

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE KIMBERLY WATER COMMISSION**  
**MINUTES**  
**March 11, 2025**

Chairman Johnson called the meeting to order at 11:00 am. Commissioner Stienen and Hanson appeared in person. Commissioner Hietpas appeared remotely. Also attending the meeting were Administrator/Public Works Director Block, Water Superintendent Verstegen, and Ehlers Public Finance Advisors Senior Municipal Advisor Brian Roemer.

**Approval of Minutes from the February 11, 2025, Meeting**

Commissioner Hanson moved, Stienen seconded the motion to approve the Water Commission minutes of the February 11, 2025, meeting. The motion carried by unanimous vote of the Commission.

**Unfinished Business**

None

**New Business**

**Bills and Claims, and Financial Statements for the month of January 2025**

Commissioner Stienen moved, Hanson seconded the motion to approve the Bills and Claims, and Financial Statements for the month of January 2025. The motion carried by unanimous vote of the Commission.

**Discussion and possible action on 2025 Water Rate Study Phase 1**

Brian Roemer, Senior Municipal Advisor from Ehlers Public Finance Advisors presented a 2025 Water Rate Study. Senior Municipal Advisor Roemer provided a detailed review reporting the last Conventional Rate Case completed in 2019 resulted in a 23% rate increase. Since then, there has been added Capital of 15%, an O&M increase of 80%, and a 20% increase in Depreciation resulting in a 2023 PSC AR ROR of -9.68%. Ehlers will benchmark the Utility to have 6 months of O&M expenses in reserves plus upcoming debt service payments for the next year. Taking into consideration the Well replacement project in 2033, 3 rate options were reviewed. Water Rate Options 1 - Do Nothing, would result in an estimated 47.49% increase in 2033. Option 2 - 2025 & 2033 CRC, would result in an estimated 13.94% increase in 2025 plus a 29.44% increase in 2033. Senior Municipal Advisor Roemer recommends Option 3 - 2025 & 2033 Conventional Rate Case with Simplified Rate Cases annually, resulting in an estimated 13.94% increase in 2025, including low rate increases annually, resulting in an estimated 8.41% increase in 2033 - decreasing the amount of rate adjustment the Village would need for the anticipated Well Replacement project in 2033. A Water Rate Comparison of the 33 Brown and Outagamie County Water Utility providers was reviewed reporting that The Village of Kimberly's Water Rates are currently the third least expensive and that a 13.94% increase would result in becoming the sixth least expensive rate, assuming all other water utility providers had no change in rate. The option to

move the \$100,000 of Public Fire Protection currently levied on tax bills be moved to utility billing was reviewed and discussed. Commissioner Steinen moved, Hietpas seconded the motion, to move to Phase 2 with Ehlers Public Finance Advisors returning in May to present. The motion carried by unanimous vote of the Commission.

### **Reports**

#### **Midwest Contract Operations, Inc.**

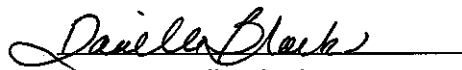
Superintendent Verstegen reported the Lincoln Well was shocked to bring down the hardness, acidizing in Brillion was successful and anticipates some cost due to needed piping changes. Main breaks are up due to weather and are looking to repair valves they are having difficulty with. Staff continue with Meter Changes and Cross Connection Surveys. Superintendent Verstegen also provided an update on the EPA Lead Inventory violation noting the responses were accepted by the EPA and will resubmit the inventory and repost to the public.

### **Public Participation**

None

### **Adjournment**

Commissioner Stienen moved, Hietpas seconded the motion to adjourn. The motion carried by unanimous vote and the Commission adjourned at 12:08 pm.



Danielle Block  
Secretary

Dated March 25, 2025

Drafted by MMF

Approved by Water Commission on 4-8-2025