

Minutes of the Moorhead Public Service Commission
Hjemkomst Center, Auditorium
Tuesday, August 25, 2026 – 4:30 PM

MEMBERS PRESENT: Paul Baker (Interactive Technology—Personal), Amy Lammers, Matthew Leiseth, and Steve Lindaas

MEMBERS ABSENT: Lisa Borgen and Jason Ness

OTHERS PRESENT: General Manager Travis Schmidt; Staff Members Adam Benhardt, Taylor Holte, Jake Long, Mark Moilanen, Lisa Norstad, Marc Pritchard, Alison Skansgaard, and James Sumba; MPS Attorney John Boulger

1. CALL TO ORDER.

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

2. APPROVE AGENDA.

Commissioner Lindaas made a motion to approve the agenda. Commissioner Lammers seconded the motion. The motion passed with a 4-0 vote. Voting Yes: Baker, Lammers, Leiseth, and Lindaas. Voting No: None.

3. APPROVE CONSENT AGENDA.

Commissioner Lindaas made a motion to approve the consent agenda. Commissioner Lammers seconded the motion. The motion passed with a 4-0 vote. Voting Yes: Baker, Lammers, Leiseth, and Lindaas. 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 JULY 21, 2026.**

Commissioner Lindaas made a motion to approve the minutes of July 21, 2026. Commissioner Lammers seconded the motion. The motion passed with a 4-0 vote. Voting Yes: Baker, Lammers, Leiseth, and Lindaas. Voting No: None.

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

Commissioner Lindaas made a motion to approve the bills for payment. Commissioner Lammers seconded the motion. The motion passed with a 4-0 vote. Voting Yes: Baker, Lammers, Leiseth, and Lindaas. Voting No: None.

***6. APPROVE SPECIFICATIONS AND AUTHORIZE ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS FOR FURNISHING THE KV1A TRANSFORMER AT MPS' MOORHEAD DOE SUBSTATION.**

Commissioner Lindaas made a motion to approve specifications and authorize advertisement for bids for furnishing the KV1A Transformer Replacement at MPS' Moorhead DOE Substation, contingent upon final legal approval. Commissioner Lammers seconded the motion. The motion passed with a 4-0 vote. Voting Yes: Baker, Lammers, Leiseth, and Lindaas. Voting No: None.

***7. APPROVE TASK ORDER NO. 5 WITH TERRACON CONSULTANTS FOR GEOTECHNICAL ENGINEERING SERVICES AT MPS' SOUTHEAST SUBSTATION.**

Commissioner Lindaas made a motion to approve Task Order No. 5 with Terracon Consultants, Inc., in the amount of \$8,750 for geotechnical engineering services at Moorhead Public Service's Southeast Substation, contingent upon final legal approval. Commissioner Lammers seconded the motion. The motion passed with a 4-0 vote. Voting Yes: Baker, Lammers, Leiseth, and Lindaas. Voting No: None.

***8. APPROVE TASK ORDER AGREEMENT FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES WITH GEOGRAPH TECHNOLOGIES, LLC, TASK ORDER NO. 1 FOR MISCELLANEOUS GIS SERVICES, AND TASK ORDER NO. 2 FOR MPS' FIBER CONVERSION PROJECT.**

Commissioner Lindaas made a motion to approve the Task Order Agreement for Professional Services with GeoGraph Technologies, LLC, Task Order No. 1 for Miscellaneous GIS Services, and Task Order No. 2 for MPS' Fiber Conversion Project, contingent upon final legal approval. Commissioner Lammers seconded the motion. The motion passed with a 4-0 vote. Voting Yes: Baker, Lammers, Leiseth, and Lindaas. Voting No: None.

9. CUSTOMERS TO BE HEARD/RECOGNITIONS.

There were no customers to be heard.

General Manager Travis Schmidt recognized Administrative and Finance Manager Mark Moilanen for reaching his 15-year milestone anniversary with Moorhead Public Service (MPS).

10. OLD BUSINESS.

There was no old business to discuss.

11. REPORTS.

City Council

No report was made.

Public Service Commission.

Commissioner Lindaas provided an overview of MMUA's Summer Conference, which he and General Manager Travis Schmidt attended August 17-19, 2026, in St. Cloud, Minnesota.

General Manager's Report.

General Manager Travis Schmidt provided an introduction to the General Manager's Report, which included the 2026 second quarter Strategic Plan updates and quarterly dashboard reports for the second quarter. MPS hosted a free community swim at the Moorhead Municipal Pool and participated in the Moorhead Area Public Schools Pre-Back-to-School 5th Annual District Showcase. Water Plant Manager Marc Pritchard and Schmidt responded to questions of the Commission. Discussion was held.

Accept Report on Regional Electric Rates.

Construction Manager Adam Benhardt provided an overview of this report and explained how electric rates determine our competitive standing relative to surrounding utilities. General Manager Travis Schmidt and Benhardt responded to questions of the Commission. Discussion was held.

Commissioner Lammers made a motion to accept the report on regional electric rates. Commissioner Lindaas seconded the motion. The motion passed with a 4-0 vote. Voting Yes: Baker, Lammers, Leiseth, and Lindaas. Voting No: None.

12. AWARD BIDS FOR 2027 ELECTRICAL MATERIALS.

Construction Manager Adam Benhardt provided an overview of the 2027 electrical materials bids, noting that some materials continue to experience supply chain issues due to long lead times. General Manager Travis Schmidt and Benhardt responded to questions of the Commission. Discussion was held.

Commissioner Lindaas made a motion to award the bids for 2027 electrical materials to the lowest qualified bidders meeting the specifications, as shown on the Bid Tabulation Sheet attached hereto and made a part of these minutes. Commissioner Lammers seconded the motion. The motion passed with a 4-0 vote. Voting Yes: Baker, Lammers, Leiseth, and Lindaas. Voting No: None.

13. AWARD BID FOR MPS' 115 KV TRANSMISSION LINE UPGRADE PROJECT FROM THE FARGO SUBSTATION TO THE SHEYENNE DIVERSION.

General Manager Travis Schmidt gave a brief history of the project details. Electric Project Engineer Taylor Holte provided details regarding the bids MPS received for this project. General Manager Travis Schmidt and Holte responded to questions of the Commission. Discussion was held.

Commissioner Lindaas made a motion requesting the Commission award the bid for Moorhead Public Service's 115 kV Transmission Line Upgrade Project from the Fargo Substation to the Sheyenne Diversion to Key Contracting, Inc., in the amount of \$161,675, contingent upon final approval, and authorize the General Manager to approve all change orders up to a cumulative maximum of 5 percent of the contract amount. Commissioner Lammers seconded the motion. The motion passed with a 4-0 vote. Voting Yes: Baker, Lammers, Leiseth, and Lindaas. Voting No: None.

14. APPROVE SPONSORSHIP REQUEST FROM COMMUNITY ACTION PARTNERSHIP-LAKES AND PRAIRIE FOR THE LONGEST TABLE MOORHEAD AND DILWORTH.

General Manager Travis Schmidt provided information on the sponsorship request from Community Action Partnership-Lakes and Prairie for The Longest Table event.

Commissioner Lindaas made a motion to approve the sponsorship request from Community Action Partnership-Lakes and Prairies for The Longest Table Moorhead and Dilworth in the amount of \$3,500. Commissioner Lammers seconded the motion. The motion passed with a 4-0 vote. Voting Yes: Baker, Lammers, Leiseth, and Lindaas. Voting No: None.

15. REVIEW PRELIMINARY 2027 BUDGET TIMETABLE AND SET DATE FOR WATER AND ELECTRIC RATE HEARINGS.

Administration and Finance Manager Mark Moilanen provided information on MPS' 2027 budget timetable, upcoming rate hearings, and the process for determining the proposed 2027 electric and water rates.

Commissioner Lammers made a motion to set Tuesday, October 20, 2026, as the date for the water and electric rate hearings. For reference, Commissioners Paul Baker, Matt Leiseth, and Jason Ness were appointed to the Budget Working Group, and Commissioners Lisa Borgen, Amy Lammers, and Steve Lindaas were appointed to the Human Resources Working Group at the Commission meeting on March 17, 2026. Commissioner Lindaas seconded the motion. The motion passed with a 4-0 vote. Voting Yes: Baker, Lammers, Leiseth, and Lindaas. Voting No: None.

16. CLOSE MEETING FOR EXECUTIVE SESSION.

The meeting was not closed for executive session.

17. UPCOMING MEETINGS.

Upcoming meetings of the Moorhead Public Service Commission are scheduled for September 8, 2026 (if needed), and September 22, 2026.

18. ADJOURN.

The meeting adjourned at 5:04 PM.

The minutes herein are approved on this 22nd day of September 2026.

APPROVED BY:



Matthew Leiseth
Chairpersonⁱ

ATTEST:



Lisa Borgen
Secretaryⁱ

ⁱ 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."



**Bid Tabulation Sheet
for
2027 Electrical Materials**

August 11, 2026, at 3:00 pm

		121,500	22,000	4,500	10,000	25	50
BIDDER	CHECK OR BID BOND	BID ITEM #1: 1/0 AWG, 15 kv Dist. Cable, 220 mil Insulation (45 reels) Price/Foot	BID ITEM #2: 500 MCM, 15 kv Primary Feeder Cable, 220 mil (10 reels)	BID ITEM #3:² 750 MCM, 15 kv Primary Feeder Cable, 220 mil (3 reels)	BID ITEM #4: 250-3/0-250 AWG, 600 Volt Underground Service Cable (10 reels)	BID ITEM #5: 25 kVA, Single- Phase Padmount Transformer, 12.47/7.2 Volt Primary, 240/120 Volt Secondary Price Each	BID ITEM #6: 50 kVA, Single- Phase Padmount Transformer, 12.47/7.2 Volt Primary, 240/120 Volt Secondary Price Each
Border States	Bid Bond	\$ 578,864.88	\$ 226,867.52	\$ 145,579.10	\$ 38,415.80	\$ -	\$ -
Border States (Alternate)		\$ 504,161.82	\$ 176,572.44	\$ 161,746.50	\$ 31,868.50	\$ -	\$ -
RESCO	Bid Bond	\$ 510,907.50	\$ 178,970.00	\$ 163,935.00	\$ 32,300.00	\$ 105,618.25	\$ 254,839.00
WESCO	Bid Bond	\$ 432,297.00	\$ 158,290.00	\$ 58,356.00	\$ 33,820.00	\$ 71,975.00 ¹	\$ 163,200.00 ¹
WESCO (Altnerate)		\$ 410,670.00	\$ 179,608.00	\$ 56,911.50	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Stuart C. Irby	Bid Bond	\$ 413,100.00	\$ 163,900.00	\$ 45,675.00	\$ 36,600.00	\$ -	\$ -

¹Did not meet specifications.

²Not awarded because project is being delayed.



**Bid Tabulation Sheet
for
2027 Electrical Materials
August 11, 2026, at 3:00 pm**

	2	1	1
BIDDER	BID ITEM #7: 1000 kVA, Three- Phase Padmount Transformer, 12.47/7.2 Volt Primary, 208Y/120 Volt Secondary Price Each	BID ITEM #8: 1000 kVA, Three- Phase Padmount Transformer, 12.47/7.2 Volt Primary, 480Y/277 Volt Secondary Price Each	BID ITEM #9: 1500 kVA, Three- Phase Padmount Transformer, 12.47/7.2 Volt Primary, 480Y/277 Volt Secondary Price Each
Border States	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Border States (Alternate)	0	0	0
RESCO	\$ 50,326.14	\$ 45,219.32	\$ 51,554.52
WESCO	\$ 88,238.00	\$ 44,242.00	\$ 45,131.00
WESCO (Alternate)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Stuart C. Irby	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -

WAPA West Fargo Sub - FM Diversion

Owner: Moorhead Public Service

Solicitor: MBN Engineering, Inc.

08/04/2026 02:00 PM CST

215 Highway 75 N, Moorhead, MN 56561-0779

Item	Contractor	U of M	Quantity	Unit Price	Extension
1	Key Contracting, Inc. *	LS	1	\$161,675.00	\$161,675.00

*** Received one (1) bid.**

*** Signed Bid Bond in the amount of 10% of the bid was included with Bid.**