

# MINUTES OF THE PROCEEDINGS

## of the Public Utilities Commission, City of Hibbing, St. Louis County, Minnesota

Minutes of the regular meeting of the Public Utilities Commission, Hibbing, Minnesota, 1902 E. 6<sup>th</sup> Ave., Hibbing, MN 55746, held on March 8, 2022. Meeting held at Hibbing City Hall, 401 E. 21<sup>st</sup> St., Hibbing MN. Chairperson Garrity called the meeting to order at 5:01 p.m. In attendance were Chairperson Garrity; Commissioner Hart; Commissioner Bayliss; Commissioner Andria; Commissioner Babich; Legal Counsel, Andy Borland; General Manager, Luke Peterson; Financial Controller, Morgan Anderson; and Administration, Safety & Facilities Coordinator, Penny Rutchasky. Also in attendance were HPAT Reps., Ron Wirkkula & Kivanna Hill; and Mark Reger, Citizen.

**Item 2. ADDS/DELETES** General Manager Peterson requested to add Item 6.E. Request to Call for Public Bid No. 2022-07: Turbine Generator #5 Major Inspection.

### **Item 3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Motion by Commissioner Bayliss, supported by Commissioner Andria, to approve the regular meeting minutes of February 22, 2022.

Motion carried unanimously.

### **Item 4. CITIZENS FORUM** – None

### **Item 5. CONSENT AGENDA**

Item 5.A. Approve invoices over \$10,000 and approve the bills and ACH transfers dated March 4, 2022.

Item 5.B. Review and approve payroll paid & overtime report for the February 24, 2022 pay date.

Item 5.C. Request for Contribution: Hibbing Area Chamber of Commerce Downtown Beautification Project.

Item 5.D. Voluntary Residential Heat Loan Program: Approve Subordination.

Legal Counsel clarified the Request for Contribution amount is \$100 per policy.

Motion by Commissioner Babich, supported by Commissioner Bayliss, to approve Consent Agenda Items 5.A., 5.B., 5.C., & 5.D., as presented.

Motion carried unanimously.

### **Item 6. FINANCIALS & RISK MANAGEMENT**

Item 6.A. The Commission reviewed the correspondence dated March 8, 2022 from M. Anderson regarding Preliminary Financial Statements as of December 31, 2021.

No action taken.

Item 6.B. The Commission reviewed the correspondence dated March 3, 2022 from R. Knowles regarding Renewal of DeltaV Novaspect 2022 Service Support Plan 1-Year Contract.

Motion by Commissioner Bayliss, supported by Commissioner Hart, to authorize renewal of the DeltaV Novaspect Service Support Plan for 2022 with Option 3 – monthly billing; 1 payment at \$22,114.45 and 11 payments of \$2,850.81.

Motion carried unanimously.

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Item 6.C. The Commission reviewed the correspondence dated March 3, 2022 from R. Knowles regarding Wegener 4.16kV, Wegener Substation Voltage Regulators.

Motion by Commissioner Hart, supported by Commissioner Andria, to authorize purchase of the Wegener 4.16kV Substation Voltage Regulator from WESCO, in the amount of \$58,572, for a new Siemens Voltage Regulator, as per the recommendations of the Purchasing Process/Risk Manager.

Motion carried unanimously.

Item 6.D. The Commission reviewed the correspondence dated February 15, 2022 from R. Knowles regarding Cooling Tower Change Orders – Radotich Inc., & Hunt Electric.

Motion by Commissioner Hart, supported by Commissioner Andria, to authorize Cooling Tower Change Order 01 to Radotich Inc., in the amount of \$15,567.

Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Commissioner Hart, supported by Commissioner Andria, to authorize Cooling Tower Change Order 02 to Hunt Electric in the amount of \$17,344.58.

Motion carried unanimously.

Item 6.E. The Commission reviewed the correspondence dated March 8, 2022 from L. Peterson regarding Request to Call for Public Bid No. 2022-07: Turbine/Generator #5 Major Inspection.

Motion by Commissioner Babich, supported by Commissioner Bayliss, to authorize to Call for Public Bid No. 2022-07: Turbine/Generator #5 Major Inspection.

Motion carried unanimously.

### **Item 7. POLICY & GOVERNANCE**

Item 7.A. The Commission reviewed the correspondence dated March 3, 2022 from R. Knowles regarding Award Job Posting No. 2022-01: Materials/Risk Coordinator.

Motion by Commissioner Bayliss, supported by Commissioner Andria, to Award Job Posting No. 2022-01: Materials/Risk Coordinator to the senior qualified candidate, Tom Monacelli and to post for the vacated position of Meter Reader.

Motion carried unanimously.

### **Item 8. CONSIDERATION OF REAUTHORIZING THE POWER NEGOTIATIONS COMMITTEE TO DELIVER CANCELLATION NOTICE TO MINNESOTA POWER AND DISCUSSION OF POTENTIAL LEGAL ACTION**

Motion by Commissioner Bayliss, supported by Commissioner Babich, to Reauthorize the Power Negotiations Committee to deliver the Cancellation Notice to Minnesota Power on or before March 25, 2022, at 3:00 p.m., for the effective date of December 31, 2024.

Motion carried unanimously.

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Motion by Chairperson Garrity, supported by Commissioner Hart, for L. Peterson to be authorized to meet with other power suppliers after March 8, 2022 for power supply discussions.

Motion carried unanimously.

Closed Session Consultation with Power Attorney was discussed at the regular meeting of March 22, 2022.

Motion by Commissioner Babich, supported by Commissioner Baylis, to hold a Closed Session in conjunction with the regular meeting of March 22, 2022.

Motion carried unanimously.

### **Item 9. OLD BUSINESS**

### **Item 10. NEW BUSINESS**

### **Item 11. ADJOURNMENT**

Motion by Commissioner Bayliss, supported by Commissioner Hart, to adjourn the meeting at 6:27 p.m.

Motion carried unanimously.

Attest:

  
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Patrick Garrity, Chairperson

  
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Morgan Anderson, Commission Secretary

Meeting materials are available at [www.hpuc.com](http://www.hpuc.com)  
The next regular Commission meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, March 22, 2022 at 5:00 p.m. at the Hibbing City Hall, Council Chambers, 401 E. 21<sup>st</sup> St., Hibbing MN 55746.  
All COVID-19 Pandemic guidelines must be observed.

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of the 1st of June