commission.**

Commissioner Ness provided an update on his first meeting serving on the Moorhead Economic Development Authority Board of Commissioners.

Commissioner Lindaas provided an update on Missouri River Energy Services' (MRES') Annual Conference, which was also attended by Commissioner Baker. Lindaas shared insights and recommended that other Commissioners consider attending this conference in the coming years.

**General Manager's Report.**

General Manager Travis Schmidt provided an introduction to the General Manager's Report, which included updates to the 2026 first quarter Strategic Plan, quarterly dashboard reports for the first quarter, Moorhead Public Service (MPS) scholarship awards, thank you cards from the scholarship recipients, a resident who attended the Citizens Government Academy, a donation to A Place for Hope, and MRES' legislative newsletter.

Schmidt provided highlights on the dashboard reports for the first quarter. Water Plant Manager Marc Pritchard provided an explanation for the increase in Red River water hardness over the last few years. Schmidt responded to questions of the Commission.

Schmidt provided details on the 2026 Light Up Navajo Project (Project) and presented the plaque provided by the Navajo Tribal Utility Authority in appreciation. Schmidt introduced MPS' line crew members Ryan Nelson, Tyler Kari, and Devan Schuler who shared their experience and encouraged MPS to participate in this Project in the future.

Schmidt provided an update on the four MPS scholarship recipients who received awards that were presented by the Moorhead Legacy Education Foundation on April 29, 2026.

**Accept Report on 2025 Residential Customer Survey with GreatBlue Research.**

General Manager Travis Schmidt provided an overview of the 2025 Residential Customer Survey conducted by GreatBlue Research, Inc (GreatBlue). GreatBlue's Project Manager Catherine Vollmer presented a PowerPoint on the overall results of the survey.

***Commissioner Lindaas made a motion to accept the report on Moorhead Public Service's 2025 Residential Customer Survey that was conducted by GreatBlue Research, Inc. Commissioner Ness seconded the motion. The motion passed with a 6-0 vote. Voting Yes: Baker, Borgen, Lammers, Leiseth, Lindaas, and Ness. Voting No: None.***

**Accept Report on 2025 Conservation Improvement Program (CIP) Summary and 2026 CIP Plan.**

Electric Project Engineer Taylor Holte provided an update on the 2025 CIP summary and the 2026 CIP Plan. Holte reported that MPS did not meet its state-mandated CIP spending requirements for 2025. The 2026 CIP Plan will utilize similar successful strategies as in 2025, with an additional emphasis on energy savings programs and rebates designed to enhance the energy efficiency of MPS' residential and business customers. Staff will continue to work closely with MRES to utilize its marketing and outreach initiatives to help meet future CIP goals and requirements. Holte responded to questions of the Commission. Discussion was held.

*Commissioner Ness made a motion to accept the report on the 2025 Conservation Improvement Program (CIP) and CIP plans for 2026. Commissioner Lindaas seconded the motion. The motion passed with a 6-0 vote. Voting Yes: Baker, Borgen, Lammers, Leiseth, Lindaas, and Ness. Voting No: None.*

**Accept 2025 Annual Reliability Performance Report.**

Project Engineer Taylor Holte provided an overview of MPS' 2025 Annual Reliability Performance Report. Holte noted that MPS met all three of the reliability indices set by the Commission for 2025. MPS' overall system reliability was 99.9977 percent in 2025. Commissioners commended MPS on the reliable electric service it provides to its customers.

*Commissioner Lindaas made a motion to accept Moorhead Public Service's 2025 Annual Reliability Performance Report. Commissioner Ness seconded the motion. The motion passed with a 6-0 vote. Voting Yes: Baker, Borgen, Lammers, Leiseth, Lindaas, and Ness. Voting No: None.*

**14. APPROVE 2025 AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS.**

Administration and Finance Manager Mark Moilanen provided an overview of MPS' 2025 Audited Financial Statements conducted by EideBailly, LLP (EideBailly). Janeen Hathcock, Partner at Eide Bailly, presented a PowerPoint on MPS' 2025 Audited Financial Statements and Executive Summary.

*Commissioner Borgen made a motion to approve the 2025 Audited Financial Statements, Executive Summary, and Eide Bailly's Management Letter to the Commission. Commissioner Ness seconded the motion. The motion passed with a 6-0 vote. Voting Yes: Baker, Borgen, Lammers, Leiseth, Lindaas, and Ness. Voting No: None.*

**15. APPROVE SUMMER VOLUNTARY WATERING RESTRICTIONS.**

Water Plant Manager Marc Pritchard provided an update on summer conservation efforts, including the implementation of voluntary watering restrictions effective May 29, 2026, to September 30, 2026. Pritchard also requested that the Commission authorize General Manager Travis Schmidt to implement further conservation measures, if necessary. Pritchard responded to questions of the Commission. Discussion was held.

*Commissioner Lindaas made a motion to approve summer conservation efforts in the form of voluntary watering restrictions, effective May 29, 2026, to September 30, 2026, and grant the General Manager authority to implement further conservation measures, if necessary. Commissioner Lammers seconded the motion. The motion passed with a 6-0 vote. Voting Yes: Baker, Borgen, Lammers, Leiseth, Lindaas, and Ness. Voting No: None.*

**16. APPROVE TASK ORDER NO. 14 WITH APEX ENGINEERING GROUP FOR MASTER PLAN AND FEASIBILITY STUDY FOR MPS' WATER TREATMENT PLANT.**

Water Plant Manager Marc Pritchard provided an overview of the Master Plan and Feasibility Study for MPS' Water Treatment Plant. MPS and Apex Engineering Group, Inc., anticipate completing this work between the fourth quarter of 2026 and the first quarter of 2027.

*Commissioner Lindaas made a motion to approve Task Order No. 14 with Apex Engineering Group, Inc., for professional services to facilitate and complete a Master Plan and Feasibility Study for Moorhead Public Service's Water Treatment Plant in an amount not to exceed \$143,190. Commissioner Ness seconded the motion. The motion passed with a 6-0 vote. Voting Yes: Baker, Borgen, Lammers, Leiseth, Lindaas, and Ness. Voting No: None.*

**17. APPROVE SPONSORSHIP REQUEST FROM MOORHEAD PARKS AND RECREATION FOR MOVIE NIGHT IN THE PARK.**

General Manager Travis Schmidt provided information on the sponsorship request from Moorhead Parks and Recreation to sponsor "Movie Night in the Park" on June 12, 2026, featuring the movie "Rio." Schmidt stated that this event aligns with MPS' sponsorship criteria. Schmidt responded to questions of the Commission.

*Commissioner Borgen made a motion to approve the sponsorship request from Moorhead Parks and Recreation for Movie Night in the Park at the Heritage Garden and Amphitheater in the amount of \$1,000. Commissioner Lindaas seconded the motion. The motion passed with a 6-0 vote. Voting Yes: Baker, Borgen, Lammers, Leiseth, Lindaas, and Ness. Voting No: None.*

**18. APPROVE SPONSORSHIP REQUEST FOR 2026 MOORHEAD SAUSAGE FEST.**

General Manager Travis Schmidt provided information on the sponsorship request for the 2026 Moorhead Sausage Fest. Schmidt stated that this event aligns with MPS' sponsorship criteria.

*Commissioner Ness made a motion to approve the sponsorship request for the 2026 Moorhead Sausage Fest in the amount of \$1,500. Commissioner Borgen seconded the motion. The motion passed with a 6-0 vote. Voting Yes: Baker, Borgen, Lammers, Leiseth, Lindaas, and Ness. Voting No: None.*

**19. CLOSE MEETING FOR EXECUTIVE SESSION.**

The meeting was not closed for executive session.

**20. UPCOMING MEETINGS.**

Upcoming meetings of the Moorhead Public Service Commission are scheduled for July 7, 2026 (if needed), and July 21, 2026.


21. ADJOURN.

The meeting adjourned at 5:58 PM.

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*The minutes herein are approved on this 16th day of June, 2026.*

**APPROVED BY:**

  
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**Matthew Leiseth**  
**Chairperson<sup>i</sup>**

**ATTEST:**

  
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**Lisa Borgen**  
**Secretary<sup>i</sup>**

<sup>i</sup> Pursuant to the Bylaws of the Moorhead Public Service Commission adopted January 18, 2022, Article 3, Section 11, states, “The Chairperson and Secretary shall sign, execute, and acknowledge all instruments authorized by the Commission or as are incident to the office. If either the Chairperson or Secretary is unavailable to execute an instrument, the Vice Chairperson may execute the instrument in place of the unavailable officer. Execution of instruments by two officers is required.