

NEGAUNEE-ISHPEMING WATER AUTHORITY
REGULAR MEETING
February 19, 2025
WATER TREATMENT PLANT

CALL TO ORDER:

A regular meeting of the Negaunee-Ishpeming Water Authority was held on Wednesday, February 19, 2025 and was called to order at 4 p.m. by John Jackson.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Paul Gravedoni, John Jackson, Kristen Mariuzza and Tony McGrath

MEMBERS ABSENT: James Bertucci.

OTHERS PRESENT: Kristy Basolo, Plan B Publishing
Jake Forchini, NIWA plant manager

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Paul Gravedoni made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Kristen Mariuzza seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

None.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Kristen Mariuzza made a motion to approve the minutes of the January 15, 2025 regular meeting and place them on file. Tony McGrath seconded it, and the motion passed unanimously.

CLAIMS & ACCOUNTS:

Paul Gravedoni made a motion to approve the claims & accounts and to pay the bills. Kristen Mariuzza seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

CORRESPONDENCE:

- EGLE Drinking Water Monitoring Schedule—Jake Forchini said EGLE provided their typical monitoring schedule. He noted there were a things added this year, which happens in a cycle.

Paul Gravedoni made a motion to place the EGLE Drinking Water Monitoring Schedule on file. Kristen Mariuzza seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

- Fluoridation Informational Packet—This packet was received from health department and also went to the city councils in both towns for informational purposes.

Kristen Mariuzza made a motion to place the Fluoridation Informational Packet on file. Tony McGrath seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

MANAGER'S REPORT:

Jake Forchini said the plant is running well. The cities have had leaks, but they are finding them quickly and repairing them. He noted that UCI came in because the rapid tank mixer shut off over a weekend; Frailing came to repair/update the breaker system so it's cheaper to fix when

there are issues. The VFD failed and was taken in for warranty work, but ended up being replaced outright as didn't qualify for warranty work.

Jake said he talked to Jeff Talsma about running fiber to the wells, as requested. Jeff said it's not time yet as the radios are still reliable.

Jake is looking at replacing the high pressure sodium lights in the plant as they are no longer making the bulbs the plant uses; he is getting quotes for the board packet next month.

The NIWA board discussed what transpired at the Negaunee city council meeting regarding NIWA and the Teal Lake Well project and water price increases. It was noted that the City is given board packets monthly, and this project has been discussed and documented in those packets for more than a year and Jake called the city manager's office more than once to discuss the situation, yet the Negaunee city council members were not informed of the upcoming project.

Jake said an easement meeting was held with the City of Ishpeming and GEI; several easements will be needed due to the lot lines and the attorneys are working on it

Kristen Mariuzza made a motion to approve the manger's report and place it on file. Tony McGrath seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Teal Lake Well Project Update—Jake talked to GEI. They're talking with Jeff Talsma about how they're going to do the pressure/electronic transducer, Jeff is reluctant. Small enclosure in the woods to make it easier to service. GEI is doing transmission line work drafts; should be done in March. Final in-house review on drilling specs, so should be out for bid soon.

Tony McGrath asked about a money-in/money-out report showing what is being borrowed form the City of Ishpeming, and Jake said he will make sure the board has that. His plan is to set a minimum for what will be kept in NIWA's account and will only request money from the City of Ishpeming when that minimum is being approached. The auditors had Jake make a separate account in QuickBooks to keep track of the money borrowed.

- 2024 Fourth Quarter Financial Reports—Tony McGrath noted that NIWA was close to meeting budget, which was unexpected considering being under the predicted flow for budgeting purposes. All things considered, it was not a bad year financially.

Paul Gravedoni made a motion to accept the financial reports and place them on file. Kristen Mariuzza seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- NIWA/Cities Compensation Committee—TABLED

ADJOURNMENT:

Paul Gravedoni made a motion to adjourn at 4:32 p.m. Kristen Mariuzza seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

Prepared by Kristy Basolo, recording secretary

Approved and respectfully submitted by James Bertucci Secretary/Treasurer