

The Owatonna Public Utilities Commission met in regular session in the Commission Room. Present were Commissioners Simon, Stansberry, Cosens and Kottke. Absent was Commissioner Schreiner. Also present were General Manager Fritsch; Director, Customer Service, Generation & Substations Green; Director, Gas, Water, Energy Management & External Relations Warehime; Supervisor, Financial Services Turnbull; Executive/HR Assistant Schmoll; and Marketing/Energy Conservation Manager Jared Hendricks. Also present were Dave Geschwind and Mark Mitchell, Executive Director & CEO and Director of Operations & COO, respectively, of Southern Minnesota Municipal Power Agency (SMMPA).

Commissioner Simon led the Pledge of Allegiance.

### **Minutes**

The Minutes from the regular meeting of August 27, 2013 were presented to the Commission. Commissioner Stansberry moved to approve the Minutes as presented. Commissioner Kottke seconded the motion. All Commissioners voting Aye, the motion passed.

### **Committee Reports**

Finance Committee: Commissioner Cosens reported the Finance Committee met, reviewed and approved vouchers in the amount of \$4,343,981.56. He further reported there were no work orders submitted for approval.

Personnel Committee: Commissioner Stansberry reported the Personnel Committee met and discussed staffing updates, and the hiring process. He noted it is a very thorough and impressive process.

### **City Administrator's Report**

City Administrator Busse was not present to give a report.

### **SMMPA Presentation**

General Manager Fritsch introduced Mr. Dave Geschwind, Executive Director & CEO and Mr. Mark Mitchell, Director of Operations & COO of Southern Minnesota Municipal Power Agency. Mr. Geschwind and Mr. Mitchell gave a presentation to the Commission which included some background and history information on SMMPA, an updated on the SHERCO 3 outage and recovery, and future resources needs regarding transmission and generation. The Commission thanked them for their presentation.

### **Contributed Services**

The Contributed Services report as of August 31, 2013 was presented to the Commission. The Commission signed the report.

### **Operations/Scorecard**

Staff updated the Commission on changes to the scorecard during the month of August, 2013.

Director, Customer Service, Generation & Substations Green noted the customer survey will begin on October 1<sup>st</sup> with 400 customers being contacted to participate.

**General Manager/Staff Report**

General Manager Fritsch reported he worked with the OPED group on a strategic presentation to a group called Site Selectors which promotes Owatonna and why it is a good place to locate a business here.

General Manager Fritsch discussed a proposed project the Gainey Center is working on. The Gainey Center is trying to receive a research and development grant from Xcel Energy for a microgrid located on their property. The project would need to be located in Xcel Energy's service territory so therefore, we may be looking at a territory swap. The microgrid, and respective education piece, would research what impact energy storage, wind turbines, solar projects, and biodiesel would have on the energy grid. Mr. Fritsch will keep the Commission updated as this project develops more.

General Manager Fritsch requested to change the date of a few upcoming Commission meetings. He recommended changing the October meeting from October 22<sup>nd</sup> to October 24<sup>th</sup> due to him being out of town and the December 24<sup>th</sup> meeting to December 17<sup>th</sup> due to the Christmas holiday. All Commissioners were in agreement.

Director, Gas, Water, Energy Management & External Relations Warehime reported OPU will be hosting an LED Seminar on October 8<sup>th</sup> to educate customers on the LED lighting technology. He further reported the State of the Utility meeting will be held on December 3, 2013.

**Commission Roundtable**

Commissioner Cosens – Appreciated the SMMPA presentation and thanked them for taking the time to meet with us.

Commissioner Kottke – Nothing.

Commissioner Stansberry – Nothing.

Commissioner Simon – Nothing.

**Adjournment**

There being no further business to come before the Commission, Commissioner Cosens moved to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Kottke seconded the motion. All Commissioners voting Aye, the meeting adjourned at 5:28 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Tammy Schmoll  
Executive/HR Assistant