

Approved 08/22/2024

**Lanesboro Public Utilities Commission  
Special Meeting Minutes  
Thursday, August 1, 2024 – 8:00 a.m.  
Lanesboro Community Center Meeting Room & Zoom**

**Present**

**Members:**      X   Jon Pieper                        X   Elliot Riggott              X   Brian Roelofs  
**Staff:**          X   Mitchell Walbridge          X   Darla Taylor              X   Jerod Wagner  
**Visitors:**     Bonita Underbakke

**Regular Meeting:**

Member Pieper called the special meeting to order at 8:09 a.m.

- A. Agenda:** Member Pieper entered a motion to approve the agenda as presented; Member Riggott seconded the motion. Motion carried with all in favor.

**Continued Business**

- A. Federal Resilience and Reliability Grant 40101(d):** Administrator Walbridge asked the commission members to determine how much of the electric fund’s reserves the commission would commit to the required one-third match for the Electrical Grid Resilience and Reliability Grant. He shared the current financial position of the electric fund’s reserves and how much should be kept in reserves. Members discussed potential projects that the grant funds, if awarded, could support. Ideas included adding automated controls to the existing generator for automatic start during outages, completing a study to understand the effects of the new solar power system, adding remote monitoring for the status of generators, breakers, and incoming power sources, and conducting a study to assess the need for a municipal-sized battery system to stabilize the electrical system during outages. A battery system could potentially reduce load during peak pricing events and provide emergency power. Member Pieper entered a motion to approve matching funds for the grant not to exceed \$300,000; Member Riggott seconded the motion. Members noted that if Lanesboro Public Utilities’ financial position changed in the coming months, the commitment amount could be reduced, or the commission could decline the grant award. Motion carried with all in favor.

Member Pieper adjourned the meeting at 8:48 a.m.

**Next Meeting: Monday, August 19, 2024 at 5:30 p.m.**

Respectfully submitted,

Mitchell Walbridge  
City Administrator/Clerk