



# Board of Light, Gas and Water Commissioners

220 S. Main Street  
Memphis, TN 38103  
www.mlgw.com

## Board Meeting ~ Minutes ~

Wednesday, February 18, 2026

8:30 AM

Board Room

For a recording of this meeting visit: <https://mlgw.igm2.com/Citizens/Default.aspx>

### CALL TO ORDER AND OPENING REMARKS:

Chairman Pohlman

The meeting was called to order at 8:30 a.m.

Chairman Pohlman announced that Chairman Kevin Woods was attending the meeting remotely.

### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Chairman Pohlman

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

### ROLL CALL:

Rodney Cleek

Attendee Name	Title	Status	Arrived
Michael Pohlman	Chairman	Present	
Cheryl Pesce	Board Member	Present	
Carl Person	Vice Chairman	Present	
Leon Dickson	Board Member	Absent	
Kevin Woods	Board Member	Remote	
James Lewellen	Advisory Board Member	Present	
John Butler	Advisory Board Member	Present	

### APPROVALS:

Chairman Pohlman

**Motion To:** Approve Minutes from the Meeting of February 4, 2026.

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>ADOPTED [3 TO 0]</b>
<b>MOVER:</b>	Carl Person, Vice Chairman
<b>SECONDER:</b>	Cheryl Pesce, Board Member
<b>AYES:</b>	Michael Pohlman, Cheryl Pesce, Carl Person
<b>ABSENT:</b>	Leon Dickson
<b>AWAY:</b>	Kevin Woods

Kevin Woods attended the meeting remotely and therefore did not vote.

**CITY COUNCIL ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS & UPDATE:****Rodney Cleek**

Acknowledged receipt of Certified Copies of City Council Resolutions dated February 3, 2026, Items 6 through 10. (See Minute File No. 1514)

**PRESENTATIONS:****January 2026 Winter Weather Event – President McGowen**

President McGowen presented to the Board information detailing why utility bills increased due to the January 2026 Winter Storm Fern. President McGowen provided in-depth information regarding purchasing and using natural gas. President McGowen described issues that were faced during Winter Storm Fern. President McGowen provided information as to why the storm caused an increase to natural gas cost and increased use of electricity which ultimately caused utility bills to be higher. President McGowen stated that because of MLGW's Gas Hedging Department we were able to save our customers \$15,003,997.75 during this storm. President McGowen stated that he was proud of our customers as they took the warnings about the weather seriously and took precautions which made a huge difference. President McGowen described various ways MLGW communicated to our customers that utility bills would be higher. President McGowen stressed that customers should contact us if they are having any issues paying their utility bill.

Commissioners asked questions and made comments regarding Winter Storm Fern.

President McGowen and Hyung Lee of MLGW's Gas Portfolio Management responded to Commissioners questions and comments. President McGowen informed the Board that the Senior Leadership and the Gas Portfolio Management Department meet every month.

President McGowen also mentioned that March bills will also be impacted as TVA was affected by the cost of the gas that was used to generate the electricity.

**GENERAL STATEMENT(S) FROM THE PUBLIC:**

Chairman Pohlman announced that Councilwoman Pearl Walker was attending the meeting remotely.

Chairman Pohlman read into record the policies and procedures for making public statements before the Board of Commissioners.

Glenda Hicks - 608 Gilleas - Co-Founder of 21st Century Memphis or Bust, a one hundred percent volunteer grass-roots organization focused on advocacy with MLGW. Ms. Hicks thanked President McGowen for taking the initiative for laying out the impacts of Winter Storm Fern. Ms. Hick discussed her personal MLGW bill stating that her bill

was estimated as there was no access to her property during this time. Ms. Hicks was concerned because her bill was estimated low. Ms. Hicks is concerned that her bill will be excessively high in February because of these low estimates.

Ms. Hicks also has concerns regarding the Prepay Program stating that she was unable to find any information on our website regarding the Prepay Program. Ms. Hicks stated that customers do not have an understanding of the full impact of that program. Ms. Hicks asked that she be provided the information about the Prepay Program.

**Review of Consent Agenda – President Doug McGowen**

The original of the resolutions and documents relating to each item is filed in the vault of the fifth floor of the MLGW Administration Building, 220 South Main. The original documents shall control in the event of any conflict between the description and these minutes and the original documents. (President’s Briefing Continued on Page 23)

**CONSENT AGENDA**  
(Items 1 through 14)

**Motion To:** Approve Consent Agenda Items 1 through 14.

**RESULT:** APPROVED [3 TO 0]  
**MOVER:** Carl Person, Vice Chairman  
**SECONDER:** Cheryl Pesce, Board Member  
**AYES:** Michael Pohlman, Cheryl Pesce, Carl Person  
**ABSENT:** Leon Dickson  
**AWAY:** Kevin Woods

Commissioner Kevin Woods attended the meeting remotely and therefore did not vote.

Advisory Board Member James Lewellen - Concur

Advisory Board Member John Butler – Concur

**Motion To:** Approve Same Day Minutes for Item 13.

**RESULT:** APPROVED [3 TO 0]  
**MOVER:** Carl Person, Vice Chairman  
**SECONDER:** Cheryl Pesce, Board Member  
**AYES:** Michael Pohlman, Cheryl Pesce, Carl Person  
**ABSENT:** Leon Dickson  
**AWAY:** Kevin Woods

Commissioner Kevin Woods attended the meeting remotely and therefore did not vote.

Commissioners asked questions regarding Consent Agenda Items. MLGW Staff provided responses.

President McGowen recognized Mr. Brad Gates and stated that this is his last Board Meeting. President McGowen stated that Mr. Brad Gates, Director of Electric Construction and Maintenance, is leaving MLGW after 25 years of service. President McGowen stated that Mr. Gates is going to be the Chief Operating Officer for Lawrenceburg Municipal Utility. President McGowen spoke of what an intricate part Mr. Gates has played in infrastructure improvements and the street light conversion. President McGowen stated that he is extremely proud of the work Mr. Gates has done here at MLGW.

Mr. Brad Gates expressed his appreciation for President McGowen's kind words and all the opportunities he has received here at MLGW. Mr. Gates stated that MLGW has been a great place to work and that it was a tough decision to leave. Mr. Gates wished everyone the best going forward and stated that he was looking forward to continuing to work with everyone.

1. Resolution awarding Contract No. 12592, Electric Distribution/Transmission Construction and Maintenance to Davis H. Elliot Construction Company, Inc. in the funded amount of \$56,833,920.00. (Randy Orsby) (REQUIRES CITY COUNCIL APPROVAL)
2. Resolution approving the Extension (Change No. 1) to Contract No. 12198, Electric Underground Distribution, Splicing and Trenchless Construction with Standard Electric Company, Inc. to extend the current contract with no increase in the contract value. (Randy Orsby)
3. Resolution approving the Ratification and Extension (Change No. 5) to Contract No. 12154, Surveying Services with Ollar Surveying Company, LLC to ratify and extend the current contract with no increase in the contract value. (Randy Orsby)
4. Resolution approving twenty-four-month extension of Purchase Order Number 7042775 with T. R. Miller Mill Company Incorporated for southern yellow pine poles with no additional funds requested. (Randy Orsby)
5. Resolution awarding purchase order for a 15-ton digger derrick truck to Global Rental Co., Inc. in the amount of \$369,740.00. (Randy Orsby) (REQUIRES CITY COUNCIL APPROVAL)
6. Resolution awarding purchase order for class 8 cab and chassis trucks to Rush Truck Centers of Tennessee, Inc. in the amount of \$1,111,332.00. (Randy Orsby) (REQUIRES CITY COUNCIL APPROVAL)

7. Resolution ratifying the emergency award of Contract No. 12636, Fast Charge TN Network (Emergency) with JMM Farm and Company, LLC in the funded amount of \$294,000.00. (Randy Orsby) (REQUIRES CITY COUNCIL APPROVAL)
8. Resolution approving the Scope Expansion, Renewal and Increase (Change No. 4) to Contract No. 12339, Janitorial Services to Mason's Professional Cleaning Services, LLC to expand the scope, renew and increase the current contract in the funded amount of \$1,854,410.09. (Randy Orsby) (REQUIRES CITY COUNCIL APPROVAL)
9. Resolution approving the Ratification and Renewal (Change No. 4) to Contract No. 12289, Independent Claims Adjuster Services with Horton & Associates of Memphis to ratify and renew the current contract in the funded amount of \$15,000.00. (Randy Orsby) (REQUIRES CITY COUNCIL APPROVAL)
10. Resolution approving Renewal (Change No. 1) to Contract No. 12418, Combined Medical and Pharmacy with Cigna Health and Life Insurance to renew the current contract in the funded amount of \$1,094,512.00 for admin fees. (Randy Orsby) (REQUIRES CITY COUNCIL APPROVAL)
11. Resolution approving the Renewal (Change No. 1) to Contract No. 12427, Dental Insurance Coverage with Cigna Health and Life Insurance Company to renew the current contract in the funded amount of \$5,747,756.00. (Randy Orsby) (REQUIRES CITY COUNCIL APPROVAL)
12. Resolution approving the Ratification and Renewal (Change No. 2) to Contract No. 12583 (formerly Contract No. C2572), Commercial Auto Insurance for Out-of-State Travel with Pete Mitchell and Associates, Inc. to ratify and renew the current contract in the funded amount of \$238,014.00. (Randy Orsby) (REQUIRES CITY COUNCIL APPROVAL)
13. Request for approval of annual salary in the amount of \$168,000.00 for the new hire position of Director, Billing and Payment Services (Alonzo Weaver) (REQUIRES CITY COUNCIL APPROVAL) (SAME DAY MINUTES REQUESTED)
14. Request for approval of annual salary in the amount of \$232,523.20 for the position of Vice President of Corporate Safety (Alonzo Weaver) (REQUIRES CITY COUNCIL APPROVAL)

**PRESIDENT'S BRIEFING CONT'D****Other - Doug McGowen**

President McGowen addressed Ms. Glenda Hicks comments regarding the Prepay Program apologizing stating that we have re-branded the Prepay program. President McGowen stated that it is now known as Power Pay. President McGowen stated that

there is information on our website for the Power Pay Program as well as a link to a YouTube video that explains the program and how to get signed up. President McGowen stated that VP Ursula Madden and VP Timothy Davis are working to make sure this information gets out to our customers.

President McGowen stated that after every big storm event we conduct post-storm debriefing internally with our gas, water and electric departments to discuss how we could have done a better job. President McGowen stated that he took part in a meeting with other utilities on Monday where they discussed things that were learned, vendors that were used, etc. President McGowen discussed many of the issues that Nashville Electric Service (NES) faced and lessons that were learned.

President McGowen also mentioned that last week MLGW Leadership spent time in Nashville speaking and sharing thoughts and insight with Legislators regarding upcoming legislation. President McGowen stated that most of the legislation has to do with data centers.

President McGowen reported that January 2026 has been the best month we have had in performance. President McGowen stated that more information will be provided when we do our quarterly performance review.

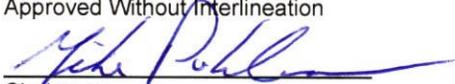
Commissioner Pesce stated that she thought the television commercial for the Power Pay Program was a national commercial. Commissioner Pesce stated that it was very well done and was packed with information.

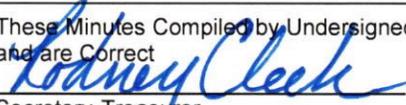
**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

(None)

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:42 a.m. (See Minute File No. 1515)

Approved Without Interlineation  
  
Chairman

These Minutes Compiled by Undersigned  
and are Correct  
  
Secretary-Treasurer