

April 27, 2023

The Utility Board of Trustees of Laurens, Iowa met in regular session at the Municipal Building, 272 N. Third Street, Laurens, Iowa, at 4:00 p.m. on the above date. Present were Trustees Richard Main, Jerry Runneberg, and Ben Storms. Also present was General Manager Chad Cleveland.

Motion by Trustee Storms and seconded by Trustee Runneberg to approve the agenda for the April 27, 2023 regular meeting. Ayes: All. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Motion by Trustee Runneberg and seconded by Trustee Storms to approve the minutes of the March 23, 2023 Board meeting. Ayes: All. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Motion by Trustee Runneberg and seconded by Trustee Storms to approve the summary of receipts for March 2023 in the amount of \$421,009.78 and the list of expenses for March 2023 in the amount of \$337,974.29. Ayes: All. Nays: None. Motion carried.

**Summary of Receipts**

A/R- Electric	\$ 290,451.65
A/R- Communications	\$ 65,280.29
Merchandise/Services- Electric	\$ 715.00
Merchandise/Services- Communications	\$ 120.00
Carrier Access Fees- Communications	\$ 2,925.44
Write Off Recovery- Electric	\$ 322.34
Write Off Recovery- Communications	\$ 282.86
Investment Interest Earned- Electric	\$ 12,397.26
ACP/Lifeline/ERATE Reimbursement- Communications	\$ 429.00
LIHEAP Energy Assistance- Electric	\$ 6,541.92
Deposits- Electric	\$ 3,136.20
Deposits- Internet	\$ 566.00
Deposits- Cable TV	\$ 35.00
Marathon Energy Sales- Electric	\$ 10,086.16
Tower Lease- Communications	\$ 1,200.00
Attachment H Revenues- Electric	\$ 26,274.90
Scrap Recycling- Communications	\$ 201.00
Miscellaneous- Communications	\$ 14.76
Office Phones- Electric	\$ 30.00
<b>Total Cash Receipts</b>	<b>\$ 421,009.78</b>

Electric Receipts	\$ 349,955.43
Communications Receipts	\$ 71,054.35
<b>Total Cash Receipts</b>	<b>\$ 421,009.78</b>

**List of Expenses**

A&M Laundry	Dust Mops & Mats	\$ 89.28
Advanced Door Systems	Garage Door Replacement	\$ 4,836.00
AFLAC	Employee Contributions	\$ 299.84
Amaril Uniform	FR Clothing	\$ 332.72
Aureon	CALEA/SS7/Switching/Transport	\$ 558.89
Avesis	Group Vision Insurance	\$ 206.90
Bally Sports North	Programming Fees	\$ 1,180.35
Big 10 Network	Programming Fees	\$ 439.20
Border States Electric	High Voltage Fuses	\$ 154.37
Buena Vista County Treasurer	Property Taxes	\$ 41.00
CDS Global	Credit Card Processing Fees	\$ 42.20
Clanton Creek Connections	FTTP Project- Customer Installs	\$ 11,475.00

Clay County Treasurer	Property Taxes	\$	25.00
Cleveland, Chad	Meeting Expense	\$	234.49
CMBA Architects	Storage Building Project	\$	2,290.50
Community First Broadcasting	Radio Advertising	\$	52.50
Community State Bank	Service Charges	\$	130.40
Consortia Consulting	Consulting Contract	\$	1,125.00
Customers	Deposit/Credit Refunds	\$	860.69
Department of Energy	WAPA Power Bill	\$	34,393.13
DGR Engineering	Relay Upgrades/SCADA Project	\$	660.00
Display Systems International	Programming Fees	\$	165.76
Echo Group	Double AA/Triple AAA Batteries	\$	67.25
Employee Benefit Systems	Self-Funding- Administration	\$	120.00
Employee Benefit Systems	Self-Funding- Claims	\$	2,446.30
Fiserv	Credit Card Processing	\$	63.71
GFC Leasing	Canon Copier Lease	\$	269.28
Gordan Flesch Company	Lexmark Printer	\$	743.31
Grainger	Safety Harness/Connectors	\$	326.34
Gray Media Group	Programming Fees	\$	864.00
Graybar Electric	FTTP Project – Fiber Jumpers	\$	1,249.66
Hearst Television	Programming Fees	\$	1,587.60
Horsetech	UPS Shipping Fees	\$	18.97
ICMA RC	Employee Contributions	\$	1,000.00
Internal Revenue Service	Payroll Taxes	\$	8,682.98
Interstate TRS Fund	TRS Fund Assessment	\$	137.76
Iowa Association of Municipal Utilities	Membership Dues	\$	6,573.00
Iowa Department of Revenue	Sales & Use Tax	\$	6,692.85
Iowa Department of Revenue	State Withholding	\$	1,262.65
Iowa Public Employees Retirement System	IPERS Contributions	\$	5,749.39
Itron, Inc.	Annual Support Fees	\$	1,520.45
Justice Fire & Safety	Gen Plant Fire Alarm Inspection	\$	795.01
Laurens, City of	Utility Billing	\$	78,343.09
Laurens Food Pride	Cleaning Supplies	\$	46.48
Laurens House of Print	Paper	\$	58.85
Laurens Municipal Power & Communications	Communications Bill	\$	351.07
Laurens Municipal Utilities	Utility Bill	\$	207.34
Laurens Plumbing	Sump Pumps/FTTP Project Supp.	\$	1,037.51
Laurens Sun	Publications/Advertising	\$	406.67
Library of Congress	SA1 Royalty Licensing Fee	\$	67.00
Long Lines	Communication Services	\$	9,867.75
Lumen Access Billing	Access/Transport Fees	\$	551.26
Lumen Lexcis	Directory Listings	\$	36.45
Merchant Bankcard	Credit Card Processing	\$	1,300.03
Messenger	Advertising	\$	100.00
Mid America Communications II	FTTP Project – Customer Installs	\$	4,943.40
National Cable Television Cooperative	Programming/TiVo/ACA	\$	14,101.19
Nexstar Broadcasting	Programming Fees	\$	1,627.95
NIMECA	Power Bill	\$	60,021.74
NIMECA	Property Taxes/APPA Dues	\$	1,383.80
Nyhart	GASB 75 Report	\$	1,300.00
Oakhill Consulting	FTTP Project – Engineering	\$	207.00
Office Elements	Office Chairs	\$	538.68
Payroll	Salaried, Hourly & Overtime	\$	24,860.92
PLIC-SBD Grand Island	Life/Disability Insurance	\$	725.19
Plymouth County Treasurer	Property Taxes	\$	60.50
Pocahontas County E911	E911 Qtrly Fees	\$	898.10

Pocahontas County Treasurer	Property Taxes	\$	3,890.50
Pop Media	Programming Fees	\$	36.69
Postmaster	Postage	\$	1,221.53
Pro Cooperative	Fuel/Oil	\$	546.81
Property Tax Division	Iowa Statewide Property Tax	\$	58.22
R&D Industries	Network Support	\$	1,503.63
RB Lumber Company	Supplies	\$	116.10
RSM US LLP	Network Support	\$	9,611.00
Spencer Municipal Utilities	Fiber Lease	\$	450.00
UMB Bank	Electric Bond – Service Fee	\$	600.00
US Card Systems	Credit Card Terminal Lease	\$	29.95
Verizon	Wireless Phone Service	\$	238.93
Visa	Energy Conference Registration	\$	250.00
Webster County Treasurer	Property Taxes	\$	429.50
Wellmark Blue Cross Blue Shield	Group Health Insurance	\$	13,264.44
Woodbury County Treasurer	Property Taxes	\$	1,786.00
Zcorum	Cable Modem Provisioning	\$	761.08
	<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>337,974.29</b>

Electric Expenses	\$	274,213.39
Communications Expenses	\$	63,760.90
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>337,974.29</b>

Trustees reviewed the Utility Funds Report, Balance Sheet, and Income Statement for March 2023. No specific action was taken.

Fiber-To-The-Premise Project Update: We are actively transitioning customers to the new fiber system. Customers are being contacted by phone to schedule appointments for our installation teams. We are hoping to have all current customers transitioned over in the next couple of weeks.

Motion by Trustee Storms and seconded by Trustee Runneberg to approve Pay Request #15 (Final) in the amount of \$62,542.07 for the work completed on the Laurens 2021 Electric Improvements/Fiber-To-The-Premise Project by MP Nexlevel, LLC. Ayes: All. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Motion by Trustee Runneberg and seconded by Trustee Storms to accept the Engineer Statement of Completion of the 2021 Electric Improvements/Fiber-To-The-Premise Project by MP Nexlevel, LLC. The total cost of construction was \$1,527,177.81. Ayes: All. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Chairman Main announced that this was the time set pursuant to Resolution of the governing body and public notice given as required by law for the meeting and hearing upon the proposition of withdrawal from the Amended and Restated Lehigh-Webster Transmission and Webster Terminals Facilities and Operating Agreement, as amended. Chairman Main then asked the Secretary whether any petitions or objections to the proposed action or to the form of the Amended and Restated Lehigh-Webster Transmission and Webster Terminals Facilities and Operating Agreement, as further amended, or with respect to any matter related thereto had been filed. The Secretary reported that objections or petitions opposed to said matters had been filed by zero (0) persons.

Chairman Main then asked for oral objections to the proposed withdrawal from the Amended and Restated Lehigh-Webster Transmission and Webster Terminals Facilities and Operating Agreement, as amended, or to the form of the Amended and Restated Lehigh-Webster Transmission and Webster Terminals Facilities and Operating Agreement, as further amended, or matters pertaining thereto, and oral objections were offered by zero (0) persons.

Thereafter, discussion ensued concerning the proposed withdrawal from the Amended and Restated Lehigh-Webster Transmission and Webster Terminals Facilities and Operating Agreement, as further amended, and the form thereof, as well as to the consequences to be expected therefrom.

Board Member Storms introduced the following Resolution entitled "RESOLUTION APPROVING AND CONSENTING TO WITHDRAWAL FROM THE AMENDED AND RESTATED LEHIGH-WEBSTER TRANSMISSION AND WEBSTER TERMINALS FACILITIES AND OPERATING AGREEMENT, AND APPROVING THE AMENDED AND RESTATED LEHIGH-WEBSTER TRANSMISSION AND WEBSTER TERMINALS FACILITIES AND OPERATING AGREEMENT, AS FURTHER AMENDED TO REFLECT THAT THE LAURENS MUNICIPAL ELECTRIC UTILITY IS NO LONGER AN OWNER OR PARTY THERETO", and moved that the Resolution be adopted.

Board Member Runneberg seconded the motion. The roll was called and the vote was,

Ayes: Main, Runneberg, and Storms. Nays: None.

Whereupon, the Chairman declared the measure duly adopted.

RESOLUTION APPROVING AND CONSENTING TO WITHDRAWAL FROM THE AMENDED AND RESTATED LEHIGH-WEBSTER TRANSMISSION AND WEBSTER TERMINALS FACILITIES AND OPERATING AGREEMENT, AND APPROVING THE AMENDED AND RESTATED LEHIGH-WEBSTER TRANSMISSION AND WEBSTER TERMINALS FACILITIES AND OPERATING AGREEMENT, AS FURTHER AMENDED TO REFLECT THAT THE LAURENS MUNICIPAL ELECTRIC UTILITY IS NO LONGER AN OWNER OR PARTY THERETO

WHEREAS, the Municipal Electric Utility of the City (the "Utility") has entered into an Asset Purchase agreement with MidAmerican Energy Company for the sale of the Utility's ownership interest in certain transmission assets known as Lehigh-Webster Transmission ("Lehigh-Webster Transmission") owned pursuant to that certain Amended and Restated Lehigh-Webster Transmission and Webster Terminals Facilities and Operating Agreement, as amended (the "Transmission Agreement"); and

WHEREAS, the sale of the Utility's ownership interest in the Lehigh-Webster Transmission requires an amendment of the Transmission Agreement to reflect the Utility's withdrawal therefrom and that the Utility will no longer be a participant and joint owner therein; and

WHEREAS, on the 23rd day of March, 2023 a proposed form of Amended and Restated Lehigh-Webster Transmission and Webster Terminals Facilities and Operating Agreement, as further amended, was filed with the Secretary of this governing body and preliminarily approved by resolution subject to final hearing and approval upon public notice as required by law; and

WHEREAS, the proposed Amended and Restated Lehigh-Webster Transmission and Webster Terminals Facilities and Operating Agreement, as further amended, is found to be in proper form and withdrawal therefrom is found to serve the best interest of the City, its residents and consumers of electricity furnished by the Laurens Municipal Electric Utility; and

WHEREAS, notice of hearing on the proposition of withdrawal from the proposed Amended and Restated Lehigh-Webster Transmission and Webster Terminals Facilities and Operating Agreement, as amended, was published as required by the provisions of Chapters 390 of the Code of Iowa, 2022, as amended.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE MUNICIPAL ELECTRIC UTILITY OF LAURENS, IOWA:

Section 1. That this governing body hereby approves and consents to withdrawal from the Amended and Restated Lehigh-Webster Transmission and Webster Terminals Facilities and Operating Agreement.

Section 2. That the Amended and Restated Lehigh-Webster Transmission and Webster Terminals Facilities and Operating Agreement, as further amended, and the form thereof, reflecting said withdrawal, be and the same are hereby approved and consented to.

Section 3. That the Chairperson and Secretary are authorized and directed to execute any consents or other documents as may be necessary and appropriate to complete or memorialize the withdrawal and the amendment of the Amended and Restated Lehigh-Webster Transmission and Webster Terminals Facilities and Operating Agreement to reflect that the Utility is no longer an owner or party thereto.

PASSED AND APPROVED this 27th day of April, 2023.

Richard Main  
Chairman, Board of Trustees

ATTEST: Chad Cleveland  
Secretary, Board of Trustees

Motion by Trustee Runneberg and seconded by Trustee Storms to approve the Department of Energy Western Area Power Administration Contract for North Iowa Municipal Electric Cooperative Association (NIMECA) to Administer Renewable Energy Certificates for the City of Laurens, Iowa. Ayes: All. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Motion by Trustee Storms and seconded by Trustee Runneberg to approve the NIMECA Agreement regarding Western Area Power Administration RECs and Designated Agent Agreement. Ayes: All. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Motion by Trustee Runneberg and seconded by Trustee Storms to approve the renewal of the Employers Mutual Package Insurance Policy through Woodley Insurance. The cost of the renewal for the utilities is \$66,769.72. Ayes: All. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Motion by Trustee Runneberg and seconded by Trustee Storms to approve the Letter of Commitment to the U.S. Department of Energy, Grid Deployment Office. Ayes: All. Nays: None. Motion carried. Here is the letter:

April 27, 2023

U.S. Department of Energy, Grid Deployment Office  
Office of Clean Energy Demonstrations  
1000 Independence Ave SW  
Washington, DC 20585

RE: Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) – Grid Resilience and Innovation Partnerships (GRIP) – DE-FOA-0002740 Letter of Commitment, Minnesota Department of Commerce Regional & Community Resilience Advancement Grant Application

To Whom It May Concern,

This Letter of Commitment confirms the support and involvement of Laurens Municipal Light & Power Plant providing services to our community in Laurens, Iowa in the development of the

Minnesota Department of Commerce Regional & Community Resilience Advancement Grant Application. As part of this effort, we propose to replace substation electromechanical relaying with new digital relays at our two substations for the integration of a new, modern SCADA (Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition) system for the electric utility that will improve efficiency and reliability through real-time electric grid monitoring, control, and optimization.

We understand that DOE seeks to deploy and catalyze transmission and distribution solutions that improve grid reliability and resilience on a local and regional scale. The Project we are proposing will advance these objectives in our community by providing visibility and control of the existing distribution system, reduce outage time, allow for enhanced renewable integration, enhance energy efficiency, and increase worker safety.

We understand that as a participant of this grant, we are proposing projects totaling \$704,290.00, of which we will be responsible for a 50% cost share. Please contact me if you have any questions on the contents of this letter or with respect to our continuing support of this application.

Sincerely,

Chad Cleveland  
General Manager  
Laurens Municipal Light & Power

Motion by Trustee Storms and seconded by Trustee Runneberg to approve the proposed agreement with CMBA Architects for the new Storage Building Project. Ayes: All. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Discussion was held on CMBA Architects additional proposal to develop and design a concept plan, concept visual, and a preliminary budget for the Renovation of City Hall Project for a fee of not to exceed \$6,000. This project entails a more welcoming entrance, improved functionality, improved energy efficiency, and controlled access to the building. Motion by Trustee Runneberg and seconded by Trustee Storms to approve the sharing of costs for the Renovation of City Hall Project with the City of Laurens. Ayes: All. Nays: None. Motion carried.

There being no further business, the Chairman declared the meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Richard Main  
Chairman, Board of Trustees

ATTEST: Chad Cleveland  
Secretary, Board of Trustees