



**MINUTES
COHASSET PUBLIC UTILITY BOARD
305 NW FIRST AVENUE, COHASSET, MN 55721
MONDAY, JANUARY 6, 2025**

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

2. Roll Call

Present: Chair Jack Yates, Ramona Sjostrand, Delbert Anderson, and Jim Mahon

Absent with notice: Rachel Graf

Others: Zoning Officer; Tony Valtinson

3. Review and Approve the Agenda

A motion was made by public utility board member Ramona Sjostrand to approve the agenda . Member Jim Mahon seconded the motion. Voting in favor: Chair Jack Yates, Vice Chair Ramona Sjostrand, Delbert Anderson and Jim Mahon. Absent: Rachel Graf Voting against: None; Motion carried.

4. Resident Input

None

5. 2025 CPUB Meeting Schedule

The meeting schedule was reviewed, with a focus on adjusting the September 1st meeting. After discussion, it was moved to September 9th at noon.

A motion was made by public utility board member, Ramona Sjostrand, to approve the CPUB meeting schedule for 2025 with a change to the September 1, 2025, meeting to Tuesday September 9th due to the Labor Day holiday. Member Delbert Anderson seconded the motion. Voting in favor: Chair Jack Yates, Vice Chair Ramona Sjostrand, Delbert Anderson and Jim Mahon. Absent: Rachel Graf Voting against: None; Motion carried.

6. 2025 CPUB Members Appointments

Ramona Sjostrand was accepted for another term on the CPUB.

A motion was made by public utility board member Jim Mahon to accept that Ramona Sjostrand be reappointed as a public utility board member. Member Delbert Anderson seconded the motion. Voting in favor: Chair Jack Yates, Delbert Anderson, and Jim Mahon. Absent: Rachel Graf Voting against: None; Motion carried.

7. 2025 CPUB Members accept or decline nominations.

Ramona Sjostrand accepted the CPUB Vice Chair and Secretary member positions.

8. CPUB Member Vacancy

Cohasset Public Utility Board has two vacancies on the board and plan to advertise to fill the positions.

A motion was made by public utility board member, Jim Mahon to solicit applications for the vacancies of public utility board members positions. Member Ramona Sjostrand seconded the motion. Voting in favor: Chair Jack Yates, Vice Chair Ramona Sjostrand, Delbert Anderson and Jim Mahon. Absent: Rachel Graf Voting against: None; Motion carried.

9. Streetlight at North End of SW 9th Ave. (Zoning Officer)

Zoning Officer, Tony Valtinson, discussed with the public utility board members a request from a resident that the city take over a streetlight the resident had installed themselves years ago. The light is on city property, and the residents have been paying for it since 2007. The light is located on a dead-end road. The residents state that they asked the city 10 years ago to take over the streetlight, but the city declined their request. The residents are requesting that the city reimburse them for maintaining the streetlight over the past years. The Public utility board members did not agree that the city should take responsibility for the streetlight or reimburse the homeowner. Instead, a dead-end sign will be recommended for installation, and resident can shut the light off should they choose.

A motion was made by public utility board member, Ramona Sjostrand to say no to the reimbursement and responsibility of the street light and recommend a dead-end sign . Member Jim Mahon seconded the motion. Voting in favor: Chair Jack Yates, Vice Chair Ramona Sjostrand, Delbert Anderson and Jim Mahon. Absent: Rachel Graf Voting against: None; Motion carried.

10. 2025 CPUB Goals

A. Road Construction Planning

Discussion on the upcoming road construction projects on county roads 76 and 63, including the potential for city sewer installation and collaboration with the county to phase the project over several years. The conversation covers the potential installation of sewer and water services in conjunction with upcoming road work. The focus is on ensuring cost-effectiveness and exploring grant opportunities.

B. County Collaboration

Exploration of collaboration with the county to manage the timing and cost of road and sewer projects, potentially reducing costs through joint efforts. The importance of coordinating with the county to align projects and reduce costs.

C. DNR Approval for Light Installation

Discussion on the challenges of obtaining DNR approval for a solar light installation project at Tioga Beach.

11. Approve December 2, 2024, CPUB Minutes

A motion was made by public utility board member Jim Mahon to approve December 2, 2024, CPUB Minutes. Member Ramona Sjostrand seconded the motion. Voting in favor: Chair Jack Yates, Vice Chair Ramona Sjostrand, Delbert Anderson and Jim Mahon. Absent: Rachel Graf Voting against: None; Motion carried.

12. Miscellaneous Business and FYI's:

Riverfront Development

Brief discussion on riverfront and infrastructure being put in place.

Manhole Covers

Discussion on the issue of low manhole covers on 62. The county plans to install new rings in the spring to address the issue.

Zoning

Valtinson discussed the rezoning issue coming up in the zoning public hearing.

Jim Mahon made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Romona Sjostrand seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Adjourned meeting at 1:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted by:

Abby Majewski