

January 29, 2025

The Utility Board of Trustees of Laurens, Iowa met in regular session at the Municipal Building, 272 N. Third Street, Laurens, Iowa, at 3:00 p.m. on the above date. Present were Trustees Kelly Horsman, Jerry Runneberg, and Ben Storms. Also present was General Manager Chad Cleveland.

Motion by Trustee Runneberg and seconded by Trustee Horsman to approve the agenda for the January 29, 2025 regular meeting. Ayes: All. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Motion by Trustee Horsman and seconded by Trustee Runneberg to appoint Trustee Ben Storms as Chairman, Trustee Jerry Runneberg as Chairman Pro Tem, Chad Cleveland as Board Secretary, and Trustees Horsman, Runneberg, Storms and Secretary Cleveland to the Investment Committee. Ayes: All. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Motion by Trustee Runneberg and seconded by Trustee Horsman to approve the minutes of the December 16, 2024 regular meeting. Ayes: All. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Motion by Trustee Horsman and seconded by Trustee Runneberg to approve the summary of receipts for December 2024 in the amount of \$373,417.03 and the list of expenses for December 2024 in the amount of \$283,683.34. Ayes: All. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Summary of Receipts

A/R- Electric	\$ 247,916.61
A/R- Communications	\$ 62,267.09
Merchandise/Services- Electric	\$ 332.00
Merchandise/Services- Communications	\$ 42.00
Carrier Access Fees- Communications	\$ 1,057.47
Write Off Recovery- Electric	\$ 50.00
Write Off Recovery- Communications	\$ 108.87
E-Rate Reimbursement- Communications	\$ 61.20
Deposits- Electric	\$ 2,425.00
Deposits- Communications	\$ 425.00
Marathon Energy Sales- Electric	\$ 26,009.16
Tower Lease- Communications	\$ 4,382.18
Attachment H Revenues- Electric	\$ 28,232.99
Miscellaneous- Communications	\$ 47.46
Office Phones- Electric	\$ 60.00
Total Cash Receipts	\$ 373,417.03

List of Expenses

A & M Laundry	Dust Mops & Mats	\$ 178.56
AFLAC	Employee Contributions	\$ 389.40
Amaril Uniform Company	FR Clothing	\$ 787.57
Aureon	CALEA/SS7/Transport	\$ 549.96
Aveis	Group Vision Insurance	\$ 90.28
B & K Embroidery	Company Clothing- Embroidery	\$ 10.70
Bally Sports North	Programming Fees	\$ 529.30
Big 10 Network	Programming Fees	\$ 200.46
Calix, Inc.	Operations Cloud	\$ 598.69
City of Laurens	Cable TV Franchise Fees	\$ 9,041.49
City of Laurens	Utility Billing	\$ 90,236.60
Cleveland, Chad	Meeting Expense	\$ 52.26
Community First Broadcasting	Radio Advertising	\$ 52.50
Consortia Consulting	Monthly Consulting Fee	\$ 1,125.00
Customers	Closed Account Credit Refunds	\$ 2,096.96

Department of Energy	WAPA Power Bill	\$	36,207.19
DGR Engineering	Marathon Rate Calculation	\$	1,490.50
DGR Engineering	Relay Upgrades & SCADA Project	\$	5,085.00
Display Systems International	Programming Fees	\$	165.76
Echo Group	Electric Supplies	\$	16.60
Employee Benefit Systems	Self-Funding- Administration	\$	120.00
Employee Benefit Systems	Self-Funding- Claims	\$	53.95
GFC Leasing – WI	Copier Leases	\$	85.07
Goldfield Telecom	Calix Equipment/Upgrades	\$	2,318.23
Gray Media Group	Programming Fees	\$	472.50
Hearst Television	Programming Fees	\$	903.00
Internal Revenue Service	Payroll Taxes	\$	8,950.74
Interstate TRS Fund	TRS Fund Assessment	\$	246.75
Iowa Department of Revenue	Sales Tax	\$	4,591.44
Iowa Department of Revenue	State Withholding	\$	1,259.77
Iowa One Call	Locates	\$	47.70
Iowa Public Employees Retirement System	IPERS Contributions	\$	5,131.29
Laurens Chamber of Commerce	Chamber Bucks	\$	1,650.00
Laurens House of Print	Paper	\$	58.85
Laurens Municipal Power & Communications	Monthly Communications Bill	\$	132.45
Laurens Municipal Utilities	Monthly Utility Bill	\$	104.37
Laurens Plumbing	Supplies	\$	116.37
Laurens Sun	Publications/Advertising	\$	135.44
Long Lines	Communication Services	\$	8,795.30
Lumen Access Billing	Interconnect Access Fees	\$	95.15
Lumen Lexcis	Directory Listings	\$	36.45
Lumenserve	Tower Lighting Monitoring	\$	316.24
Merchant Bankcard	Credit Card Processing Fees	\$	245.04
Mid America Computer Corporation	Utility Billing	\$	922.98
MidAmerican Energy	Neal 4 Operations	\$	26,000.00
National Content & Technology Cooperative	Programming/ACA	\$	6,778.51
Nexstar Broadcasting	Programming Fees	\$	968.52
NIMECA	Power Bill	\$	14,155.88
NIMECA	Cornbelt Meter Maintenance	\$	821.91
NIMECA	NAR Transfer Fees	\$	107.83
Norsolv Systems Environmental	Norsolv Services	\$	290.99
OCD Detailing	Undercoating/Paint Protection	\$	944.46
Office Elements	Office Supplies	\$	113.05
Paymentus Group Inc	Communications Credit Card Fees	\$	205.42
Paymentus Group Inc	Utility Billing Credit Card Fees	\$	158.38
Payroll	Salaried, Hourly & Overtime	\$	23,251.03
Petty Cash	Postage	\$	16.57
PLIC-SBD Grand Island	Life/Disability Insurance	\$	604.84
Pocahontas County E911	Quarterly E911 Fees	\$	780.70
Pop Media	Programming Fees	\$	18.06
Postmaster	Stamps- General Use	\$	730.00
Pro Cooperative	Vehicle Fuel	\$	166.83
R&D Industries	Network Support	\$	36.00
RSM US LLP	Network Support	\$	3,283.72
RSM US LLP	Network Server Upgrade	\$	8,813.74
Secretary of State- Iowa	Notary Fees	\$	30.00
Storey Kenworthy – Matt Parrott	Checks	\$	595.51
Unity Point Health	Hearing Tests	\$	427.75
Unity Point Occupational Medicine	Testing Services	\$	42.00
US Card Systems	Credit Card Terminal Lease	\$	29.95

Verizon	Wireless Phone Service	\$	155.55
Visa	Supplies/YouTube TV	\$	300.98
Wellmark Blue Cross Blue Shield	Group Health Insurance	\$	8,161.30
	Total Expenses	\$	283,683.34

Trustees reviewed the Utility Funds Report, Investment Schedule, Income Statement, and Balance Sheet for December 2024. Discussion was held on money market funds. No specific action was taken.

Trustees reviewed the current Investment Policy. No specific action was taken.

Trustee Horsman introduced the following Resolution entitled “RESOLUTION NAMING DEPOSITORIES” and moved for adoption. Trustee Runneberg seconded the motion to adopt. The roll was called, and the vote was: Ayes: Horsman, Runneberg, and Storms. Nays: None.

Chairman Storms declared the following Resolution duly adopted:

RESOLUTION NAMING DEPOSITORIES

BE IT RESOLVED that the Utility Board of Trustees of the City of Laurens, Iowa approves the following list of financial institutions to be depositories of the Laurens Municipal Light and Power Plant and the Laurens Municipal Broadband Communications Utility.

<u>DEPOSITORY NAME</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>MAXIMUM BALANCE</u>
Community State Bank	Laurens, Iowa	\$10,000,000
West Iowa Bank	Laurens, Iowa	\$ 5,000,000
Iowa Public Agency Investment Trust	West Des Moines, Iowa	\$ 5,000,000
Community Financial Services	Spencer, Iowa	\$ 5,000,000

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board Chairman, Board Chairman Pro Tem, Board Secretary, Accounting/Billing Clerk, and Customer Service/Billing Clerk are hereby authorized to deposit Utility funds in amounts not to exceed the maximum approved for each financial institution.

Adopted this 29th day of January 2025.

Ben Storms
Chairman, Board of Trustees

ATTEST: Chad Cleveland
Secretary, Board of Trustees

Motion by Trustee Runneberg and seconded by Trustee Horsman to approve the “New Home Cash Incentive Program” for calendar year 2025 available to the first owner of a newly constructed all electric residence. Qualified applicants will receive a cash incentive of up to \$10,000 from Laurens Municipal Power & Communications which is calculated at a rate of \$5.00 per square foot of living area. Ayes: All. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Motion by Trustee Runneberg and seconded by Trustee Horsman to pay the standard mileage rate for business use as set by the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) for calendar year 2025. Ayes: All. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Trustee Horsman introduced the following Resolution entitled “RESOLUTION APPROVING THE LABOR AND EQUIPMENT HOURLY RATES FOR CUSTOMERS, EMERGENCIES, AND MUTUAL AID SERVICE CALLS” and moved for adoption. Trustee Runneberg seconded the motion to adopt. The roll was called, and the vote was: Ayes: Horsman, Runneberg, and Storms. Nays: None.

Chairman Storms declared the following Resolution duly adopted:

RESOLUTION APPROVING THE LABOR AND EQUIPMENT HOURLY RATES FOR
CUSTOMERS, EMERGENCIES, AND MUTUAL AID SERVICE CALLS

WHEREAS, pursuant to elections held in the years 1949 and 1997, the management and control of the Laurens Municipal Electric and Communications Utilities are the responsibility of a Board of Trustees; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees may, by resolution, establish, impose, adjust, and provide for the collection of rates to be charged for the use of the services provided by the Laurens Municipal Electric and Communications Utilities.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Trustees of the Laurens Municipal Electric and Communications Utilities of the City of Laurens that the labor and equipment hourly rates for customer related service calls, including the City of Marathon, are as follows:

Labor (Regular Hours)	\$ 80.00 per hour
Labor (After Hours)	\$120.00 per hour
Service Truck/Van	\$ 46.00 per hour
Basket Truck	\$ 86.00 per hour
Digger Derrick Truck	\$ 86.00 per hour
Mini X Excavator	\$ 86.00 per hour
Skid Loader	\$ 86.00 per hour

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the labor and equipment hourly rates for emergencies and mutual aid service calls are as follows:

Labor (Regular Hours)	\$120.00 per hour
Labor (After Hours)	\$180.00 per hour
Service Truck/Van	\$ 69.00 per hour
Basket Truck	\$129.00 per hour
Digger Derrick Truck	\$129.00 per hour
Mini X Excavator	\$129.00 per hour
Skid Loader	\$129.00 per hour

Only properly trained Utility employees are authorized to operate Utility equipment. The Utility has the right to refuse any work that is the responsibility of the customer or person requesting the work.

PASSED AND APPROVED this 29th day of January 2025.

Ben Storms
Chairman, Board of Trustees

ATTEST: Chad Cleveland
Secretary, Board of Trustees

Motion by Trustee Horsman and seconded by Trustee Runneberg to adopt the Iowa Heartland Regional Directory as Laurens Municipal Power & Communication's official directory. Ayes: All. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Motion by Trustee Horsman and seconded by Trustee Runneberg to approve the Distributed Generation Interconnection Agreement with the Laurens-Marathon School District and authorize the solar array to be energized. Ayes: All. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Motion by Trustee Runneberg and seconded by Trustee Horsman to approve working with Elevate Roofing to schedule inspections and make repairs to the generation plant roofs. Ayes: All. Nays: None. Motion carried.

No action was taken on the large interruptible electric load rate and service rules.

No action was taken on the ground lease for the large interruptible electric load.

Discussion was held on the proposed job description and training plans for the Customer Service/Billing Clerk position. Discussion was also held on employee turnover and retention. The Trustees are on board with the direction and steps taken by the General Manager. No specific action was taken.

Motion by Trustee Runneberg and seconded by Trustee Horsman to approve the proposed Cash Handling Policy. Ayes: All. Nays: None. Motion carried.

General Manager Update:

- Holiday Lighting Credit – we had 43 customers take advantage of the Holiday Lighting Credit.
- The Trustees reviewed reports showing 2024 total billing for electricity and communications.
- The Trustees reviewed reports showing the sources of power for 2024 and the breakdown of how much was from WAPA, coal, wind, diesels, and market purchases.
- The Trustees reviewed reports prepared by the Clean Energy Districts of Iowa (CEDI). Each year every electric utility in Iowa files an annual report with the Iowa Utilities Commission (IUC) that provides detailed information about each utility's operations. The IUC recently posted the 2023 consolidated information on their website. CEDI has analyzed this information and compared the bundled, all-in revenues per kilowatt-hour for the 2 investor-owned electric utilities (MidAmerican Energy and Alliant Energy) as well as 42 rural electric cooperatives and 136 municipal electric utilities. These all-in revenues, generated by customer rates, represent an average rate paid within a customer class. CEDI ranks these revenues/costs from lowest to highest for each of the major ratepayer classes (Residential, Commercial, and Industrial). The Board of Trustees were very pleased with the results of the CEDI rankings. **The Laurens Municipal Electric Utility ranked 11th lowest in the Residential Class, 14th lowest in the Commercial Class, and 19th lowest in the Industrial Class.** Customers can access the link to the CEDI article and rankings by going to LMPC's website: www.lmpc-ia.com.

There being no further business, the Chairman declared the meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

Ben Storms
Chairman, Board of Trustees

ATTEST: Chad Cleveland
Secretary, Board of Trustees