



**Board of Light, Gas and Water Commissioners**

220 S. Main Street  
 Memphis, TN 38103  
[www.mlgw.com](http://www.mlgw.com)

**Board Meeting**

~ Minutes ~

**Wednesday, April 3, 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.

**ROLL CALL:**

**Dana Jeanes**

Attendee Name	Title	Status	Arrived
Michael Pohlman	Vice Chairman	Present	
Cheryl Pesce	Board Member	Present	
Carl Person	Board Member	Absent	
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 March 20, 2024.

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

**CITY COUNCIL ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS & UPDATE:**

**Dana Jeanes**

Receipt of Certified Copy of City Council Resolution date March 19, 2024, Item 31 with Same Night Minutes.

**PRESENTATIONS:**

(None)

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

Joe B. Kent - 5111 Flamingo - Mr. Kent thanked the Board for not voting to expanding the Board to include suburban communities and urged the Board to vote for the suburban expansion once the Landlord Registry is passed in the Tennessee General Assembly. Mr. Kent asked the Board to be resourceful and have the formal First Horizon Financial Executive, Chairman of the Tennessee Utilities Committee, and Chairman of the National Civil Rights Museum, Mr. Herb Hilliard to come before the

Board to see if Mr. Hilliard thinks that it is a good idea to keep \$100 million plus in excess cash on the MLGW Cash Balance Sheet. Mr. Kent stated that he has been unable to get MLGW's December 2023 Financials. Mr. Kent stated that transparency has gotten worse since the 12% rate increase. Mr. Kent asked if that was the plan of the Board to go non-transparent after the rate increase? Mr. Kent asked the Board if they are saying it is ok to talk about 2045, but not talk about last year? Mr. Kent stated that he assumed the Board did not have the financials either since they haven't been shared with him. Mr. Kent questioned how the Board was able to do their job without timely monthly financials. Lastly, Mr. Kent asked the Board if they would be willing to fund a mutually beneficial watchdog services in the amount of \$240,000.00?

**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 36)

**CONSENT AGENDA**

(Items 1 through 9)

**RESULT:** APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]  
**MOVER:** Mitch Graves, Board Member  
**SECONDER:** Cheryl Pesce, Board Member  
**AYES:** Michael Pohlman, Cheryl Pesce, Mitch Graves, Leon Dickson  
**ABSENT:** Carl Person

James Lewellen – concurs  
John Butler - concurs

**VP of CUSTOMER EXPERIENCE and ENERGY SERVICES**

(None)

**CHIEF INFORMATION OFFICER**

(None)

**COMMUNITY & EXTERNAL AFFAIRS**

- 1. Resolution awarding Contract No. 12451, Two (2) Monochrome High-Speed Production Digital Printing Presses to Konica Minolta Business Solutions, U.S.A., Inc., in the funded amount of \$588,336.00. (Randy Orsby) (REQUIRES CITY COUNCIL APPROVAL)

**VP ELECTRIC ENGINEERING & OPERATIONS**

2. Resolution awarding Contract No. 12444, Palmer Filter Valve and Actuator Replacement to Chris Hill Construction Company, LLC in the funded amount of \$782,090.00. (Randy Orsby) (REQUIRES CITY COUNCIL APPROVAL)
3. Resolution approving Change No. 3 to Contract No. 12336, Morton Distributed Process Control (DPC) Installation to Tri-State Armature & Electrical Works, Incorporated to ratify and extend the current contract with no increase in the contract value. (Randy Orsby)

**VP WATER & GAS ENGINEERING & OPERATIONS**

4. Resolution approving payment of annual sewer discharge fee for the 2023 filter backwash discharge to City of Memphis Public Works Department in the amount of \$598,643.50. (Chandrika Winston-Rosser) (REQUIRES CITY COUNCIL APPROVAL)
5. Resolution approving Change No. 3 to Contract No. 12188, Gas Leak Survey with Heath Consultants, Inc. to ratify and renew the current contract in the funded amount of \$1,466,397.70. (Randy Orsby) (REQUIRES CITY COUNCIL APPROVAL)

**PRESIDENT**

(None)

**SVP, CFO & CAO, FINANCE**

(None)

**SVP, CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER**

(None)

**SHARED SERVICES**

6. Resolution awarding purchase order to Engineered Sealing Components LLC, for arm apitong dead-end 96" in the amount of \$1,429,420.00. (Randy Orsby) (REQUIRES CITY COUNCIL APPROVAL)
7. Resolution approving an in-kind donation to the Memphis Shelby County School District of certain MLGW equipment that is beyond its useful service life for MLGW with estimated value of \$76,000.00. (Randy Orsby)
8. Resolution approving ratification of Purchase Order Number 7053566 to Lonnie Cobb Ford for half-ton pickup trucks in the amount of \$779,004.00. (Randy Orsby) (REQUIRES CITY COUNCIL APPROVAL)
9. Resolution approving Change No. 4 to Contract No. 12193, Grounds Maintenance and Landscaping Service with Rotolo Consultants, Incorporated to ratify and renew the current contract in the funded amount of \$20,848.14. (Randy Orsby) (REQUIRES CITY COUNCIL APPROVAL)

**VP & GENERAL COUNSEL**

(None)

**CHIEF PEOPLE OFFICER**

(None)

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

President McGowen presented to the Board the CEO Report. President McGowen discussed the storm that rolled through the area yesterday, April 2, 2024. President McGowen reported that the storm caused a lot of lightning damage to our substations and a high voltage line was impacted that serves two substations. President McGowen stated that we restored power to our customers in about two hours. Advisory Board Member Butler asked about lightning protection for substations. President McGowen responded stating that a bullet proof vest isn't bullet proof. Advisory Board Member Butler said he just wanted to bring to light to our customers that we can't prevent nature.

Ursula Madden, Vice President of Corporate Communications provided an overview of the various communications sent out yesterday concerning the storm and the restoration of power.

President McGowen provided an update on overall reliability. President McGowen reported that the Customer Minutes Interrupted (CMI) for 2024 is 18 minutes. President McGowen reported that the Average Service Availability Index (ASAI), the percentage of time that the power is available for our customers for 2024 is 99.95%. In 2023, the Average Service Availability Index was 99.91%. The target is at or above 99.97%. President McGowen provided an update as to the Infrastructure Improvement Plan. The first part of the plan is tree trimming. As of March 26, 2024, we have completed 802.5 miles which is more than was trimmed in a years' time in the past four or five years. The second part is updating infrastructure. President McGowen provided an update on substation transformer replacements, substation breaker replacements, wood pole replacements, underground cable replacement, cast iron retrofit completion, steel tap replacements, gas transmission pipelines, gas regulator stations, and water infrastructure updates.

President McGowen gave an update on the Orange Mound Initiative. President McGowen noted that this area had poor reliability so in an effort to improve the reliability, we have partnered with SYNC Energy AI to pilot their intelligent vegetation management system which uses artificial intelligence, satellite imagery, and LiDAR to determine at-risk vegetation. President McGowen stated that partnered with a company to use drones to identify maintenance and replacement needed to increase reliability. President McGowen stated that Contractor Davis Elliot is working to complete 352 repairs that have been identified.

President McGowen reported to the Board that MLGW is preparing an application to the Department of Energy Grid Resilience and Innovation Partnerships Program for the Orange Mound Neighborhood initiative seeking a \$21 Million grant which would bring the Orange Mound-Sherwood Forest area up to modern standards, improve customer's overall reliability, and increase grid resiliency during major weather events.

Advisory Board Member Butler stated that he likes the dashboard approach of President McGowen's presentation but asked for some more background information such as the overall number of resources or team members and a breakdown of contractors and internal employees. President McGowen stated that we have that information and are happy to provide it. President McGowen said that we are going to do what we said we would do. Advisory Board Member Butler stated that we have to get our story out.

Commissioner Pesce and Chief McGowen recognized City Council Members that were in attendance: Chairman JB Smiley, Jr., Councilwoman Jerri Green, Councilwoman Yolanda Cooper-Sutton, and Councilwoman Pearl Walker.

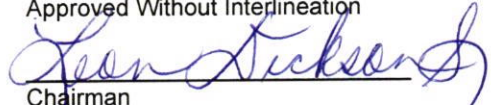
President McGowen mentioned that we provided the Commissioners with our 2024 Utility Comparison in which we compare our residential bills for services to 40 cities in the United States. President McGowen reported that we are still the lowest three service utility. President McGowen also reported that we are very competitive with commercial as well.

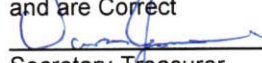
**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

(None)

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:30 a.m.

Approved Without Interlineation  
  
Chairman

These Minutes Compiled by Undersigned  
and are Correct  
  
Secretary-Treasurer