

January 22, 2026

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. Guest Julian Johnsen joined the meeting at 3:40 p.m.

Motion by Trustee Runneberg and seconded by Trustee Horsman to approve the agenda for the January 22, 2026 regular meeting. Ayes: All. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Motion by Trustee Runneberg and seconded by Trustee Horsman 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 Horsman and seconded by Trustee Runneberg to approve the minutes of the December 15, 2025 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 2025 in the amount of \$391,803.38 and the list of expenses for December 2025 in the amount of \$289,775.51. Ayes: All. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Summary of Receipts

A/R- Electric	\$ 261,370.80
A/R- Communications	\$ 47,660.68
Merchandise/Services- Electric	\$ 538.00
Carrier Access Fees- Communications	\$ 707.39
Write Off Recovery- Electric	\$ 160.00
Renewable Energy Credits- Electric	\$ 14,372.55
Land Purchase Filing Refund- Electric	\$ 22.00
E-Rate Reimbursement- Communications	\$ 61.20
Deposits- Electric	\$ 1,660.00
Deposits- Communications	\$ 302.00
LIHEAP Energy Assistance- Electric	\$ 12,360.00
Accrued Vacation- Electric	\$ 363.15
Accrued Vacation- Communications	\$ 181.68
Marathon Energy Sales- Electric	\$ 15,496.86
Tower Lease- Communications	\$ 3,446.19
Attachment H Revenues- Electric	\$ 32,671.57
Lifeline Broadband Support- Communications	\$ 9.00
Lifeline Voice Support- Communications	\$ 11.00
Renewable Energy Credits Reconciliation- Electric	\$ (114.73)
Wages/Benefit Taxes- Electric	\$ 35.57
Wages/Benefit Taxes- Communications	\$ 147.24
IPERS Benefit- Electric	\$ 179.55
IPERS Benefit- Communications	\$ 31.68
Office Phones- Electric	\$ 60.00
<u>EBS Self-funding Overpayment- Electric</u>	<u>\$ 100.00</u>
Total Cash Receipts	\$ 391,803.38

List of Expenses

AFLAC	Employee Contributions	\$ 142.86
Ahlers & Cooney PC	Legal Fees	\$ 753.00
Aureon	CALEA/SS7/Transport	\$ 149.48
Avesis- Fidelity Security Life	Group Vision Insurance	\$ 96.13
B & K Embroidery	Company Clothing- Embroidery	\$ 10.70
Bailey, Dave	Safety Footwear	\$ 128.35

Calix, Inc.	Cloud Services	\$ 1,761.22
City of Laurens	Utility Billing/Write-off Reconciliation	\$ 81,202.23
CMBA Architects	City Hall Renovation Project	\$ 1,500.00
Consortia Consulting	Monthly Consulting Fee	\$ 1,200.00
Department of Energy	WAPA Power Bill	\$ 38,913.75
DGR Engineering	Fuel System Modifications Project	\$ 2,951.50
DGR Engineering	Relay Upgrades & SCADA Project	\$ 746.50
Employee Benefit Systems	Self-Funding- Administration	\$ 120.00
Employee Benefit Systems	Self-Funding- Claims	\$ 496.45
GFC Leasing – WI	Copier Leases	\$ 85.32
Grainger	Tool & Fuses	\$ 156.89
Horsetech	Shipping Fees	\$ 15.17
Internal Revenue Service	Payroll Taxes	\$ 9,808.97
Internal Revenue Service	Federal Excise Tax Penalty	\$ 135.38
Interstate TRS Fund	TRS Fund Assessment	\$ 250.27
Iowa Association of Municipal Utilities	Apprenticeship Program	\$ 1,300.00
Iowa Department of Natural Resources	Underground Tank Mgmt. Fee	\$ 66.50
Iowa Department of Revenue	Sales Tax	\$ 3,932.82
Iowa Department of Revenue	State Withholding	\$ 1,068.25
Iowa One Call	Locates	\$ 29.70
Iowa Public Employees Retirement System	IPERS Contributions	\$ 5,706.61
Laurens House of Print	Envelopes & Paper	\$ 276.65
Laurens Municipal Power & Communications	Communications Bill	\$ 119.56
Laurens Municipal Utilities	Utility Bill	\$ 105.64
Laurens Plumbing	Supplies	\$ 23.52
Laurens Sun	Publications/Advertising	\$ 76.06
Long Lines	Communication Services	\$ 7,981.38
Lumen Lexcis	Directory Listings	\$ 144.00
LumenServe	Tower Lighting Monitoring	\$ 316.24
Mid-America Communications II	Fiber Network Assistance	\$ 453.75
Mid America Computer Corporation	Utility Billing	\$ 895.64
MidAmerican Energy	Neal 4 Operations	\$ 50,000.00
NIMECA	Power Bill	\$ 18,349.77
NIMECA	Cornbelt Meter Maintenance	\$ 401.56
Paymentus Group Inc	CC Processing Fees- Communications	\$ 191.68
Paymentus Group Inc	CC Processing Fees- Utility Billing	\$ 152.32
Payroll	Salaried, Hourly & Overtime	\$ 25,721.10
Phelps Uniform Specialists	Dust Mops & Mats	\$ 95.49
PLIC-SBD Grand Island	Life/Disability Insurance	\$ 666.55
Pocahontas County	Land Purchase & Recording	\$ 10,882.00
Pocahontas County E911	Quarterly E911 Fees	\$ 720.03
Pro Cooperative	Vehicle Fuel	\$ 215.96
Qwest dba CenturyLink-IA	Access Charges	\$ 95.15
Richardson's Service	Battery- Skid Loader	\$ 195.76
RSM US LLP	Network Support	\$ 3,100.07
RSM US LLP	Relay Upgrades & SCADA Project	\$ 2,130.00
Scott's Lawn Service	Vegetation Control	\$ 75.00
Secure Shred	Paper Shredding	\$ 27.00
US Card Systems	Consulting Fee	\$ 149.95
Verizon	Wireless Phone Service	\$ 116.04
Visa	FR Clothing/Office Supplies/Fees	\$ 368.22
Wellmark Blue Cross Blue Shield	Group Health Insurance	\$ 12,136.78
Ziegler Inc	Skid Loader Parts	\$ 864.59
	Total Expenses	\$ 289,775.51

Trustees reviewed the Utility Funds Report, Investment Schedule, Income Statement, and Balance Sheet for December 2025. No specific action was taken.

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

Trustee Runneberg introduced the following Resolution entitled “RESOLUTION NAMING DEPOSITORIES” and moved for adoption. Trustee Horsman 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 to approve 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
LPL Financial Holdings	Boston, Massachusetts	\$ 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 22nd day of January 2026.

Ben Storms
Chairman, Board of Trustees

ATTEST: Chad Cleveland
Secretary, Board of Trustees

Motion by Trustee Horsman and seconded by Trustee Runneberg to approve the “New Home Cash Incentive Program” for calendar year 2026 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 2026. Ayes: All. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Trustee Horsman introduced the following Resolution entitled “RESOLUTION APPROVING THE LABOR AND EQUIPMENT HOURLY RATES FOR CUSTOMER RELATED SERVICE CALLS, MUTUAL AID SERVICE CALLS, AND CITY OF MARATHON 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
CUSTOMER RELATED SERVICE CALLS, MUTUAL AID SERVICE CALLS,
AND CITY OF MARATHON 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, mutual aid service calls, and City of Marathon service calls during regular working hours are as follows:

Labor	\$ 80.00 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 customer-related service calls, mutual aid service calls, and City of Marathon service calls after regular working hours and weekends are as follows:

Labor	\$120.00 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 Laurens Municipal Power & Communication (LMPC) employees are authorized to operate LMPC equipment. LMPC has the right to refuse any work that is the responsibility of the customer or person requesting the work.

PASSED AND APPROVED this 22nd day of January 2026.

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 Employment and Retention Agreement for General Manager Chad Cleveland contingent on Ahlers & Cooney Law Firm reviewing the agreement and clarification from MissionSquare Retirement that their Retirement Health Savings Account plan is not tied to the group health insurance plan. Ayes: All. Nays: None. Motion carried.

General Manager Update:

- Holiday Lighting Credit – we had 41 customers take advantage of the \$25 Holiday Lighting Credit.
- Trustees reviewed reports showing 2025 total billing for electricity and communications.
- Fuel System Modifications Project – engineer has been working with Acterra Group on submittals, but no construction has started yet.
- Relay Upgrades and SCADA Project – contractor is on site and working on the East Substation switchgear.
- City Hall Renovation Project – Pre-Bid Conference Meeting on January 27th and Bid Opening on February 10th.

There being no further business, the Chairman declared the meeting adjourned at 5:45 p.m.

Ben Storms
Chairman, Board of Trustees

ATTEST: Chad Cleveland
Secretary, Board of Trustees