

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
OF THE WEST DES MOINES WATER WORKS**

January 26, 2022

The special meeting of The Board of Trustees of the West Des Moines Water Works was called to order by Chair Scott Brennan at 4:00 PM on Wednesday, January 26, 2022. The meeting was held at the West Des Moines Water Works, 1505 Railroad Avenue, A.C. Ward Water Treatment Plant Conference Room. Trustee Jody Smith joined by phone and Chair Scott Brennan, Vice Chair Gretchen Tegeler and Trustees Erin Sheriff and Mary Thomsen were present in person. Also present were staff members Christina Murphy, General Manager and by phone; Pat Mullenbach, Finance Manager and Treasurer; William Mabuice, Engineering Project Manager; Mitch Pinkerton, Water Production Manager; Mark Hanasz, Water Distribution Manager.

A number of residents and members of press were in person and on the phone.

Moved by Tegeler, seconded by Sheriff that the agenda be approved.

Roll call: All yes. Motion approved.

**Citizen Forum:**

Rick Harn, 409 18<sup>th</sup> Place, stated that he thinks we are not ready for this and that we need to look into other options. He stated he thinks Des Moines Water Works will have control over our money.

Ted Ohmart, 1026 31<sup>st</sup> Street, believed this resolution needs to be approved and has trust in the board to make the right decisions.

Rita Luther, 509 18<sup>th</sup> St., she wanted confirmation in some facts about the infrastructure and wanted to know if it was too early to know what the water resources would be. Rita feels like other options should be considered.

Jeff Madison, 318 S. 19<sup>th</sup> St, doesn't think we have enough knowledge about this option and is worried about his billing rates going up. He believes Microsoft should maybe absorb some of the costs.

Greg Allen, 713 47<sup>th</sup> St., came with mostly questions of where to find information about all of this and wants to know if regionalization doesn't go through if there is a back up plan. He also questioned who would be in charge.

Keith Frasier, 3109 Vine Street, come to mostly observe and feels like he is more for regionalization and questioned what new rates would be.

Brian Rickert, 4342 Oakwood Lane, made comments about how more people are against this option than for it, and encouraged the board to "listen to the people"

Larry Anderson, 3109 Meadow Lane, commented he didn't like the idea that West Des Moines would only have 1 vote on rates with new option and believe we are giving away too much and not getting enough in return.

Moved by Tegeler, seconded by Sheriff to concur with the recommendation of the Planning and Regionalization Committee and approve the resolution titled "West Des Moines Water Works participation in further discussion and exploration concerning the establishment of Central Iowa Water Works".

Erin Sheriff, Trustee, shared that she made a commitment when joining the board to help West Des Moines resident have safe drinking water when and where they need it at a reasonable cost and plans to honor that commitment. She states that lots of other options have been researched and full regionalization is the only option to meet all three of the waterworks' needs.

Mary Thomsen, Trustee, shared about all the work that has gone into looking into other options and reassures the people that the board is listening to their comments and making sure all is considered. States the resolution tonight does not put WDMWW in any type of binding contract. Trustee Thomsen stated that Des Moines Water Works have been very willing to participate.

Gretchen Tegeler, Vice Chair of Board, is very confident in the process and mentioned lots of due diligence has gone into this decision.

Jody Smith, Trustee, mentioned he appreciates all the ratepayers reaching out with comments and states how important taking the next step is.

Scott Brennan, Chair, talked about being entrusted with making these types of decisions. He shared how we are just building the framework to take steps to where we need to be to have water available in the future.

Roll call: All yes. Resolution approved.

Moved by Thomsen, seconded by Sheriff to adjourn at 5:18 PM.

Roll call: All yes. Motion approved.

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Scott Brennan  
Chair

Attest:

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Christina Murphy  
Secretary

These Minutes are a draft. If corrections or additions are made the corrected minutes will be published after approval at the February 16, 2022 meeting.