

# Board of Light, Gas and Water Commissioners 220 S. Main Street Memphis, TN 38103

## **Board Meeting**

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~ Minutes ~

Wednesday, November 19, 2025

8:30 AM

**Board Room** 

For a recording of this meeting visit: https://mlgw.iqm2.com/Citizens/Default.aspx

CALL TO ORDER AND OPENING REMARKS:

Chairman Pohlman

The meeting was called to order at 8:29 a.m.

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 |         |
| Mitch Graves    | Board Member          | Present |         |
| Leon Dickson    | Board Member          | Present |         |
| James Lewellen  | Advisory Board Member | Absent  |         |
| John Butler     | Advisory Board Member | Present |         |

#### APPROVALS:

Chairman Pohlman

Motion To: Approve Minutes from the Meeting of November 5, 2025.

RESULT:

ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]

MOVER:

Mitch Graves, Board Member

SECONDER: Carl Person, Vice Chairman

AYES:

Pohlman, Pesce, Person, Graves, Dickson

#### CITY COUNCIL ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS & UPDATE:

Rodney Cleek

Acknowledged receipt of Certified Copies of City Council Resolutions dated November 4, 2025, Items 10 through 28, with Same Night Minutes for Item #18. (See Minute File No. 1512)

#### PRESENTATIONS:

(None)

## GENERAL STATEMENT(S) FROM THE PUBLIC:

<u>Chairman Pohlman</u> read into record the policies and procedures of making public comments before the Board.

<u>Joe Kent - 5111 Flamingo</u> - Mr. Kent appeared before the Board mentioning that many MLGW Executives come from the Strickland Administration. Mr. Kent discussed his thoughts on corrupt contracts. Mr. Kent responded to President McGowen's statements providing justification for the amount of the tree trimming contracts and budgeted funds for tree trimming. Mr. Kent requested that the CFO comment on Mr. Kents estimates for the tree trimming contracts.

Sarah Houston - 200 Wagner Place - Executive Director for Protect Our Aquifer - Ms. Houston appeared before the Board to discuss the status of the Lead Service Line Replacement effort. Ms. Houston mentioned the MLGW was doing a great job with advisory boards and providing information, but that those efforts have died off. Ms. Houston provided information as to why this project was important and the grant funds available. Ms. Houston requested the MLGW provide information as to what is the acceptable refusal rate, what is acceptable non-contact rate, and what is our approach when dealing with rental properties and contacting landlords. Ms. Houston asked that MLGW restore the interactive neighborhood groups, establish stakeholder groups, and report lessons learned and progress of this initiative.

# Review of Consent Agenda – <u>President Doug McGowen</u>

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 118)

#### **CONSENT AGENDA**

(Items 1 through 17)

Motion to: Approve Consent Agenda Items 1 through 17

RESULT: APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER: Mitch Graves, Board Member
SECONDER: Cheryl Pesce, Board Member

AYES: Pohlman, Pesce, Person, Graves, Dickson

Advisory Board Member John Butler - Concurs

Advisory Board Member James Lewellen – Absent

Motion To: Approve Same Day Minutes for Items 7 and 13.

RESULT: ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]

MOVER: Cheryl Pesce, Board Member SECONDER: Mitch Graves, Board Member

AYES: Pohlman, Pesce, Person, Graves, Dickson

Commissioners had an opportunity to ask questions. MLGW Staff responded.

- 1. Resolution awarding Contract No. 12659, MLGW Control Center Planning and Designing Services to Robert E. Lamb, Inc. in the funded amount of \$5,111,750.00. (Randy Orsby) (REQUIRES CITY COUNCIL APPROVAL)
- 2. Resolution awarding Contract No.12656. Transmission Planning Process, Interconnection Studies Support, & Facility Ratings Support and Advisory Services, to GDS Associates, Inc., in the Funded Amount of \$775,500.00.(Randy Orsby) (REQUIRES CITY COUNCIL APPROVAL)
- 3. Resolution approving Renewal (Change No. 2) to Contract No. 12408, Environmental Consulting Services with BH&M Environmental Consultants, Incorporated to renew the current contract in the funded not-to-exceed amount of \$8,400,000.00. (Randy Orsby) (REQUIRES CITY COUNCIL APPROVAL)
- 4. Resolution approving Renewal (Change No. 3) to Contract No. 12446 (solicited under Contract No. 12407), Environmental Abatement Services with Northwest Contracting Services, Incorporated to renew the current contract in the funded not-to-exceed amount of \$8,000,000.00. (Randy Orsby) (REQUIRES CITY COUNCIL APPROVAL)
- 5. Resolution approving Renewal (Change No. 2) to Contract No. 12407, Environmental Abatement Services with General Construction Services, Incorporated to renew the current contract in the funded not-to-exceed amount of \$1,932,000.00. (Randy Orsby) (REQUIRES CITY COUNCIL APPROVAL)
- Resolution approving Extension, Scope Change and Increase (Change No. 1) to Contract No. 12649 (formerly Contract No. C2839), Nutanix Support and Maintenance with CDW Government, LLC to extend, expand the scope and increase the current contract in the funded amount of \$725,000.00. (Randy Orsby) (REQUIRES CITY COUNCIL APPROVAL)
- 7. Resolution awarding Contract No. 12617, Phase II Private Side Lead Service Line Replacement to Acuff Enterprises, Inc. in the funded amount of \$5,175,075.00. (Randy Orsby) (REQUIRES CITY COUNCIL APPROVAL) (SAME DAY MINUTES REQUESTED)

- 8. Resolution approving Increase (Change No. 1) to Contract No. 12655 (formerly Contract No. C2609), ARP Administration Engineering Services with ABES Engineering, Inc. to increase the current contract in the funded amount of \$50,000.00 (Randy Orsby) (REQUIRES CITY COUNCIL APPROVAL)
- 9. Resolution renewing (Change No. 3) to Contract No. 12424, Water Well Production Drilling with National Water Services, LLC to renew the current contract in the funded amount of \$6,500,000.00. (Randy Orsby) (REQUIRES CITY COUNCIL APPROVAL)
- Resolution approving Ratification and Renewal (Change No. 1) to Contract No. 12512, Master Paving Program - Sections 1 and 3 with Lehman-Roberts Company to ratify and renew the current contract in the funded amount of \$10,307,087.40. (Randy Orsby) (REQUIRES CITY COUNCIL APPROVAL)
- 11. Resolution approving Ratification and Renewal (Change No. 2) to Contract No. 12540 (solicited under Contract No. 12512), Master Paving Program Section 2 with VuCon, LLC, to ratify and renew the current contract in the funded amount of \$6,968,115.36. (Randy Orsby) (REQUIRES CITY COUNCIL APPROVAL)
- Resolution awarding purchase order for 750 KCM cable to Universal Scaffold and Equipment in the amount of \$379,121.00. (Randy Orsby) (REQUIRES CITY COUNCIL APPROVAL)
- 13. Resolution approving a Lease Agreement with Palmer Logistics (Midwest 2) Assets, LLC for approximately 160,000 square feet of warehouse space located at 4400 4500 Quality Dr., Memphis, TN, in the total funded amount of \$2,704,930.20. (Von Goodloe) (REQUIRES CITY COUNCIL APPROVAL)
- 14. Resolution approving Ratification and Renewal (Change No. 1) to Contract No. 12532 (formerly Contract No. C2716), Video Management and Hardware Maintenance with Convergint Technologies, LLC to ratify and renew the current contract in the funded amount of \$350,000.00. (Randy Orsby) (REQUIRES CITY COUNCIL APPROVAL)
- 15. Resolution awarding purchase order for connector set screws to Engineered Sealing Components in the amount of \$283,080.00. (Randy Orsby) (REQUIRES CITY COUNCIL APPROVAL)
- Resolution approving Scope Change, Increase and Extension (Change No. 1) to Contract No. 12249 ESource Membership Agreement through TVPPA to E Source Companies LLC to expand the scope, increase and extend the current contract in the funded amount of \$1,881,490.00. (Randy Orsby) (REQUIRES CITY COUNCIL APPROVAL)

17. Resolution approving Renewal (Change No. 2) to Contract No. 12566 (formerly Contract No. C2678), Chartwell Membership with Chartwell, Inc. to renew the current contract in the funded amount of \$80,470.00. (Randy Orsby) (REQUIRES CITY COUNCIL APPROVAL)

## PRESIDENT'S BRIEFING

# Other - Doug McGowen

<u>President McGowen</u> addressed Mr. Kent's comments correcting a comment that was made at the City Council last night and apologized for the confusion. President McGowen also addressed the comments of Ms. Houston. President McGowen thought the ideas she presented were great and provided some updated information regarding the Lead Service Line Replacement Project.

<u>President McGowen</u> provided a handout to the Board Members with a pre-briefing of an update on the billing issues.

<u>President McGowen</u> thanked the Board and the City Council for approving our 2026 Budget. President McGowen stated that when the Board approved the Budget we were still in negotiation with the IBEW regarding the salary increase for bargaining unit employees. President McGowen reported that we have now come to an agreement and those employees will be receiving a 3 percent raise. President McGowen mentioned that it did change the 2026 Budget slightly as we had originally factored in a 2.5 percent increase. President McGowen informed the Board that we would be bringing a Resolution to ratify the Budget at the next Board Meeting for the Board to approve.

<u>President McGowen</u> mentioned the Government Shutdown stating that our customers are still being affected by that. President McGowen stated that we are still working to provide relief for our customers and will do so for up to 30 days after the Government begins operating again. President McGowen mentioned the generous contribution from the City of Memphis to assist customers with their utility bills.

<u>President McGowen</u> provided an update on the Division Wide Safety Conference for Supervisors and above that included our first ever Town Hall for Employees. President McGowen thanked the Safety Team for all their hard work in putting that conference together. President McGowen mentioned the great speakers that were at the Conference. President McGowen stated that both events were a huge success.

<u>President McGowen</u> provided the Board with a heads up regarding upcoming PILOT Payments that will need the Boards approval with Same Day Minutes.

<u>President McGowen</u> reported to the Board MLGW's involvement in several community events to include the expansion of HICO, Tree Lighting at the Memphis Zoo, Weaver-Gill Feast, thanking those neighbors for putting up with us, and Charles Davis Park, to celebrate the increase in reliability due to the infrastructure improvements in the Orange Mound Area. President McGowen stated that Councilwoman-Elect Swearengen-Washington made comments and stated that her people are definitely seeing the results in reliability. President McGowen also mentioned that we are sponsoring the Holiday Wonders at the Botanical Gardens that starts the Friday after Thanksgiving. President McGowen encouraged everyone to get out to see some of these great events in Memphis and visit some great restaurants.

<u>President McGowen</u> also mentioned that while at the Charles Davis Park on Monday, someone reported that there was a cat that had been stuck at the top of a pole for several days. President McGowen reported that at the end of our ceremony, MLGW and our partners, Elliot Electric, used a bucket truck that was at the event to retrieve the cat from the pole safely. President McGowen stated that the cat was named Edison and after a visit to the vet and a thorough hunt for the owner, a member of our Corporate Communications Team provided Edison with a home.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

## **Human Resources Committee Report - Alonzo Weaver**

Alonzo Weaver, SVP, Chief Operating Officer and Interim Chief People Officer, provided the Board with an update of the Human Resources Committee Meeting on November 5, 2025. Mr. Weaver informed the Board that there is a Committee Report available at their leisure. Mr. Weaver reported that we just completed negotiations and a four-year agreement with the IBEW. Mr. Weaver applauded the efforts of MLGW and the IBEW. Mr. Weaver reported that this is Employee Resource Group (ERG) Week listing several events that were scheduled. Mr. Weaver discussed ERGs and encouraged employees to get involved in an ERG. Mr. Weaver discussed upcoming appraisals and updates to the appraisal rating scale and when they are due. Mr. Weaver reported that we just finished open enrollment for employee benefits. Mr. Weaver mentioned policy changes and our human performance surveys.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:45 a.m. (See Minute File No. 1512)

Approved Without Interlineation

Chairman

These Minutes Compiled by Undersigned and are Correct

Secretary-Treasurer