



Board of Light, Gas and Water Commissioners

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

Board Meeting

~ Minutes ~

Wednesday, March 6, 2024

8:30 AM

Board Room

CALL TO ORDER AND OPENING REMARKS:

Chairman Dickson

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

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Chairman Dickson

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

RESOLUTION IN HONOR OF MLGW'S 85TH ANNIVERSARY:

Chairman Dickson

Chairman Dickson read into record a Resolution recognizing the 85th Anniversary of Memphis Light, Gas & Water.

ROLL CALL:

Dana Jeanes

Attendee Name	Title	Status	Arrived
Michael Pohlman	Vice Chairman	Present	
Cheryl Pesce	Board Member	Present	
Carl Person	Board Member	Present	
Mitch Graves	Board Member	Present	
Leon Dickson	Chairman	Present	
James Lewellen	Advisory Board Member	Present	
John Butler	Advisory Board Member	Present	

APPROVALS:

Motion To: Approve Minutes from the Meeting of February 21, 2024. (See Minute File No. 1491)

RESULT: ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER: Michael Pohlman, Vice Chairman
SECONDER: Mitch Graves, Board Member
AYES: Pohlman, Pesce, Person, Graves, Dickson

CITY COUNCIL ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS & UPDATE:

Dana Jeanes

Acknowledge Receipt of Certified Copies of City Council Resolutions dated February 20, 2024, Items 11 through 18.

PRESENTATIONS:

(None)

GENERAL STATEMENT(S) FROM THE PUBLIC:

Joe B. Kent - 5111 Flamingo, Memphis, TN - Mr. Kent appeared before the Board stating that he understands that MLGW is working on the landlord tenant bill in legislature, and that he appreciates that. Mr. Kent would also like to know the final cost of the spectrum license. Mr. Kent stated that he is also awaiting the December year-end financials which he hopes are good results and stated he plans to publish them. Mr. Kent also proposed to the Board that they spend \$240,000.00 to fund watchdog organizations through his institute. Mr. Kent thinks this is in the best interest of the Board and the ratepayers. Mr. Kent stated that he would come back next week to get their answer.

Angela Blakely - 2679 Crossvine Cove N., Memphis, TN - Ms. Blakely stated that she appeared before the Board back in August. She stated that she has had no in-person contact with anyone since her appearance regarding the matters she brought before them seven months ago. Ms. Blakely came before the Board today to request a private meeting with the one or ones who have the power to help her concerning employment at MLGW. Ms. Blakely stated that part of her previous request was promotion and restoration, and she desperately needs to speak with the appropriate people so she can meet with them privately.

Mrs. Jackie Jones addressed the Board stating that she has personally spoken with Ms. Blakely. Mrs. Jones stated that she has encouraged Ms. Blakely to apply online and that we have many positions available.

Dennis Lynch - 347 N. McLean - Leader in the Sierra Club - Mr. Lynch stated that he is on the Citizens Advisory Committee and thanked MLGW for including him in that. Mr. Lynch stated that he would be giving his advice. Mr. Lynch stated that he was a little concerned that the four watch words of MLGW 2045 are not easy to recall or remember. Mr. Lynch stated that these should be things that come off the tongue easily. Mr. Lynch gave some additional thoughts about the watch words and energy efficiency. Mr. Lynch stated that he hopes that burning of gas would come to an end and that hopefully that was in the planning for MLGW 2045. Mr. Lynch asked what MLGW could do to install solar panels on MLGW and City property now, maybe behind the meter where TVA has no say about the generation. Mr. Lynch asked if MLGW has a list of all locations where this might be possible? Mr. Lynch stated that he would like to see the list.

Glenda Hicks - 608 Gilleas Road - Co-founder of 21st Century Memphis or Bust - Ms. Hicks stated that she was here on behalf of members of 21st Century Memphis or Bust in regard to the ongoing billing issues. We have members that are experiencing delayed bills for more than a year. Ms. Hicks stated that she had been here before regarding this issue, but the data they were provided just didn't add up. Ms. Hicks stated that as a Retiree of MLGW she knows how tirelessly MLGW employees work. Ms. Hicks stated that the image that we are presenting today is not one of excellence and accuracy when it comes to billing. Ms. Hicks implored the Board to get this billing issue resolved. Ms. Hicks believes that we should treat our customers like they are our investors.

Review 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 22)

**CONSENT AGENDA
(Items 1 through 12)**

Commissioner Person asked for clarification as to the amount that an item must require City Council approval because there was some issue at the City Council the day before. President McGowen responded that the current requirement is anything over \$250,000.00 all in, must be approved by the City Council.

Chairman Dickson asked about any effort to go paperless. President McGowen responded that he would have to get some information as to the plan to go paperless. Vice Chairman Pohlman asked if we could get a breakdown of printing expenses and do we keep track of that? President McGowen stated that he would get that information for him.

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Mitch Graves, Board Member
SECONDER:	Michael Pohlman, Vice Chairman
AYES:	Pohlman, Pesce, Person, Graves, Dickson

James Lewellen – Concur

John Butler - Concur

VP of CUSTOMER EXPERIENCE and ENERGY SERVICES

1. Resolution awarding purchase order to WESCO Distribution, Inc., in the amount of \$792,000.00 for electric smart meters. (Randy Orsby) (REQUIRES CITY COUNCIL APPROVAL)

CHIEF INFORMATION OFFICER

(None)

COMMUNITY & EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

2. Resolution approving Change No. 2 to Contract No. 12333, High-Speed Color Production Digital Printing Press, to Konica Minolta Business Solutions USA, Incorporated, to ratify and extend purchase order #7003484 under Contract No. 12333, in the funded amount of \$81,132.48. (Randy Orsby)

3. Resolution approving Change No. 2 to Contract No. 12334, high-speed black and white production digital printing press to Konica Minolta Business Solutions INC, Incorporated, to ratify and extend purchase order #7014995 under Contract No. 12334, in the Funded Amount of \$143,075.86. (Randy Orsby)

DESIGN CONSTRUCTION & DELIVERY

4. Resolution approval of Change No. 1 to Contract No. 12389, LED Streetlight Conversion to Ameresco, Inc., in the Funded Amount of \$10,000,000.00. (Randy Orsby) (REQUIRES CITY COUNCIL APPROVAL)

ENGINEERING & OPERATIONS

5. Resolution approving Change No. 3 to Contract No. 12335, Davis #3 Variable Frequency Drive (VFD) Replacement, to Shelby Electric Company, Incorporated, to extend the current contract with no increase in the contract value. (Randy Orsby)
6. Resolution approving Change No. 2 to Contract No. 12358, professional engineering services for water engineering, to Barge Design Solutions, Inc., in the Funded Amount of \$200,000.00. (Randy Orsby)
7. Resolution awarding Contract No.12473. Wireless FirstNet Services, to AT&T Mobility, in the Funded Amount of \$2,317,939.14. (Randy Orsby) (REQUIRES CITY COUNCIL APPROVAL)
8. Resolution awarding Contract No. 12449, On-Call Boring to Memphis Road Boring Company, Inc., in the funded amount of \$5,853,000.00. (Randy Orsby) (REQUIRES CITY COUNCIL APPROVAL)

PRESIDENT

(None)

SVP, CFO & CAO, FINANCE

9. Resolution approving Change No. 2 to Contract No. 12286, MLGW Utility Payment Centers, to FirsTech, Incorporated, in the Funded Amount of \$211,520.00. (Randy Orsby)

SVP, CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER

(None)

SHARED SERVICES

10. Resolution awarding a thirty-six month purchase order for ductile iron pipe to Enfinity Supply, LLC in the amount of \$901,598.19. (Randy Orsby) (REQUIRES CITY COUNCIL APPROVAL)

11. Resolution approving Change No. 1 to Contract No. 12411 for on-call consulting services, to Barge Design Solutions, Inc., in the Funded Amount of \$300,000.00. (Randy Orsby) (REQUIRES CITY COUNCIL APPROVAL)

VP & GENERAL COUNSEL

(None)

CHIEF PEOPLE OFFICER

12. Resolution awarding Contract No.12483, Survey Administration Solutions, to Korn Ferry, in the Funded Amount not-to-exceed \$395, 189. (Randy Orsby) (REQUIRES CITY COUNCIL APPROVAL)

PRESIDENT'S BRIEFING CONT'D**Other – President Doug McGowen**

President McGowen gave an update on the Streetlights. President McGowen previously stated that we had several thousand lights that needed to be converted. Our team along with some contractors are knocking out about 1,000 a week so we are really knocking them out. President McGowen stated that there is substantial work to be done on improving underground infrastructure and he is thankful for the team doing that work.

President McGowen spoke about 2045 MLGW. President McGowen mentioned the feedback from Mr. Lynch and stated that is because we are underway with our public meetings. We first had a meeting with our key account customers here at MLGW Headquarters. We had our Community Advisory Council which Mr. Lynch is a member of, and last night we held our first community meeting at the Benjamin Hooks Library. We had some community members show up and provide us some input. President McGowen addressed Mr. Lynch's comments regarding the watch words and what the green arrow in the MLGW 2045 Logo represents. President McGowen stated that tomorrow night we will be at the Hickory Hill Community Center. President McGowen mentioned that last night at the Benjamin Hooks Library, Commissioner Pesce showed up and was a meaningful part of the dialogue. Two City Councilman showed up, Councilman Spinoza and Councilman Canali. It was really nice to see their support. President McGowen stated that we are going to have a community meeting in every council district so we are hopeful that we will get support from the City Council.

President McGowen gave an update on the PLTE purchase. President McGowen did confirm that the purchase price was \$27 million. President McGowen stated that the FCC has approved that purchase and that there is a tentative finalization of that on April 9, 2024, which will be the end period for any commentary for the FCC about any challenges that might come up.

President McGowen stated that at the next meeting he will give an update on tree trimming, replacing outdated infrastructure, and modernizing our grid. President McGowen stated that will largely be in the area of Orange Mound as you know that was the area that we had the most challenging reliability.

Advisory Board Member Butler asked President McGowen to relay back to the team thanks and appreciation regarding LED expansion and installation

President McGowen also addressed the Billing Issues. President McGowen stated that we have brought in additional help. President McGowen stated that he will provide an update at next meeting. President McGowen stated that he wants to be responsive and make sure that we serve our customers the way they deserve to be served. President McGowen stated that he is fully committed to get that done.

Commissioner Pesce acknowledged 85-year anniversary of MLGW. Commissioner Pesce stated that is a great company to work with, to work for and we have great leadership. Commissioner Pesce is excited to see what the future holds.

Commissioner Graves stated that he thought everybody was getting a bill even if an estimated bill. President McGowen stated that there are still a few that we are still working on because of the complexity of the issue. President McGowen promised an update at the next meeting.

Commissioner Person asked if anyone has been cut off due to delayed bills? President McGowen stated that these people have been put on do not cut-off list.

Chairman Dickson asked about the programs we have in place to help customers who have not received a bill in a year. President McGowen and Dana Jeanes responded.

Greater Memphis Chamber Update - Ted Townsend

Mr. Ted Townsend appeared before the Board. Mr. Townsend congratulated MLGW on their 85th Year Anniversary. Mr. Townsend acknowledged the critical partnership between the Chamber and MLGW and commended many MLGW employees on their critical partnership with the Chamber. Mr. Townsend described the Chambers focus areas. Mr. Townsend discussed in detail the Chamber's strategic planning project called Prosper Memphis 2030. Mr. Townsend provided information about new companies, projects, and workforce that will be coming to Memphis and how MLGW is an integrate part of making Memphis an attractive and reliable place for these businesses. Mr. Townsend also discussed workforce development programs.

Commissioner Person asked that we provide a monthly update on the agenda regarding billing issues. Commissioner Person also asked that we take whatever steps necessary to make changes to the Charter so that the MLGW Board of Commissioners consist of seven voting commissioners two of which may reside outside of the City of Memphis, but in Shelby County, Tennessee.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Supplier Diversity Quarterly Report - Tamara Pate

Tamara Pate, Supplier Diversity Coordinator, presented to the Board the Supplier Diversity Report covering January 1, 2023 through December 31, 2023. Ms. Pate stated that looking at the fourth quarter, we have contracted over \$71 million with minority women and local small businesses for a total of 33% of MLGW's total diversity spend. We have purchased over \$42 million with minority women and local small businesses, accounting for 37% of our total diversity spend impact. Ms. Pate reported that closing out our fourth quarter, we have procured \$113 million dollars in supplier diversity spend accounting for 34% of MLGW's total procurement spend which includes \$29.5 million with minority owned firms, roughly \$18.5 million with our women owned firms, and over \$65 million with locally owned small businesses. Ms. Pate continued her report to give additional information on sheltered markets, small business spend, women owned businesses, and multi-class spend. Ms. Pate also provided information on the MLGW Procurement Fair.

HR Committee Report - Jacqueline Jones

Mrs. Jackie Jones, VP of Human Performance came before the Board. Mrs. Jones stated that each Commissioner received their quarterly HR Committee Booklet when they had the HR Committee Meeting back in February, so today she was going to focus on our wellness strategies. Mrs. Jones discussed the reasons why these health strategies are important to us. Mrs. Jones turned the meeting over to Loretta Poindexter, Supervisor of Insurance, Beverly Taylor, Wellness Coordinator, and Marcus Tate, Manager of Pension and Insurance. Beverly Taylor presented to the Commissioners the components of our Wellness Program which are physical, emotional, environmental, financial, and social. Ms. Taylor then described each in detail and the things we are doing in each area. Ms. Taylor discussed the new MLGW Clinic located at 1215 Poplar and Bike Share. Ms. Taylor provided Biometric participation for 2023 compared to 2022. Ms. Taylor gave information on the dental screenings that were held at MLGW locations. Ms. Taylor informed the Board that because we demonstrated a strong commitment to improving the health and wellbeing of our employees, MLGW was awarded a Gold Recipient of the 2023 Healthy Workforce Designation.


Kato Johnson, III, Cigna Engagement Consultant, came before the Board to provide additional information as to the designation and congratulate the team.

ADJOURNMENT:

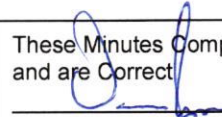
Chairman Dickson mentioned that it would be neat to have a presentation on how far we have come in eighty-five years and how the industry has developed. President McGowen responded stating that there are booklets with some of that information in it, and that we would certainly try to get something together.

There being no further meeting, the meeting was adjourned at 10:03 a.m. (See Minutes File No. 1492)

Approved Without Interlineation


Chairman

These Minutes Compiled by Undersigned
and are Correct


Secretary-Treasurer