Minutes of the Moorhead Public Service Commission
Hjemkomst Center, Auditorium
Tuesday, September 22, 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 Adam Benhardt, Taylor Holte, Katie Kemper, Jake Long, Mark Moilanen, Susan Orth, Marc Pritchard, James Sumba, and Jason Yonke; MPS Attorney John Boulger; Assistant City Manager Mike Rietz

1. CALL TO ORDER.

Chairperson 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 Ness 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 Lindaas made a motion to approve the consent 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.

[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 AUGUST 25, 2026.

Commissioner Lindaas made a motion to approve the minutes of August 25, 2026. 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.

*5. APPROVE BILLS FOR PAYMENT.

Commissioner Lindaas made a motion to approve the bills for payment. 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.

***6. APPROVE SPECIFICATIONS AND AUTHORIZE ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS FOR 2026/2027 TREE TRIMMING.**

Commissioner Lindaas made a motion to approve the specifications and authorize advertisement for bids for 2026/2027 tree trimming. 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.

***7. APPROVE EASEMENT AGREEMENT WITH EIP HOLDINGS IV, LLC, FOR ACCESS TO MPS' MOORHEAD SUBSTATION PROPERTY.**

Commissioner Lindaas made a motion to approve the Easement Agreement with EIP Holdings IV, LLC, for providing access to Moorhead Public Service's Moorhead Substation Property, contingent upon final legal approval. 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.

***8. ACCEPT PETITION FOR INSTALLATION OF WATER AND ELECTRIC SERVICES FOR PARTRIDGE CREEK 2ND ADDITION.**

Commissioner Lindaas made a motion to accept the petition for the installation of water and electric services for Partridge Creek 2nd Addition in the city of Moorhead in accordance with Minnesota Statute §429.031, Subdivision 2. 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.

***9. APPROVE SPECIFICATIONS AND AUTHORIZE ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS FOR 2027 WATER TREATMENT AND WASTEWATER TREATMENT CHEMICALS.**

Commissioner Lindaas made a motion to approve the specifications and authorize the advertisement for bids for 2027 water treatment and wastewater treatment chemicals. 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.

***10. APPROVE TASK ORDER NO. 15 WITH APEX ENGINEERING GROUP FOR MPS' 20TH AVENUE GROUND STORAGE RESERVOIR IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT.**

Commissioner Lindaas made a motion to approve Task Order No. 15 with Apex Engineering Group, Inc., for professional services for Moorhead Public Service's 20th Avenue Ground Storage Reservoir Improvements Project. 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.

11. CUSTOMERS TO BE HEARD/RECOGNITIONS.

There were no customers to be heard or recognitions made.

12. OLD BUSINESS.

There was no old business to discuss.

13. REPORTS.

City Council
Commissioner Borgen stated that the Moorhead City Council continues to work on its 2027 budget and conducts workshops to explore various opportunities.

Public Service Commission.
Commissioner Ness provided a brief update on the Moorhead Economic Development Authority's discussion regarding Essentia Health's move to downtown Moorhead and other opportunities to support local businesses.

General Manager's Report.
General Manager Travis Schmidt provided an introduction to the General Manager's Report, which included updates on the statewide electric rate comparisons, OSHA's 2026 Process Safety Management and EPA's Risk Management Program Compliance Audit, MPS' Backflow and Cross-Connection Program, MPS' Water Treatment Plant tour, and staff's participation in the Teachers' Wish Lists School Supply Drive and the Greater Moorhead Days Parade.

Assistant Water Plant Supervisor Jason Yonke provided an update on the compliance audit required by OSHA and EPA for MPS' Risk Management Program. Yonke also provided information on MPS' Backflow and Cross-Connection Program. Yonke responded to questions of the Commission. Water Plant Manager Marc Pritchard stated that he and Yonke led a tour of MPS' Water Treatment Plant for 30 members of the Red River Basin Commission.

Accept Report on Contract Extension for Hauling and Beneficial Use Services for Lime Residuals from MPS' Water Treatment Plant.
Water Plant Manager Marc Pritchard provided information on the tiered pricing updates included in the one-year contract extension with the Successor in Interest of Border States Paving—Evergreen ND, LLC. Pritchard responded to questions of the Commission. Discussion was held.

Commissioner Ness made a motion to accept the report on the one-year contract extension for hauling and beneficial use of services for lime residuals from Moorhead Public Service's Water Treatment Plant to the Successor in Interest of Border States Paving, Inc., Evergreen ND, LLC, with tiered pricing updates of $35.00, $65.00, and $85.00 per cubic yard for 2027. 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.

14. APPROVE BTMG CAPACITY LETTER AGREEMENT WITH MISSOURI RIVER ENERGY SERVICES.

General Manager Travis Schmidt and Electric Project Engineer Taylor Holte provided an overview of the Behind-the-Meter Generation Capacity Letter Agreement with Missouri River Energy Services for additional generation.

Commissioner Borgen made a motion to approve the Behind-the-Meter Generation Capacity Letter Agreement with Missouri River Energy Services, contingent upon final legal approval, and authorize the General Manager to execute the Capacity Letter Agreement. 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.

15. APPROVE AMENDED POLICY ON EXPENDITURES, CONTRACT CHANGE ORDERS, WORK CHANGE DIRECTIVES, AND SUPPLEMENTAL AGREEMENTS AND RESCIND POLICIES ON EXPENDITURES AND PURCHASING.

General Manager Travis Schmidt provided an overview of the Commission policies that were consolidated into a single policy to eliminate duplication and provide greater clarity regarding purchasing and expenditure requirements. Schmidt responded to questions of the Commission.

Commissioner Lindaas made a motion to approve and rescind the following Commission policies:

1. ***Approve amended Policy on Expenditures, Contract Change Orders, Work Change Directives, and Supplemental Agreements (fka Policy on Contract Change Orders, Work Change Directives, and Supplemental Agreements);***
2. ***Rescind Policy on Expenditures; and***
3. ***Rescind Policy on Purchasing.***

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. CLOSE MEETING FOR EXECUTIVE SESSION.

Chairperson Leiseth stated that the meeting will be closed for executive session as authorized by Minnesota Statutes, Section 13D.05, Subdivision 3(a), to evaluate the performance of the General Manager.

Commissioner Borgen made a motion to close the meeting for executive session and adjourn upon conclusion of executive session. 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 MEETING WAS CLOSED FOR EXECUTIVE SESSION AT 5:06 PM.

PRESENT IN CLOSED SESSION WERE: COMMISSIONERS PAUL BAKER, LISA BORGEN, AMY LAMMERS, MATTHEW LEISETH, STEVE LINDAAS, AND JASON NESS; GENERAL MANAGER TRAVIS SCHMIDT (JOINED EXECUTIVE SESSION AT 6:00 PM); STAFF MEMBERS MARK MOILANEN AND KATIE KEMPER; MPS ATTORNEY JOHN BOULGER.

[No action was taken in closed session; therefore, a motion was not presented in closed session.]

17. UPCOMING MEETINGS.

Upcoming meetings of the Moorhead Public Service Commission are scheduled for October 6 (if needed) and October 20, 2026.

18. ADJOURN.

The meeting adjourned at 6:49 PM.

The minutes herein are approved on this 20th day of October 2026.

APPROVED BY:	***ATTEST:***
Matthew Leiseth	***Lisa Borgen***
Chairperson [i]	***Secretary*** [i]

[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.