



MINUTES  
COHASSET PUBLIC UTILITY BOARD  
305 NW FIRST AVENUE, COHASSET, MN 55721  
MONDAY, MARCH 04, 2024 – 12:00 P.M.

**1. Call to Order:** Chair Jack Yates called the meeting to order at 12:00p.m.

**2. Roll Call**

**Present:** Jack Yates, Delbert Anderson, Jim Mahon, Romona Sjostrand, and Barbara Baird

**Absent with Notice:** Rachel Graf and Ernie Braunschweig

**Ex-Officio Members:** Councilor Terry Bartz, Public Works/Public Utilities Supervisor Walter Shadley, Mayor Andy MacDonell, and City Administrator Max Peters.

**Others:** None

**3. Approve the Agenda**

**Additions:** Item 11 – Update Grand Rapids Area Cable Commission (ICTV Cable Company)

**Deletions:** None

*A motion was made by member Barbara Baird to approve March 4, 2024 agenda with addition of item 11 to provide an update on the ICTV Cable Commission. Member Romona Sjostrand seconded the motion. Voting in favor: CPUB Members Jim Mahon, Jack Yates, Delbert Anderson, Romona Sjostrand, and Barbara Baird; Voting against: None; Absent: Rachel Graf and Ernie Braunschweig; Motion carried.*

**4. Resident Input:** None

**5. Approve the February 5, 2024 CPUB Minutes**

Amendments made to item 9 – Utility Rate Presentation.

*A motion was made by Chair Jack Yates to approve February 5, 2024 minutes with the amendment of item 9 Utility Rate Presentation. Member Barb Baird seconded the motion. Voting in favor: CPUB Members Jim Mahon, Jack Yates, Delbert Anderson, Romona Sjostrand, and Barbara Baird; Voting against: None; Absent: Rachel Graf and Ernie Braunschweig; Motion carried.*

**6. Appointment Chair, Vice Chair, and Secretary**

City Council approved the appointment of Chair, Jack Yates, Vice Chair, Barbara Baird and Secretary, Ramona Sjostrand on February 26, 2024

## 7. Public Hearing Ordinance – Rescheduled

City Council had to cancel the scheduled Public Hearing for February 20, 2024, due to not having a quorum. The Public Hearing is now scheduled for March 19, 2024 at 7:05pm to update Ordinance 11 Cohasset Public Utility Board name change

## 8. CPUB Accomplishments & Goals

City Council was presented with the CPUB 2023 accomplishments and 2024 goals as follows: 2023 accomplishments included bylaws, third party rate discussion in July/August, and natural gas expansion in October. 2024 goals are to review the overall impact on utilities for the water & sewer expansion and the Riverfront project and to review infrastructure for water & sewer

## 9. Water and Sewer Expansion

City Administrator, Max Peters, presented an update on the water and sewer expansion plans. Current sewer goes from Highway 2 to County Road 63 and where the boundary of Cohasset lies, then follows south to County Road 76, then East to Golf Course Rd. The expansion, on the environmental standpoint, would help result in removal of septic tanks from surrounding the lakes. Itasca County has a roadway project to repave Hwy 63, in their five-year plan. We are working with Itasca County to see if we could implement phases for some of the expansion of this project at the same time. Discussion of moving North is less of a priority with lower population in that direction. The main discussion being held is finding funding and arguable what the impact will be on the revenue that comes with it. If all permitting is approved, the revenue generated from water use for MN Technologies, in the Industrial Park, would pay for this water and sewer expansion project.

## 10. Miscellaneous Business and FYI's

Max Peters also spoke on the main need for the City of Cohasset, is finding a developer. The City has finished a portion of dredging for the public boat mooring project along the Riverfront.

## 11. Grand Rapids Area Cable Commission (ICTV)

CPUB member, Romona Sjostrand, shared an update from the Grand Rapids Area Cable Commissions meeting on February 12, 2024. The main concern was that not many are using cable companies anymore with the availability of streaming services. They are looking to add a fee to streaming services to make up the loss of revenue. Max Peters shared that a letter was written from the City of Cohasset in support and that \$33,000.00 is annually paid to the GRACC in peg fees. Discussion was held about requesting additional details on the financials and what needs they are seeking. The GRACC is working to accommodate Romona Sjostrand's schedule for meetings, to allow the same attendee from the City of Cohasset for each meeting.

*A motion was made by member Jim Mahon to adjourn the meeting. Member Barbara Baird seconded the motion. Voting in favor: CPUB Members, Jim Mahon, Jack Yates, Delbert Anderson, Ramona Sjostrand, and Barbara Baird; Voting against: None; Absent: Rachel Graf and Ernie Braunschweig; Motion carried.*

Meeting adjourned at 1:02 p.m.

	1/8/24	2/5/24	3/4/24	4/1/24	5/6/24	6/3/24	7/1/24	8/5/24	9/9/24	10/7/24	11/4/24	12/2/24
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C. – J. Yates	P	P	P												
V. – B. Baird	P	P	P												
S. – R. Sjostrand	EA	P	P												
D. Anderson	P	P	P												
E. Braunschweig	P	P	EA												
R. Graf	P	P	EA												
J. Mahon	P	P	P												
P: Present				NM: No Meeting				EA: Excused Absence				UA: Unexcused Absence			

Submitted by Assoc. Deputy Clerk Treasurer Sarah Grunwald  
 Approved: 4/1/2024