

Mountain Lake City Council
Regular Council Meeting
Mountain Lake City Hall
Monday, Sept. 21, 2015
6:30 p.m.

AGENDA

1. Meeting called to order by Mayor Mike Nelson
 - * Further information on agenda item is attached
2. Approval of Agenda and Consent Agenda
 - a. Bills: Check #'s 9917869- 9917920; 402E – 403E*(1-6)
 - b. Approval of Payroll Checks #'s 62008 - 62038
 - c. Approval of Sept. 8 Council Minutes*(7-10)
 - d. Approval of April 13 Tree Commission Minutes*(11)
 - e. Approval of July and August Library Board Minutes, Library Reports and Expenditures*(12-16)
 - f. Approval of Aug 10 Make Commission Minutes*(17-18)
 - g. Approval of Aug. 13 Police Commission Minutes*(19)
 - h. Approval of Aug. 14 & 25 Economic Development Authority Minutes*(20-24)
 - i. Adoption of Resolution #26-15 Administrative Penalty for Construction Project with Permit(25)
3. Public – A total of ten (10) minutes is allotted for individuals to briefly discuss a topic of concern with the Council.
4. Guaranteed Energy Savings Program (GESp), Drew Hage, SW MN Regional Development Commission (SRDC)*(26-31)
5. Second Reading – Ordinance #4-15, Revision of Section 8.13, Regulation of Potentially Dangerous and Dangerous Dogs – available prior to meeting
6. Cottonwood Soil and Water Grant Opportunities*(32)
7. Rustic Trail Discussion*(33-34)
8. 2016 Budget
 - a. Review of 2016 Budget, Draft #3 – separate packet
 - b. Budget Adjustments*(35-36)
 - c. Adoption of Preliminary Budget and Levy*(37)
 - d. Determine Time and Place of Meeting for Budget Discussion and Public Input*(38-39)
9. Administrator
 - a. FYI - 2016 Meal Site Agreement*(40-42)
 - b. FYI - National Emissions Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants Update*(43-45)
10. Adjourn

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September 21, 2015
ck# 9917869
to 9917920

September 2015

Check Amt Invoice Comment

10100 United Prairie			402E + 403E	
Paid Chk# 9917869 9/4/2015 CASEYS-CREDIT CARD DEPARTMENT				
E 101-43100-212	Motor Fuels	\$61.02		ST DEPT GAS
E 101-00000-430	Miscellaneous	\$70.27		UT GAS-BILLED THEM
E 101-45200-212	Motor Fuels	\$257.17		PARKS GAS
E 507-46103-430	Miscellaneous	\$51.00	8/18	LAKE COMM GAS TO TAKE ALUM CANS TO MANKATO
E 205-46500-430	Miscellaneous	\$17.09	8/25	EDA LUNCH
Total CASEYS-CREDIT CARD DEPARTMENT		\$456.55		
Paid Chk# 9917870 9/14/2015 COMMISSIONER OF REVENUE				
G 101-21702	State Withholding	\$54.60		
Total COMMISSIONER OF REVENUE		\$54.60		
Paid Chk# 9917871 9/14/2015 INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE				
G 101-21701	Federal Withholding	\$102.02		
G 101-21703	FICA Tax Withholding	\$814.88		
Total INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE		\$916.90		
Paid Chk# 9917872 9/11/2015 CALTHA LLP				
E 450-46300-434	Project Expense	\$6,568.51		ENVIRONMENTAL WORK-DOWNTOWN PROJECT
Total CALTHA LLP		\$6,568.51		
Paid Chk# 9917873 9/11/2015 CARCHIOUS RODNEY				
E 608-46330-401	Repairs/Maint Buildings	\$26.40		AUGUST APT MAINTENANCE
E 607-46330-401	Repairs/Maint Buildings	\$13.60		AUGUST APT MAINTENANCE
Total CARCHIOUS RODNEY		\$40.00		
Paid Chk# 9917874 9/11/2015 CITIZEN PUBLISHING				
E 205-46500-343	Busnes Recrut/Comm Dev	\$94.50		DAYCARE PROVIDER AD
Total CITIZEN PUBLISHING		\$94.50		
Paid Chk# 9917875 9/11/2015 COTTONWOOD COUNTY ABSTRACT CO				
E 450-46300-434	Project Expense	\$105.00		UPDATE ABSTRACT ON HAT SHOP
Total COTTONWOOD COUNTY ABSTRACT CO		\$105.00		
Paid Chk# 9917876 9/11/2015 DARON J. FRIESEN				
E 608-46330-402	Repairs/Maint- Ground	\$171.60		MOW HERITAGE VILLAGE
E 607-46330-402	Repairs/Maint- Ground	\$88.40		MOW HERITAGE VILLAGE
E 609-46330-402	Repairs/Maint- Ground	\$420.00		MOW MASON MANOR
Total DARON J. FRIESEN		\$680.00		
Paid Chk# 9917877 9/11/2015 KDOM RADIO				
E 205-46500-430	Miscellaneous	\$348.50		COUNTY FAIR ADS
Total KDOM RADIO		\$348.50		
Paid Chk# 9917878 9/11/2015 MINNESOTA ENERGY RESOURCE CORP				
E 450-46300-434	Project Expense	\$17.07		GAS BILL AT FORMER HANSON DUPLEX ON 4TH AVE
Total MINNESOTA ENERGY RESOURCE CORP		\$17.07		
Paid Chk# 9917879 9/11/2015 NORTHLAND SECURITIES				
E 450-46300-434	Project Expense	\$3,200.00		TIF WORK -#1-8 DOWNTOWN PROJECT
Total NORTHLAND SECURITIES		\$3,200.00		
Paid Chk# 9917880 9/11/2015 PEST PRO				
E 607-46330-401	Repairs/Maint Buildings	\$113.33		SPRAY AT APARTMENTS
E 609-46330-401	Repairs/Maint Buildings	\$113.34		SPRAY AT APARTMENTS

(1)

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			Check Amt	Invoice	Comment
E 608-46330-401	Repairs/Maint Buildings		\$113.33		SPRAY AT APARTMENTS
	Total PEST PRO		\$340.00		
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Paid Chk# 9917881	9/11/2015	STEVE FINNESTAD			
E 608-46330-401	Repairs/Maint Buildings		\$1,452.05	314468	FLOORING INSTALLATION APT #403
	Total STEVE FINNESTAD		\$1,452.05		
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Paid Chk# 9917882	9/11/2015	BRENDA J. HARDER			
E 608-46330-401	Repairs/Maint Buildings		\$567.00	533791	PAINT APT 403
	Total BRENDA J. HARDER		\$567.00		
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Paid Chk# 9917883	9/11/2015	CARCHIOUS RODNEY			
E 608-46330-401	Repairs/Maint Buildings		\$49.50		EXTRA HOURS AT HERITAGE ESTATES
E 607-46330-401	Repairs/Maint Buildings		\$25.50		EXTRA HOURS AT HERITAGE ESTATES
E 608-46330-401	Repairs/Maint Buildings		\$90.00		REPAIR GARAGE DOOR-407
	Total CARCHIOUS RODNEY		\$165.00		
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Paid Chk# 9917884	9/17/2015	AFLAC			
G 101-21713	AFLAC		\$192.74		
	Total AFLAC		\$192.74		
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Paid Chk# 9917885	9/17/2015	AFSCME COUNCIL 65			
G 101-21707	Union Dues		\$152.26		
	Total AFSCME COUNCIL 65		\$152.26		
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Paid Chk# 9917886	9/17/2015	BCBS/HSA			
G 101-21714	HSA		\$371.17		
	Total BCBS/HSA		\$371.17		
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Paid Chk# 9917887	9/17/2015	COMMISSIONER OF REVENUE			
G 101-21702	State Withholding		\$757.25		
	Total COMMISSIONER OF REVENUE		\$757.25		
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Paid Chk# 9917888	9/17/2015	GISLASON & HUNTER			
G 101-21712	Garnishments		\$355.54		
	Total GISLASON & HUNTER		\$355.54		
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Paid Chk# 9917889	9/17/2015	INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE			
G 101-21701	Federal Withholding		\$1,665.30		
G 101-21703	FICA Tax Withholding		\$2,222.34		
	Total INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE		\$3,887.64		
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Paid Chk# 9917890	9/17/2015	PERA			
G 101-21704	PERA		\$4,057.85		
	Total PERA		\$4,057.85		
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Paid Chk# 9917891	9/17/2015	SW/WC SERVICE COOPERATIVES			
G 101-21708	Employee Paid Health Insurance		\$1,091.34		
	Total SW/WC SERVICE COOPERATIVES		\$1,091.34		
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Paid Chk# 9917892	9/17/2015	VALIC			
G 101-21705	VALIC		\$978.70		
	Total VALIC		\$978.70		
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Paid Chk# 9917893	9/18/2015	COUNTRY PRIDE SERVICES			
E 221-42200-212	Motor Fuels		\$191.62		FD GAS
E 101-42100-212	Motor Fuels		\$580.40		PD-CHARGER GAS

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		Check Amt	Invoice	Comment
E 231-42154-212	Motor Fuels	\$168.07		AMBULANCE DIESEL
E 101-43100-212	Motor Fuels	\$471.68		ST DEPT GAS
E 101-45200-212	Motor Fuels	\$150.89		PARKS GAS
E 101-45183-401	Repairs/Maint Buildings	\$144.50	147085,14730	CAMPGROUND-PLUMBING,BROOM, BAGS
E 101-45200-210	Operating Supplies	\$66.32	147230,14743	GARBAGE BAGS,LOCKSET,2X4,SCREEN-PARKS
E 211-45500-220	Repair/Maint Supply	\$66.68	147278,14765	SMOKE ALARM,CLEANERS,SPIKES
E 101-45210-402	Repairs/Maint- Ground	\$75.72	147312	LAKE COMM BENCH-WOOD,CONCRETE MIX
E 101-43100-404	Repairs/Maint Machinery/Equip	\$44.39	147338,14734	PAINT,BIT,SCREWS-ST DEPT
E 101-43100-401	Repairs/Maint Buildings	\$5.87	147537	FURNACE FILTERS-ST DEPT
E 608-46330-401	Repairs/Maint Buildings	\$204.28	147629,14841	APT 407-PAINT,DEAD BOLT,BULBS,SHOWER
E 101-43100-226	Sign Repair Materials	\$12.70	147788	LAG BOLT-ST SIGNS
E 101-42100-430	Miscellaneous	\$4.14	147994	PD-BOX COVER
E 607-46330-401	Repairs/Maint Buildings	\$140.00	148181	DRAIN-400B
E 101-45210-402	Repairs/Maint- Ground	\$4.66	148186	SCREWS/BOLTS-TRAIL
E 101-45186-220	Repair/Maint Supply	\$109.50	148248,14843	COMM CTR-CLEANERS,PLUMBING
E 101-45210-402	Repairs/Maint- Ground	\$69.32	148408	FISHING PIER-DRILL BIT
E 101-00000-430	Miscellaneous	\$73.15	148467	WOOD,QUICKCRETE,SCREWS-BENCH FOR GRANT
E 101-00000-430	Miscellaneous	\$7.21	148474	SCREWS FOR BIKE SIGN
Total COUNTRY PRIDE SERVICES		\$2,591.10		
Paid Chk# 9917894 9/18/2015 MAYNARDS FOOD CENTER				
E 211-45500-434	Project Expense	\$12.33		LIBRARY PROJECT EXP
Total MAYNARDS FOOD CENTER		\$12.33		
Paid Chk# 9917895 9/18/2015 BOLTON & MENK INC.				
E 202-49400-434	Project Expense	\$847.80	0181875	WELL#7 ENG
Total BOLTON & MENK INC.		\$847.80		
Paid Chk# 9917896 9/18/2015 NEW STAR SALES & SERVICE				
E 101-41400-200	Office Supplies	\$403.56	44642	COPIES ON COLOR PRINTER 7-24-15 TO 9-1-15
Total NEW STAR SALES & SERVICE		\$403.56		
Paid Chk# 9917897 9/18/2015 ALERT-ALL CORP				
E 221-42200-430	Miscellaneous	\$720.80	215080493	FIRE PREVENTION WEEK ITEMS
Total ALERT-ALL CORP		\$720.80		
Paid Chk# 9917898 9/18/2015 ALPHA WIRELESS COMMUNICATIONS				
E 221-42200-323	Radio-monthly service contract	\$36.00	678816	SEPT FD RADIO MAINT
E 231-42154-323	Radio-monthly service contract	\$44.00	678816	SEPT AMB RADIO MAINT CONTRACT
Total ALPHA WIRELESS COMMUNICATIONS		\$80.00		
Paid Chk# 9917899 9/18/2015 AMBULANCE FUND				
E 231-42154-430	Miscellaneous	\$10.21	9/15/15	FOOD ON AMBULANCE RUN
Total AMBULANCE FUND		\$10.21		
Paid Chk# 9917900 9/18/2015 AMERIPRIDE				
E 101-43100-215	Shop Supplies	\$28.70	2800534906	TOWELS FOR ST DEPT
E 101-41400-401	Repairs/Maint Buildings	\$41.24	2800534906	MATS FOR CITY HALL
Total AMERIPRIDE		\$69.94		
Paid Chk# 9917901 9/18/2015 BOLTON & MENK INC.				
E 412-43100-303	Engineering Fees	\$36.56	0181878	ENG 2012-14 ST PROJECT
E 412-43150-303	Engineering Fees	\$210.55	0181878	ENG 2012-14 ST PROJECT
Total BOLTON & MENK INC.		\$247.11		
Paid Chk# 9917902 9/18/2015 COTTONWOOD COUNTY VET CLINIC				
E 101-42100-430	Miscellaneous	\$133.59		DOGS & CATS TO VET CLINIC

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		Check Amt	Invoice	Comment
Total COTTONWOOD COUNTY VET CLINIC		\$133.59		
Paid Chk#	9917903	9/18/2015	DEMCO, INC	
E 211-45500-220	Repair/Maint Supply	\$241.03		LIBRARY SUPPLIES
	Total DEMCO, INC	\$241.03		
Paid Chk#	9917904	9/18/2015	EXPERT T BILLING	
E 231-42154-300	Professional Svcs	\$520.00	2332	AUGUST AMB BILLING
	Total EXPERT T BILLING	\$520.00		
Paid Chk#	9917905	9/18/2015	INDOFF INCORPORATED	
E 211-45500-200	Office Supplies	\$21.90	2671065	LIBRARY-PENS
	Total INDOFF INCORPORATED	\$21.90		
Paid Chk#	9917906	9/18/2015	INGRAM	
E 211-45500-590	Capital Outlay Books	\$206.25		LIBRARY BOOKS
	Total INGRAM	\$206.25		
Paid Chk#	9917907	9/18/2015	LAKER ELECTRIC	
E 101-45183-401	Repairs/Maint Buildings	\$533.08	4460	CAMPGROUND FANS
	Total LAKER ELECTRIC	\$533.08		
Paid Chk#	9917908	9/18/2015	MAYNARDS FOOD CENTER	
E 101-43100-200	Office Supplies	\$24.56	8/12/15	ST DEPT-PAPER TOWELS
E 101-41400-200	Office Supplies	\$19.95	8/13/15	OFFICE-TP,TOWELS,SOAP
E 205-46500-430	Miscellaneous	\$27.51	8/14/15	EDA-MTG LUNCH
E 101-43100-200	Office Supplies	\$14.91	8/21/15	ST DEPT-PINESOL
E 205-46500-430	Miscellaneous	\$38.61	8/4/15	EDA-DAYCARE MTG
	Total MAYNARDS FOOD CENTER	\$125.54		
Paid Chk#	9917909	9/18/2015	MIDWAY AUTO BODY & GLASS	
E 101-42100-406	Vehicle Maint/Gen Repairs	\$34.19	2542	GLUE MIRROR-PD DODGE CHARGER
	Total MIDWAY AUTO BODY & GLASS	\$34.19		
Paid Chk#	9917910	9/18/2015	MUSKE, MUSKE, SURHOFF	
E 101-41400-304	Legal Fees	\$1,400.00		SEPTEMBER LEGAL RETAINER
	Total MUSKE, MUSKE, SURHOFF	\$1,400.00		
Paid Chk#	9917911	9/18/2015	NAM DESIGN	
E 231-42154-430	Miscellaneous	\$290.00	5165	COATS FOR NEW AMB MEMBERS
	Total NAM DESIGN	\$290.00		
Paid Chk#	9917912	9/18/2015	NEW STAR SALES & SERVICE	
E 101-42100-200	Office Supplies	\$1,377.91	44545	NEW SERVER
E 205-46500-200	Office Supplies	\$1,377.91	44545	NEW SERVER
E 101-00000-430	Miscellaneous	\$1,377.91	44545	NEW SERVER
E 101-41400-200	Office Supplies	\$1,377.92	44545	NEW SERVER
	Total NEW STAR SALES & SERVICE	\$5,511.65		
Paid Chk#	9917913	9/18/2015	PETERSON DRUG & GIFTS	
E 231-42154-210	Operating Supplies	\$269.31	8/13/15	GLUCAGON-AMB
E 101-43100-200	Office Supplies	\$8.64	8/17/15	CALCULATOR RIBBON, POST-IT NOTES-ST DEPT
	Total PETERSON DRUG & GIFTS	\$277.95		
Paid Chk#	9917914	9/18/2015	PETERSON WELL DRILLING INC	
E 101-41910-344	Property Cleanup	\$950.00	6932	SEAL WELL-412 7TH ST ERICH KRUEGER

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Total PETERSON WELL DRILLING INC		\$950.00		
Paid Chk# 9917915 9/18/2015 PETTIPIECE & ASSOCIATES				
E 202-41400-434	Project Expense	\$196.00	25514	GRANT PFA ADMIN
Total PETTIPIECE & ASSOCIATES		\$196.00		
Paid Chk# 9917916 9/18/2015 POSITIVE ID INC.				
E 101-42100-430	Miscellaneous	\$20.15	13727	ID TAG-POLICE DEPT
Total POSITIVE ID INC.		\$20.15		
Paid Chk# 9917917 9/18/2015 PRAXAIR				
E 231-42154-210	Operating Supplies	\$106.18	53690745	OXYGEN FOR AMB
Total PRAXAIR		\$106.18		
Paid Chk# 9917918 9/18/2015 RADTKE WELDING				
E 101-45183-402	Repairs/Maint- Ground	\$135.00	7775	DUMP STATION FLIP-CAMPGROUND
E 231-42154-404	Repairs/Maint Machinery/Equip	\$105.00	7860	LABOR-AMBULANCE
E 101-00000-430	Miscellaneous	\$15.00	7885	BASE HANDICAP SIGN-BIKE GRANT
Total RADTKE WELDING		\$255.00		
Paid Chk# 9917919 9/18/2015 SW/WC SERVICE COOPERATIVES				
E 205-46500-131	Employer Paid Health	\$1,070.16		OCT HEALTH INS-EDA
E 101-46200-131	Employer Paid Health	\$642.10		OCT HEALTH INS-CEMETERY
E 211-45500-131	Employer Paid Health	\$1,070.16		OCT HEALTH INS-LIBRARY
E 101-45200-131	Employer Paid Health	\$642.10		OCT HEALTH INS-PARKS DEPT
E 101-43100-131	Employer Paid Health	\$1,926.28		OCT HEALTH INS-ST DEPT
E 101-42100-135	Employer Paid Other	\$366.00		OCT HEALTH INS-KEN BRADFORD
E 101-42100-131	Employer Paid Health	\$3,543.54		OCT HEALTH INS-POLICE DEPT
E 101-41400-131	Employer Paid Health	\$2,140.32		OCT HEALTH INS-OFFICE
E 101-42100-131	Employer Paid Health	\$1,176.00		AUG HLTH INS-WILL POHLMANN
E 101-42100-131	Employer Paid Health	\$1,176.00		SEPT HLTH INS WILL POHLMAN
G 101-21708	Employee Paid Health Insurance	\$52.92		WILL POHLMAN-1/2 EMPLOYEE PORTION OF AUG HEALTH INSURANCE
E 101-42100-135	Employer Paid Other	\$366.00		OCT HEALTH INS-BRIAN LUNZ
Total SW/WC SERVICE COOPERATIVES		\$14,171.58		
Paid Chk# 9917920 9/18/2015 WINDOM FARM SERVICE				
E 101-43100-404	Repairs/Maint Machinery/Equip	\$76.12	157984	COVER FOR 320D-ST DEPT
Total WINDOM FARM SERVICE		\$76.12		
10100 United Prairie		\$56,903.23		

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Fund Summary

10100 United Prairie	
101 GENERAL FUND	\$35,028.59
202 2014 SMALL CITIES DEVELOP PROG	\$1,043.80
205 ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY	\$2,974.28
211 LIBRARY FUND	\$1,618.35
221 FIRE DEPT FUND	\$948.42
231 AMBULANCE FUND	\$1,512.77
412 2012 CITY WIDE PROJECT	\$247.11
450 DOWNTOWN-ROSS PROJECT	\$9,890.58
507 LAKE COMMISSION FUND	\$51.00
607 EDA----4 PLEX FUND	\$380.83
608 EDA----8 PLEX FUND	\$2,674.16
609 EDA-- MASON MANOR	\$533.34
	<u>\$56,903.23</u>

Paid Chk# 000402E 9/8/2015 UNITED PRAIRIE BANK			
G 609-22800	Notes Payable - Current	\$416.73	MASON MANOR-PRINC PAYMENT
E 609-46330-610	Interest	\$873.80	MASON MANOR-INTEREST PAYMENT
	Total UNITED PRAIRIE BANK	<u>\$1,290.53</u>	

Paid Chk# 000403E 9/21/2015 SELECT ACCOUNT			
E 101-46200-141	Admin Fees-HSA	\$1.26	HSA ADMIN FEES
E 205-46500-141	Admin Fees-HSA	\$2.11	HSA ADMIN FEES
E 101-45200-141	Admin Fees-HSA	\$1.27	HSA ADMIN FEES
E 101-43100-141	Admin Fees-HSA	\$3.80	HSA ADMIN FEES
E 211-45500-141	Admin Fees-HSA	\$2.11	HSA ADMIN FEES
E 101-41400-141	Admin Fees-HSA	\$4.22	HSA ADMIN FEES
E 101-42100-141	Admin Fees-HSA	\$8.44	HSA ADMIN FEES
	Total SELECT ACCOUNT	<u>\$23.21</u>	

6

DRAFT
Regular Council Meeting
Mountain Lake City Hall
Tuesday, Sept. 8, 2015
6:30 p.m.

Members Present: Mike Nelson, Darla Kruser, Dana Kass, David Savage, Andrew Ysker

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Wendy Meyer, Clerk/Administrator; Maryellen Suhrhoff, Muske, Muske and Suhrhoff; Doug Bristol, Chief of Police; Will Pohlmann, Police Officer; Dave Watkins, Ambulance Captain

Others Present: Jamie and Braden Pohlmann; Jason Kruser; Brandon Green; Curt Feil; Gloria McKissick; Doug Regehr; Randy Markl, MN Dept. of Natural Resources, Windom Area Wildlife Manager; Dave Bucklin Cottonwood Soil and Water Conservation District

Call to Order

Mayor Nelson called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

Agenda and Consent Agenda

Motion by Kass, seconded by Savage, to approve the consent agenda and the agenda as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Bills: Check #'s 9917802-9917868; 399E – 401E

Payroll Checks #'s 61974 - 62007

Aug. 17 and 31 Council Minutes

Aug. 13 Utility Commission Minutes

May 26, June 1 and July 22 Planning and Zoning Minutes

Laker Bar & Grill Request to Close a Portion of 2nd Ave.

Public

Gloria McKissick distributed copies of the Mt. Lake Municipal Utilities Shut-Off Policies to the council. The policies and other utility related topics were briefly discussed.

Oath of Office, Officer Will Pohlmann

Officer Pohlmann took the oath of office.

Resignation of Officer Nick Naxay

Motion by Kass, seconded by Ysker, to accept the resignation of Nick Naxay effective Sept. 11 and thank him for his service to the City of Mt. Lake. Motion carried unanimously.

Open Police Positions

Motion by Kass, seconded by Kruser, authorizing the Police Dept. to fill the open full-time position. Motion carried unanimously. Rather than post the opening immediately Chief Bristol recommended that another candidate in the group from which Officer Pohlmann was hired be considered. The candidate is interested in the position and as a first step is completing the paperwork for a background check. Further two of the department's three part-time officers have verbally stated they will be resigning. It will take time to hire long-term part-time officers. Motion by Savage, seconded by Kruser, authorizing the posting of part-time officer positions. Voting aye: Nelson, Kruser, Savage Ysker; voting nay: Kass. Motion carried.

Public Nuisance, 1701 3rd Ave.

Photographs of the property taken earlier in the day, and the status of the clean-up work were discussed with the property owner. Motion by Kass, seconded by Ysker, to waive the fine.

Hunting on Mt. Lake Trail on City and Dept. of Natural Resources (DNR) land

Randy Markl, DNR, Windom Area Wildlife Manager, reviewed the restrictions on the property given to the City by the DNR as part of a land exchange in 2002. Due to the restrictions the public has the right to hunt on the property; and any trail placed on the property must be approved by the DNR. It was agreed that grass cut previously to create 'rustic trails' will not be cut in the future.

Guaranteed Energy Savings Program (GESP)

Drew Hage, SW MN Regional Development Commission (SRDC) had a conflict and could not attend. He will attend the Sept. 21st council meeting.

EDA Request to Waive Special Assessments, former Elizabeth House, 1616 Prince St.

The EDA recently purchased the property and will be selling it to a party who intends to open a daycare. To help reduce the new owner's expenses the EDA board is requesting the city waive the 2012-2014 Utility and Street Project special assessments in the amount of \$8,759.92. Motion by Ysker, seconded by Kruser, to not waive the special assessment. Motion carried unanimously.

Re-attachment of Utility Bill at 505 10th St. N.

The property was tax-forfeited; the neighbor is interested in purchasing it. There was a \$723 unpaid utility bill attached to the property tax prior to the forfeiture. The neighbor asked if the city intended to re-attach the utility bill. The Utility Commission considered the request at their

Aug. 20 meeting and recommended to the council that the bill not be re-attached. Motion by Savage, seconded by Kruser, to not re-attach the utility bill. Motion carried unanimously.

Campground Wi-Fi

Options and costs from MVTV, MediaCom and Frontier were reviewed. Motion by Kruser, seconded by Kass, to install an MVTV hot spot in the campground which will enable campers to order Wi-Fi directly from the company, provided the signal can be received from the MVTV equipment on the city water tower. Motion carried unanimously.

First Reading Revision of Section 8.13 Regulation of Potentially Dangerous and Dangerous Dogs

The Police Dept. and City Attorney recently dealt with a dangerous dog. Suhrhoff is recommending Section 8.13 of Mt. Lake City Code be amended to include action to be taken if an owner fails to comply with the section's requirements.

Complete Street Policy- Active Living Plan

Adopting a Complete Streets Policy was discussed at the time the plan was adopted. Motion by Ysker, seconded by Savage, to adopt Resolution #25-15 Establishing a Complete Streets Policy. Motion carried unanimously.

2016 Budget - Adoption of Resolution #24-15 2016 Economic Development Authority (EDA) Levy

Motion by Savage, seconded by Ysker, to adopt Resolution #24-25 setting the 2016 EDA levy at \$8,482.36. Motion carried unanimously.

Review of 2016 Budget, Draft #3

The draft was reviewed; further reductions were considered. Dave Watkins, Ambulance Captain discussed the department's 2016 needs with the council.

Building Permit Penalty

The St. James resolution setting an administrative penalty of double the permit fee for starting a construction project without a license was reviewed. The clerk/administrator will prepare a resolution for the council's consideration at the Sept. 21st meeting.

Winter Snow Plowing Agreement

The agreement was reviewed. Motion by Ysker, seconded by Kass, to approve the agreement for the 2015-16 snow season. Motion carried unanimously.

Clean Water Revolving Fund Project Priority List and Intended Use Plan

The City of Mt. Lake's sewer treatment upgrade project received 83 out of 100 possible points. The project is 12th on the list; 297 projects were submitted.

Adjourn

Nelson adjourned the meeting at 9:52 p.m.

ATTEST:

Wendy Meyer, Clerk/Administrator

Mountain Lake Tree Commission Minutes
April 13, 2015
City Hall 7:45 p.m.

Present: Steve Harder, Jerry Logue, Dave Bucklin, Sonya Buller
Others: Nathan Harder, Judy Harder, Mike Nelson

1. February 10, 2015 minutes M/S/P
2. Dave made a motion to take the Kolander bid of \$10,000 and allow him to purchase the wood for \$400. M/S/P
3. Discussed the removal and planting list. Trees (42) will arrive between May 4 to May 7. The Conservation Corps MN will be here the week of May 11, 2015. The crew will be in Mountain Lake the first two days and might return later since the food forest will take a lot of extra time.
4. Dave reported that Conservation Corps MN will be here in Mountain Lake and Windom for 4 days either the second or third week of May. They are here for 2 days and in Windom the other two. The trees & shrubs are to be delivered the first week of May, hopefully.
5. Arbor Day/Month? Will be held April 24 with Dave and Mike presiding in the elementary library with the fourth grade classes at 9:15. All are welcome to attend.
4. It was reported that the Food Forest was discussed at city council as to the concern of its maintenance. We hope to work at it as we do with the other plantings around town. We were planning on nanny berries and cranberries for the Island planting. It was expressed that crab apples could be messy on the bike trail. The "Jubilee crew" will be tilling the area in preparation for the planting.
7. Next meeting – July 13, 2015

Approved Sept. 14, 2015.

Mountain Lake Public Library Board Minutes July 15, 2015

Members Present: Diane Englin, Vickie Krueger, Dennis Cords, Barrie Wright,
Carol Lehman – Director

Members Absent: Marci Hernandez

Others Present: None

The meeting was called to order at 4:10 p.m. by chairman, Barrie Wright.

M/S/P Krueger/Englin to approve the minutes of the June 10, 2015 meeting.

Carol presented the June monthly report indicating 3,620 total circulation and June expenditures in the amount of \$4,086.84. M/S/P Englin/Krueger to accept the report as given and approve the expenditures for June.

The remainder of the meeting was spent reviewing and discussing the proposed 2016 budget which will be presented to the city council in August.

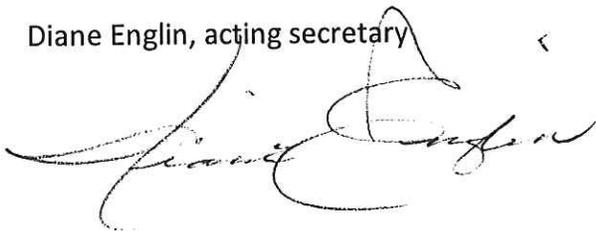
Carol shared the June library activity report.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:45 p.m. by chairman, Barrie Wright.

The next meeting will be Wednesday, September 9, 2015 at 4:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane Englin, acting secretary



CITY OF MOUNTAIN LAKE

PUBLIC LIBRARY REPORT

MONTH OF July, 2015

CIRCULATION AND USE

Adult fiction	_____
Adult nonfiction	_____
Non print (includes videos, cassettes, art prints, etc.)	_____
Juvenile	_____
Periodicals	_____

TOTAL CIRCULATION 3,844

Interlibrary loan sent
Interlibrary loan received

<u>257</u>
<u>273</u>
<u>530</u>

TOTAL ILL

ILL NON SYSTEM 89

RECEIPTS

Cash income	_____
Donations (monetary)	_____
County Revenue	_____
Misc. Revenue	_____
Fines	_____
Meeting room rental	_____
Sale of supplies	_____

TOTAL RECEIPTS

- 0 -

EXPENDITURES

Books	<u>566.30</u>
Periodicals	_____
Audio-visual	<u>42.95</u>
Supplies	_____
Postage	_____
Miscellaneous	_____
Telephone	<u>65.90</u>
Repairs & maintenance	<u>345.00</u>
Repairs & maint. of equipment	_____
Project expense	_____
Capital outlay	_____
Automation	<u>217.00</u>
Gas Utilities	<u>43.09</u>
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	<u>\$1,285.24</u>

(13)

LIBRARY DIRECTOR

Carol Lehman

CITY OF MOUNTAIN LAKE

PUBLIC LIBRARY REPORT

MONTH OF August, 2015

CIRCULATION AND USE

Adult fiction	_____
Adult nonfiction	_____
Non print (includes videos, cassettes, art prints, etc.)	_____
Juvenile	_____
Periodicals	_____
TOTAL CIRCULATION	<u>3,241</u>

Interlibrary loan sent	<u>244</u>
Interlibrary loan received	<u>321</u>
TOTAL ILL	<u>565</u>

ILL NON SYSTEM 126

RECEIPTS

Cash income	_____
Donations (monetary)	_____
County Revenue	_____
Misc. Revenue	<u>5.00</u>
Fines	<u>13.50</u>
Meeting room rental	_____
Sale of supplies	_____
TOTAL RECEIPTS	<u>18.50</u>

EXPENDITURES

Books	<u>254.94</u>
Periodicals	_____
Audio-visual	<u>41.77</u>
Supplies	_____
Postage	_____
Miscellaneous	_____
Telephone	<u>62.18</u>
Repairs & maintenance	<u>345.00</u>
Repairs & maint. of equipment	_____
Project expense	<u>12.33</u>
Capital outlay	_____
Automation	_____
Gas Utilities	<u>48.09</u>
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	<u>\$764.31</u>

14

LIBRARY DIRECTOR Carol Lehman

LIBRARY EXPENDITURES - JULY 2015

Frontier	Telephone Expense	\$65.90
Dennis Hulzebos	Repairs & Maint.-Janitorial	\$345.00
Ingram	Books	\$283.84
MN Energy Resources Corp.	Gas Utilities	\$48.09
PCLS	Automation Expense	\$217.00
Pumpkin Books	Books	\$66.43
Synchrony Bank/Amazon	Books 216.03 / AV 42.95	\$258.98
		<hr/>
		\$1,285.24

LIBRARY EXPENDITURES - AUGUST 2015

Frontier	Telephone Expense	\$62.18
Dennis Hulzebos	Repairs & Maint.-Janitorial	\$345.00
Ingram	Books	\$206.25
Maynard's	Project Expense	\$12.33
MN Energy Resources Corp.	Gas Utilities	\$48.09
Synchrony Bank/Amazon	Books 48.69 / AV 41.77	\$90.46
		<hr/>
		\$764.31

**Regular Lake Commission Meeting
Monday, August 10, 2015**

Members Present: Jim Peterson, Jay Schied, John Oeltjenbruns, Jean Haberman,
Dave Bucklin

Guest: Michael Watkins, Rachel Yoder

Chair Peterson called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. M/S/P Oeltjenbruns/Bucklin
to approve the July 13, 2015 minutes.

Treasurer's Report:

Bills:

Muske - Trail Legal Fees	\$800.00
Country Pride - Weed Harvester Fuel	293.84
Heather Funk - T-shirts	307.11
Postage 4/1-7/6/15	14.93
Caseys - Gas for truck to haul weeds	44.00

Revenue:

T-Shirt Sales	\$220.00
Stan & Christy Bennett - donation for 2015 harvester storage	180.00
SW Initiative Fund/Mt. Lake Foundation - donation	159.60

~~Dawn moved \$1,404.97 from the Lake Commission Fund to the General Fund
Walking/Biking Trail account.~~

M/S/P Schied/Bucklin to approve Treasurer's Report

Discussion: The function and future of the Lake Commission was discussed. We decided that it is a little of both. Members are willing to help out with projects, but the main responsibility for trail maintenance lies with the City. It would be nice to hire someone to oversee the trail maintenance, but where would the funds come from? With many of the Lake Commission members getting older, how do we attract new, younger members? A once-a-month workday was suggested to work on projects. The community could be invited to help with bigger projects. It might be a possibility for the Sportsmen's Club to take over the aeration system since it pertains to fishing.

Golf Course Outlet: Dave Bucklin is working on a Clean Water grant application to build a sediment pond at the Golf Course. Engineers have visited the site and have recommended a location for the pond and suggested removing some of the sediment in the lake and making a second pond in the lake. The grant would cover 75% of the cost with the remaining 25% in cash or in-kind labor. The grant application is due

the last Friday in August. Jim and Jay will attend the next Golf Course board meeting on August 19 to present the plan.

Rain Garden: Dave is working on a grant to build a rain garden.

Lake: The last lake level reading was 8.54 and the last two Secchi disk readings were 1.8 and 2.0. Jay made a Weed Harvesting Chart comparing the last four years of operators, start date, the number of loads cut, and helpful notes. Jim talked to Mark Hanson (PCA) about the safety of the lake water for swimmers. Mark suggested that people check the PCA website for blue-green algae alerts. So far, no one has seen blue-green algae in our lake.

Trail: Dave and Jay would like to review the map before it goes to print. Jean and Lester worked on short bird identification list to be included on the map. Jim suggested creating a web page with a more extensive list of birds one might see on the trail and link it with a QR code. Jim and Jay will work with Michael Watkins to put the posts in for the identification markers. The fishing pier will be moved in September.

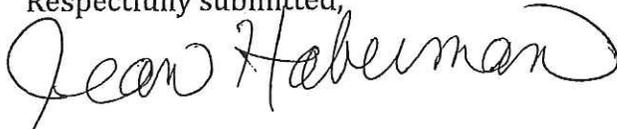
There was some discussion about the proposal to change the existing trailhead location to the grassy area behind Casey's. With possible budget cuts in the future, there was a concern about the extra expense and time for the City. The present trailhead has more parking and is a nicer location, however, the location behind Casey's would be more accessible and visible to visitors. Perhaps a sign and maps directing people to the existing trailhead would be a better idea.

Rachel Yoder requested that the "no motorized vehicle" sign be placed closer to the road so that people see it earlier. Jim will talk to Wendy about changing the sign location.

Jay is cutting and treating the volunteer trees that have grown up in the rocky shoreline on the east side of the lake, so that it is accessible for fishing.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Jean Haberman,
Secretary

Police Commission Mtg.
August 13, 2015

Members Present: Norm Kunkel, Chris Boldt, Sue Garloff, Andy Ysker, and Doug Bristol

Call to Order: Norm Kunkel

1. July minutes read: no additions or corrections
Motion to approve: Chris Boldt: Seconded: Sue Garloff
2. Budget Expenditures
On the monthly Detail transaction sheet: if it a yearly occurring debit, it shows up on the date that it was set up: ie: 2003 and 2004 dates and adjustments
Also on monthly detail transaction sheet: Chris questioned who is Kevin Bradley?
He is a kid that has to pay restitution for a city bike
3. Chief's Report
Chris questioned where does the 911 call go? If dispatch gets it and it is a major arrest, it may be put under the domestic category
911 calls generally have a drop down box and dispatch chooses the one that most resembles the call.
Suicide: a person says that he is going to kill himself and his family calls the police
Animal calls: 3 people are letting their dogs run
Drug court checks have declined in number: at one time had up to 4
4. Old Business
Will Pohlman was hired and is in his first week
Doug Bristol will be working with him on Monday and Tuesday of the following week
His background check is good
5. New Business
Discussed the popularity of having the vest on the outside of the shirt: leans toward the military
\$80 for the shirt that the panels slide into: will check to see if it is reimbursable in the future
Hiring process: no OT with 4 officers: Doug said that training and vacation changes that
Sheriffs department has two openings: Nick up for one of the openings
Suggested the possibility of deputizing Wendy Myers if short on help
Two houses torn down this week: stucco on 10th street and Eric's house

Motion to Adjourn: Chris Boldt: Seconded: Sue Garloff

REGULAR MEETING
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
August 14, 2015
12:00 Noon

PRESENT: Darla Kruser, Mark Hanson, Vern Peterson, Mike Nelson, Jerry Haberman, Brian Harder, Steve Syverson, and Clara Johnson, Advisor

ABSENT: Brad Hanson, Advisor

STAFF PRESENT: Rob Anderson and Marva Ott

CITY ADMINISTRATOR: Wendy Meyer

CITY ATTORNEY: Paul Muske

CITY BUILDING INSPECTOR: Steve Carson

GUESTS: Cheryl Hiebert, O/A; Adam Sayles, Dean Janzen, Brian Dodge, Jay Allen Dick, Carol Ann Dick, D. David Dodge

1. Call to Order: Mark called the meeting to order.
2. Consent Agenda. An additional bill for \$93.00 was presented for payment from St. James Electric for electrical work done at Heritage Estates. Motion made and seconded by Brian and Darla to approve the minutes, bills including the additional bill and financials as presented. Carried.
3. Mark then closed the EDA meeting and called for an executive session of the board at 12:03 p.m. Mark asked all those present who were not board members or city staff to leave the meeting for 5 minutes or so. At 12:09 the executive session was closed and the EDA meeting was re-opened.
4. Adam Sayles/Curt Fast proposal: Adam addressed the board and talked about the EDA's ability to do a referendum according to the Attorney General's office. After several minutes listening to Adam, Mark asked for a motion to accept the offer proposed by Curt Fast/Adam Sayles. Adam asked to speak again about saving the buildings instead of destroying them. Several minutes were spent discussing and listening to other comments from the audience. Jerry then made a motion to reject the offer from Adam Sayles/Curt Fast and Brian seconded the motion. Carried.
5. TIF District 1-8, Economic Development District No. 2:
 - a. Property purchases have all been completed and recorded so the EDA owns all property involved.
 - b. Phase 2 Environmental on Ross Property: Caltha needs to get the lab data back yet and it has been reported to the MPCA. The contaminated soil will be land farmed. Drinking water should not have any contamination. The cost to land farm the soil would be approximately \$10,000.00-\$20,000.00 and if it needs to be treated it could cost between \$15,000.00 and \$25,000.00.
 - c. Architect Services: need to look at the quotes again. It was divided into 2 parts including the demo and the design. Falls Architect was the low bid on the demo

but Brunton works with developers so that may help us. Rob is recommending Brunton. Motion was made and seconded by Mike and Vern to hire Brunton. Carried.

- d. Other: nothing more to discuss.
6. 2016 EDA Draft Budget: the board reviewed the budget and Rob explained the numbers used. Motion was made and seconded by Jerry and Darla to approve the proposed budget. Carried.
7. Custom Motors Lease: the lease is not signed yet. Bill is supposed to come in today to sign.
8. Fulda Credit Union: they are very interested in coming to Mt. Lake and have looked at a couple of temporary locations.
9. Industrial Park Planning: nothing new to report yet.
10. Daycare: Rob has received 5 calls from people wanting to do daycare since he posted it on Facebook. One party is interested in doing family daycare for 12 kids and she is interested in the Elizabeth House as a location. The EDA would have to acquire the property and sell it to her on a Contract for Deed. We would also have to do a small loan and help with remodeling costs. The board asked if the owner would be willing to donate the property to the EDA. Rob will talk with the owner and see what can be negotiated. It was suggested that the Laker Grill building could also be a consideration along with the 1st Mennonite Church. We may have to have a special meeting to make some decisions. Another location could possibly be the ECFE building.
11. Website: still being worked on so not ready yet.
12. Lakeview Estates Lots for Dick's and Puente's: Dicks sent a letter asking for a 1 year extension and Puente's are asking for 18 months extension. After some discussion, a motion was made and seconded by Brian and Vern to approve the extensions as presented for both parties. Carried with Jerry opposing.
13. Chamber Hwy 60 Sign Wrap: The chamber is asking the EDA to pay for ½ the cost of the wrap which would be \$750.00. After some discussion about whether the wrap is totally enclosed on top and sides, a motion was made and seconded by Vern and Brian to approve paying for ½ the cost but to make sure it is enclosed on top and sides. Carried.
14. General Discussion:
 - a. Dollar General Representative will be coming in September to make a decision on where they want to build.
 - b. Next meeting will be September 11th.

c. Other: Dodge's are asking for additional time to clean out their building. After brief discussion, a motion was made and seconded by Jerry and Darla to give them till October 1st. Carried.

Rob told the board that Pop'd Kerns had another small fire in their building with smoke damage in the amount of \$30,000.00. Their insurance will pay for this. The floor area will be done by Holt's at the end of August.

15. Meeting was adjourned at 1:09 p.m.

SPECIAL MEETING
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
August 25, 2015
12:00 Noon

PRESENT: Darla Kruser, Mark Hanson, Vern Peterson, Mike Nelson, Brian Harder, Jerry Haberman, Steve Syverson and Clara Johnson, Advisor
ABSENT: Brad Hanson, Advisor
STAFF PRESENT: Rob Anderson and Marva Ott
CITY ADMINISTRATOR: Wendy Meyer
GUESTS: Cheryl Hiebert-Observer/Advocate; Taylor Boyd

1. Call to Order: Mark called the meeting to order.
2. The purpose of the meeting was to consider the purchase of the Elizabeth House property to be used as a daycare. The purchase price would be \$25,000.00 plus assessments of \$8,759.92 in "as is" condition. Taylor was introduced and she gave her proposal for opening a daycare in that building and also gave a brief outline of her history with daycare. Rob explained that she will be asking the EDA for assistance at our next regular EDA meeting. He is helping her put together a business plan and financial information for the board to review and consider. We could sell her the building on a contract for deed and also do a small business loan. The name of her business will be "Mt. Lake Helping Hands". The grounds property will need some work and the fence needs to be repaired. SCGF can't be used to fix up the building unless Boyd's would own the building for at least 6 months. Several questions were asked by the board to Taylor about her plans, education, etc. There was a comment made that we should have Dilly or someone go through the building to make sure there are no major issues we would have to deal with. Jerry made a motion to purchase the property for \$25,000.00 plus assessments and Mike seconded the motion. Carried. Vern then made a motion to request the council to waive the assessments and Brian seconded the motion. Carried. The board discussed doing an inspection of the property. On September 11th at our regular board meeting Taylor will have her official proposal for the board's consideration. The board also discussed selling the back portion of the property that we don't need to Mike Haberman if he pays for the paperwork.
3. Other: Mark talked about a party who is interested in building a twin home in Lakeview Estates but right now our covenants don't allow this. Mark stated that this person would like to live in one side of the home. He asked the board if they would consider allowing the twin home to be built. The board felt they should review the covenants at their next meeting and consider options. Rob will email the covenants to the board and include it in their packets too. Rob also gave an update on the downtown project. Caltha has submitted the application to the Mn Pollution Control Agency for us. Rob signed the contract with Caltha for the document prep work. MPCA has 30 days to respond to our application. Rob received in the mail the contract from Brunton Architect for the demo

and design work so the project is moving forward. The board discussed Lakeview Estates covenants some more and also the extensions they are giving to build on the lots. No action taken.

4. Nothing further. Meeting adjourned.

CITY OF MOUNTAIN LAKE, MN

RESOLUTION #26-15

**A RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING AN ADMINISTRATIVE PENALTY FOR
CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS BEGUN WITHOUT A PERMIT IN THE CITY OF MOUNTAIN LAKE**

WHEREAS, the City of Mt. Lake has adopted the State Building Code, and

WHEREAS, the City of Mountain Lake has the authority by MN Statute 326B.133, Subdivision 1 to enforce the code within its boundaries, and

WHEREAS, the City of Mountain Lake has the authority as found in Minnesota Rules 1300 to issuing permits and collect fees, and

WHEREAS, the City of Mountain Lake has adopted a fee schedule as found in Mt. Lake Ordinance #1-15; and

WHEREAS, the City of Mountain Lake acknowledges that it is a violation of the State Building Code to begin a project without a permit.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City of Mountain Lake shall charge an Administrative Penalty of double the permit fee for starting a construction project without a permit, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that said Administrative Penalty shall be effective September 22, 2015.

Adopted by the City Council of the City of Mountain Lake this 21st day of Sept., 2015.

Mike Nelson, Mayor

ATTEST:

Wendy Meyer, Clerk/Administrator

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GUARANTEED ENERGY SAVINGS PROGRAM



What is the Guaranteed Energy Savings Program?

Guaranteed Energy Savings Program, or GESP, a performance-based procurement and financing mechanism that leverages energy and operational savings achieved through the installation of energy efficient and renewable energy equipment and implementation of operational best practices, to finance the cost of the building retrofit and renewal project, with no net cost increase to the public entity.

The goals of GESP are to promote awareness and implementation of energy efficient and renewable energy measures in public facilities by state and local governments, school districts, and institutions of higher learning that result in millions of dollars in annual energy savings while creating jobs, reducing energy consumption, improving facility infrastructure and reducing carbon emissions.

What are Possible Projects?

- **Architectural & Structural:** roofing, doors, insulation, weather-stripping, window treatment
- **Electrical:** lighting retrofits, emergency power, power and distribution, networks, life safety systems
- **Mechanical:** HVAC systems, plumbing and drainage, energy management and building controls
- **Property & Site:** underground utilities, lighting improvements, swimming pools, ice arenas
- **Renewable Energy:** solar photovoltaic (PV), solar thermal, wind, biomass, hydroelectric
- **Water & Waste:** purification systems, sewage facilities, landfill gas capturing, waste utilization

What are the Benefits?

- No net cost increase to the public entity (taxpayers)—budget neutral
- No up-front costs for retrofit and or renewal project
- Known future energy costs
- Single point of accountability—the Energy Services Company (ESCO)
- Transfers *risk* of both construction and long-term savings to ESCO through performance *guarantee*
- Utilizes best value procurement practices
- Annual energy savings are monitored and verified by the ESCO

Learn more
on reverse

Project Development Process

- **Public entity works with the Department of Commerce, Division of Energy Resources**
- **Opportunity Assessment Phase:** The public entity works with DER to review their facility needs, issues and goals
- **Investigation Phase:** The public entity advertises a Site-specific Request for Proposal (SSRFP) to pre-qualified (Energy Service Companies (ESCOs) to provide energy savings performance contracting services. A contract is signed between an ESCO and the public entity
- **Implementation Phase:** During this phase, the ESCO will obtain quotes for project financing and the public entity will amend the Work Order Contract to include the agreed upon ECMs and associated guaranteed maximum price and annual guaranteed savings
- **Performance Phase:** During this phase, the ESCO follows the Savings Measurement & Verification (M&V) Plan developed in the investigation phase to quantify the energy savings achieved, and annually presents the findings in a report to the public entity and DER

How it Works

- An Energy Performance Contract (ESPC) is established between the public entity and the Energy Services Company" (ESCO).
- The cost-savings generated during the term of the guaranteed energy savings agreement, will meet or exceed the annual payments due under the finance agreement.
- In the event the "guaranteed" savings are not achieved during any year of the agreement, the ESCO is required to reimburse the public entity for the guarantee shortfall. (The ESCO assumes the construction and on-going performance risk of the project).

Energy Service Companies (ESCOs)

Eleven energy service companies (ESCOs) are prequalified to provide energy savings performance contracting services to public institutions:

- AMERESCO, Inc.
- Chevron U.S.A. Inc.
- Consolidated Edison Solutions, Inc.
- Control Technology & Solutions LLC
- Harris Mechanical Contracting Company
- Honeywell
- Johnson Controls, Inc.
- McKinstry Essention, Inc.
- Noresco, LLC
- Siemens Industry, Inc.
- Trane U.S. Inc.



GUARANTEED ENERGY SAVINGS PROGRAM

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GESP Project Development Process



Below are six steps for Guaranteed Energy Savings Program (GESP) participants and the estimated amount of time for each.

START



Opportunity Assessment

1-3 MONTHS



Define Project Goals

1-3 MONTHS



ESCO Selection

2-4 MONTHS



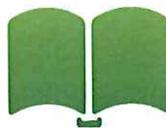
Project Development

3-6 MONTHS



Project Implementation

6-12 MONTHS



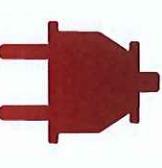
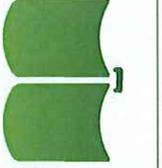
Performance Period

5-25 YEARS

FINISH



GESP Project Development Process Details

Process Step	Activities	Typical Duration	Milestone
 Opportunity Assessment	Meetings with Dept. of Commerce to review GESP, B3 data, facility needs, issues, and goals	1–3 months	Joint Powers Agreement
 Define Project Goals	Work with team to set goals for: energy savings; GHG emission reduction; renewable portfolio; building public disclosure; job creation. Secure leadership buy-in. Assign project champion.	1–3 months	Issue Site-Specific RFP
 ESCO Selection	Request for Proposal (RFP) evaluation and Energy Service Company (ESCO) selection	2–4 months	Issue Work Order Contract
 Project Development	Perform Investment Grade Audit to develop project scope, cost, savings, and funding	3–6 months	Issue Work Order Contract Amendment
 Project Implementation	Installation of energy conservation measures (ECMs)	6–12 months	Certification of Final Completion and Acceptance
 Performance Period	Review Measurement & Verification (M&V) reports	5–25 years (on-going)	Annual M&V Report



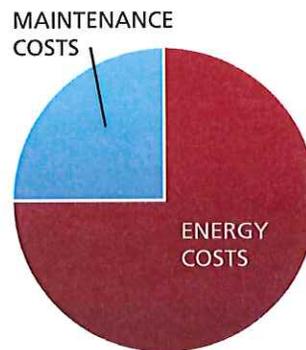
GUARANTEED ENERGY SAVINGS PROGRAM



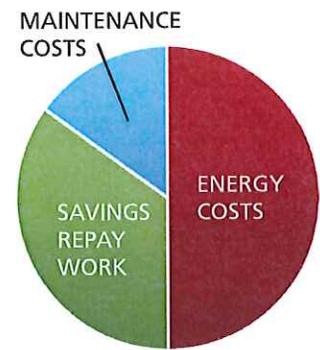
What is Performance Contracting?

Energy Savings Performance Contracting (ESPC) is a performance-based procurement and financing mechanism that leverages maintenance, operations, and utilities savings achieved through the installation of energy efficiency and renewable energy measures, to finance the cost of the facility retrofit and renewal project, with no bonding or raising taxes.

BEFORE IMPROVEMENTS



AFTER IMPROVEMENTS



What is the Guaranteed Energy Savings Program?

The Guaranteed Energy Savings Program (GESP) promotes awareness and implementation of energy efficient and renewable energy measures in public facilities to provide millions of dollars in annual energy savings in Minnesota. To do this, GESP supports you every step of the way. GESP can help you:

- Solicit and award site-specific requests for proposals from pre-qualified Energy Service Companies (ESCOs) to perform Energy Savings Performance Contracting (ESPC) services
- Evaluate the technical and financial feasibility of ESCO proposals
- Negotiate and award work order contracts to pre-qualified ESCOs under the GESP Master Contract to implement energy conservation measures
- Offer project management oversight of ESPC projects
- Provide technical assistance to ensure the ESPC Measurement and Verification Plan is properly performed throughout the performance period of the contract

GESP Benefits	Reduce	Renew	Achieve
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Energy Use ■ O&M Costs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Facilities ■ Comfort & Health 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Job Creation ■ Renewables

Learn more on reverse

What Can You Do with GESP?



Whether you're a county, city, school district or any other form of local government, there are improvements that you can make to your facilities to save energy and save money. GESP allows you to bundle these projects so that low-hanging fruit can finance deeper retrofits without impacting your budget.

Counties



Cities



School Districts



High-Potential Facilities

- Schools
- Courthouses & City Halls
- Ice Arenas
- Correctional Facilities
- Water & Wastewater Treatment Plants
- Recreational Facilities & Pools
- Public Works Buildings
- Libraries
- Liquor Stores

Possible Projects

- Upgrading to high-efficiency boilers and chillers
- HVAC system redesign
- Retrofitting to efficient lighting
- Installing heat recovery equipment
- Increasing water conservation
- Adding solar energy systems
- Converting to ground-source heating & cooling

Ready To Get Started?

Learn more about GESP:

Peter Lindstrom
Clean Energy Resource Teams
plindstr@umn.edu
612-625-9634



Get details & join the program:

Energy Information Center
MN Department of Commerce
energysavings.programs@state.mn.us
651-539-1882 or 1-800-657-3710



Wendy Meyer

Subject: FW: grant opportunities

From: David Bucklin [<mailto:david.bucklin@windomnet.com>]

Sent: Wednesday, September 16, 2015 8:15 AM

To: 'Wendy Meyer'

Subject: RE: grant opportunities

Wendy,

I think you ended up with the Clean Water Fund grant application for the three projects that would benefit Mountain lake. They are the (1) sediment basin creation on the golf course creek, (2) the rain garden on the Hanson property, and (3) the out let wall and channel fix for the city stormwater plunge pool at Lawcon park. That grant request was for \$38,000. The city or other contributor will need to come up with \$6,088 dollars in in-kind or cash for both the sediment basin and the plunge pool. The Hanson rain garden is not included in those dollars.

The tree commission grant I mentioned is an Urban Forestry Emerald Ash Borer preparedness grant. The DNR has asked the Greater Blue Earth River Basin Alliance GBERBA to apply for dollars. I will try to incorporate Mountain Lake in the grant to boost our ongoing tree program.

Each year since the beginning of the urban tree program in Mountain Lake I have been able to use \$1,000 dollars of Water plan funds for the program. I will see if any more dollars may be available to use this year (2016) due to the demand.

Thanks, Dave

Dave is also recommending the City apply for a \$10,000 Invasive Species Grant to off-set the reduction of the ²⁰¹⁶ DNR Invasive Species Program.

MnTOPO



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○ Bench
— old trail
— gravel
9/10/2015

MnTOPO



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2016 Budget

Items removed on 8-31-15

- Remove Comprehensive Plan reduces levy \$10,000
- Ambulance Roof reduces levy \$15,000
- Reduce outdoor pool feasibility reduces levy \$6,500
- Parks (capital outlay) reduces levy \$5,000
-

Levy as of 9-1-15 \$706,396.72 (this does not include trail seal coat quote of \$5,200)

Target 5% increase \$635,064.50

10% increase \$665,305.66

Amount to be decreased to reach 10% \$41,091.06

Amount to be decreased to reach 5% \$71,332.25

Possible Revenue Adjustments

- Increase Utility Contribution (currently \$120,000)
- Increase ambulance income (see next page) reduces levy \$10,000
- Increase aid Library receives from County reduces levy \$3,000
- Use 2015 excess campground revenues to fund 2016 park expenses

Possible Expense Adjustments

- Reduce Fire Dept. capital outlay reduces levy \$3,000
- Reduce admin Dues and Subs. (from \$5,000 to \$2,500) reduces levy \$2,500
- Remove/reduce Highway 60 sign (\$10,000)
- Remove pool feasibility from \$2,000 to \$0 reduces levy \$2,000
- Remove/reduce financial support of school pool (\$15,000)
- Remove/reduce financial support of school summer rec & road race (\$5,300)
- Remove/reduce house demolition (\$10,000)
- Use Fund 501 for City Hall Bond payment (\$77,375)
- Remove/reduce street dept. dust control (\$5,500)
- Reduce funds 101, 211, 221, 231 & 507 1% (\$18,000)
- Reduce funds 101, 211, 221, 231 & 507 1.5% (\$27,000)

ALSO

Police Dept. Health Insurance currently 1 single, 3 family;

New hire could move coverage to 2 single; 2 family

reduce budget \$10,161

RE: Ambulance Income

The City hired Expert-T Billing to provide ambulance billing services a number of years ago.

Bill Schommer, Expert-T's owner, was recently in Mt. Lake to meet with staff.

Currently Mt. Lake's rates are:

\$450 – all runs except City of Butterfield.

\$550 – City of Butterfield. Calls are \$100 higher in Butterfield because the city does not pay a yearly per capita fee as the townships do.

Bill pointed out that our rates are low. The article below about Windom's rates was in the Sept. 9 Cottonwood County Citizen.

Based on the call numbers for 2014 and 2015 if Mt. Lake raises its rates to \$454.06 Medicare; \$600 private insurance with the exception of Butterfield calls; and \$700 for Butterfield calls, an additional \$10,000 of income can be realized in 2016.

The recommendation is to make these changes effective Oct. 1, 2015.

Ambulance rate increase to take effect this month

■ Windom's ambulance rate has increased by \$200.

Starting this month, the cost of an ambulance ride has increased by about \$200.

The new rate is \$650 for basic life support and \$850 for advanced life support. In requesting the rate increase, Ambulance Director Tim Hacker pointed out that Windom's transport rate was very low compared to other ambulance services in the area.

The new rate puts Windom's

rate a bit higher than Jackson's, which has rates of \$500 for BLS and \$600 for ALS, and significantly lower than Murray County, which has rates of \$900 for BLS and \$1,249 for ALS.

Windom's non-transport rate will be \$450.

When asked why there is such a wide variety of rates, City Administrator Steve Nasby replied that service funding varies by city. Some cities support the ambulance service through taxes, Windom does not.

Cott. Co Citizen

9-9-15

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City of Mt. Lake

**Mt. Lake City Council
Resolution #27-15**

Resolution Adopting Proposed Preliminary Property Tax Levy

Be it resolved by the Council of the City of Mt. Lake, County of Cottonwood, Minnesota, that the following sum of money be levied for the current year, collectible in 2016, upon taxable property in the City of Mt. Lake:

Total levy \$ _____

The Clerk/Administrator is hereby instructed to transmit a certified copy of this resolution to the county auditor of Cottonwood County, Minnesota.

Motion by Member:
Seconded by Member:
Voting Aye:
Voting Nay:
Absent:

Whereupon, said Resolution is hereby declared passed.

Adopted by the City Council on Sept. 21, 2015.

Mayor Mike Nelson

ATTEST:

Wendy Meyer, Clerk/Administrator

RELEVANT LINKS:

2015 Minn. Laws 1st Special Session Ch. 3, Art. 6, § 7 amending Minn. Stat. § 297A.70

Minn. Stat. § 275.065, subd. 1.

Minn. Stat. § 275.066.

Department of Revenue information.

See LMC model Resolution Adopting Final Property Tax Levy.

City sales and use tax exemption. Instrumentalities of cities, special districts, and joint powers boards become exempt from state sales and use tax on Jan. 1, 2017. Prior to the amendment, these entities were to become exempt on Jan. 1, 2016.

IV. Taxation notification procedure

The table below outlines the annual taxation notification procedure and deadlines (sometimes called “truth in taxation” or “TNT”). The deadline to adopt the preliminary tax levy and certify it to the county auditor is Sept. 30. The deadline for “special taxing districts,” such as economic development authorities (EDAs), housing and redevelopment authorities (HRAs), port authorities, and others, remains Sept. 15.

According to the Department of Revenue, cities with populations of 500 or less and all special taxing districts (except the Metropolitan Council, the Metropolitan Airports Commission, and the Metropolitan Mosquito Control Commission) are exempt from the requirement to hold a meeting with public input prior to adoption of the final levy. All cities, including cities with populations of 500 or less, must still certify proposed property tax levies to the county auditor on or before Sept. 30, 2015, and special taxing districts must do so by Sept. 15, 2015.

All cities and special taxing districts must certify the final property tax levy to the county auditor by Dec. 28, 2015 (five working days after Dec. 20). If this deadline is missed, the final levy for 2015 will stay the same as it was in 2014.

Taxation Notification Summary Chart for Taxes Payable 2016	
Date	Action
On or before Sept. 15	Special taxing districts (EDAs, HRAs, port authorities, etc.) must adopt any proposed property tax levy and certify the proposed levy to the county auditor.
On or before Sept. 30	At one meeting, the city council adopts the proposed property tax levy and announces the time and place of a future city council meeting at which the budget and levy will be discussed and public input allowed, prior to final budget and levy determination. This public input meeting must occur after Nov. 24 and must start at or after 6 p.m. The time and place of the public input meeting must be included in the minutes but newspaper publication of the minutes is not required.

RELEVANT LINKS:

Date	Action
On or before Sept. 30	Cities must provide the county auditor with the following information: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The time and place of the meeting at which the budget and levy will be discussed and public input allowed. (Again, meeting must occur after Nov. 24, and must not start before 6 p.m.) • A phone number that city tax payers may call if they have questions related to the auditor's property tax notice; this does not require listing a private phone number. • An address where comments will be received by mail; this does not require listing a private address.
Nov. 11 to Nov. 24	County auditor prepares and sends parcels specific notices.
Nov. 25 to Dec. 28	Cities of population greater than 500 hold meeting (at 6 p.m. or later) to discuss the budget and property tax levy and, before a final determination, allows public input.
On or before Dec. 28	Cities must also file the certificate of compliance (Form TNT) with the Department of Revenue by Dec. 28, 2015.

26 U.S.C.A. § 3121
 (b)(B)(7)(F) (iv). Circular E
 Employers' Tax Guide (IRS
 Publication 15). PERA
 Election Judges.

V. Election judge wages and withholding

Income tax withholding: Paying election judges. Election judges' pay is exempt from state and federal income tax withholding. (Election judges are responsible for declaring the wages as personal income and may have to pay income tax depending on the judge's personal situation—but the city need not withhold income taxes).

Federal and/or state tax withholding, including withholding for Social Security and Medicare. If an election judge is paid less than \$1,600 in 2015, no Social Security or Medicare taxes are withheld. So cities do not need to issue W-4s for judges earning less than \$1,600. At the time of publication, the threshold for 2016 had not been established.

Issuing W-2s. If an election judge earns more than \$600 in a year, cities must issue that person a W-2. (According to IRS contacts, W-2s may be issued to judges earning less than \$600 for software and bookkeeping purposes).

PERA withholding. According to the Public Employees Retirement Association (PERA), election judges are local governmental employees, but the wages earned in these positions are not subject to PERA withholding.

**LSS SENIOR NUTRITION PROGRAM
SITE USE AGREEMENT - 2016**

This site use agreement has been prepared for the purpose of defining the rules of the agencies involved in the development and operation of the Nutrition Program in Mountain Lake.

This agreement made this 21st day of Sept. 2015, by and between City of Mountain Lake, hereafter referred to as the Company and the LSS Senior Nutrition Program, 715 North 11th Street, Suite 401C, City of Moorhead and the State of Minnesota, hereafter called the Nutrition Program, in consideration of costs, covenants and agreements herein reserved and contained, do hereby agree each with the other as follows:

I. All correspondence regarding this agreement will be between the Nutrition Program Director or Assistant Director and the City of Mountain Lake.

II. The Nutrition Program agrees and shall abide, conform to and comply with all the laws of the United States and the State of Minnesota, and all of the ordinances of the City of Mountain Lake, Minnesota, together with all the rules and requirements of the Police and Fire Department of the City of Mountain Lake, Minnesota. In addition, all rules and regulations by the Minnesota Department of Health will be complied with. A restaurant license, if required, will be procured annually by the Nutrition Program. The Company agrees to arrange for an annual fire inspection and notify the Nutrition Program of results. Fire inspecting must be completed by professionally trained personnel. *Restaurant license reports will be provided to the City of Mt. Lake.*

III. The closing of sites on holidays will be determined by the Nutrition Program and the Company one month prior to the holiday. Nutrition sites usually observe ten holidays a year which include New Year's Day, Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, Good Friday, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Thanksgiving Day, Day after Thanksgiving holiday, Christmas Eve Day, and Christmas Day.

IV. The Nutrition Program agrees to restore community facilities to ordinary cleanliness after use. Ordinary cleanliness is defined as leaving facilities in the same condition as they were prior to entering. Notwithstanding this undertaking, basic custodial services such as floor maintenance, window washing, cleaning of rest rooms, washing and/or painting of walls, snow and ice removal and all other general maintenance, reasonable inspection and repairs to the interior and exterior of the facilities are the responsibility of the building owner.

V. The Nutrition Program shall procure and maintain comprehensive general combined single limit liability coverage of One Million Dollars (\$1,000,000.00) and Workers Compensation Insurance on all Nutrition Program staff relating to the site mentioned above. The Nutrition Program shall hold the building owner harmless for that portion of any damages or injury occurring on the rented premises for which the Nutrition Program may be found liable.

VI. The Company agrees to maintain, inspect and repair and to assume sole financial responsibility for the facility due to mechanical and electrical problems. The Company agrees to have all fire extinguishers inspected yearly by a licensed inspector at company expense. A dated and signed tag must be placed on each extinguisher. *The Program is responsible for repair/replacement of equipment used solely by The Program. See XIV & XV attached.* (40)

VII. The Company agrees to furnish the Nutrition Program information about insurance coverage and dollar value of each type of coverage carried which relates to the facility and persons using the facility.

VIII. ~~In the event of a disaster, the Company agrees to allow the Nutrition Program to use facilities for the preparation, serving and distribution of meals/food and in an extreme disaster for housing of disaster victims.~~

IX. The Nutrition Program agrees to pay a yearly fee of \$0, to help offset the costs of operation.

X. In the event the Nutrition Program or the Company must cancel all or part of the terms of this agreement, the Company and the Nutrition Program will provide the other agency 30 days notice in writing. Upon written receipt by the Company from LSS, this agreement is subject to immediate termination by the Nutrition Program should federal, state, or local dollars be reduced or withdrawn.

XI. The Company agrees to allow the Nutrition Program use of the facility kitchen/dining areas for the term January 1, 2016 to December 31, 2016, to be used as a nutrition site for seniors on the following days/evenings: weekdays 11a.m. - 1p.m. less holidays

XII. Other: Program agrees to not serve meals on Primary Election Day and General Election Day - Aug. 9 and Nov. 8, 2016

XIII. **For Housing Projects only:** Please provide your tenant ratio of under 60 years of age _____% and over 60 year of age _____%.

LSS SENIOR NUTRITION PROGRAM

FACILITY OWNER/OPERATOR

Senior Program Director Date
715 North 11th Street, Suite #401C
Moorhead, MN 56560
218.233.7521
monica.douglas@lssmn.org

Signature Date

Print Name

Address

Phone

Fax

E-mail

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XIV. LSS agrees to be responsible for the repair and maintenance of all equipment used by the Program including that provided by the city, with the exception of damage resulting from use by organizations and groups other than LSS.

XV. The City agrees to be responsible for the repair or replacement of equipment which is the property of the Program if such equipment is damaged or destroyed as a result of use by organizations and groups other than LSS.

RICE NESHAP Summary

- In 2013, the federal Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) finalized the National Emissions Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants (NESHAP) for Reciprocating Internal Combustion Engines (RICE).
 - Designed to reduce RICE emissions of 189 EPA-Listed Hazardous Air Pollutants;
 - Targets diesel generators without catalytic converters.
- The 2013 rule included 100-exemption on run time for “emergency demand response and system reliability.”
 - The initial 2010 rules established a 15-hour exemption, but was extended to 100-hours in 2013 due in part to Central MN Municipal Power Agency (CMMPPA) comments;
 - Essentially allowed all existing diesel generators to qualify as Regional Transmission Organization (RTO) capacity without the need to installing catalytic converters;
 - Midcontinent Independent Transmission System Operator (MISO) has a 20 hour run minimum, other RTO policies vary.
- In November 2014, a motion filed with the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit challenged the 100-hour exemption in the final EPA rules.
- May 1, 2015 District Court reversed and remanded to the EPA the 100-hour exemption.
 - The court said that the 100-hour exemption in the 2013 final rule was “arbitrary and capricious;”
 - According the Court, EPA justifies the 2013 rule on the basis of supporting “system reliability,” but failed to consult either Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) or North American Electric Reliability Corporation (NERC);
 - Neither FERC nor NERC had an issue with the 100-hour exemption.
- On August 14, 2015, the court granted EPA’s motion to stay issuance of the court’s mandate until May 1, 2016.
 - Ensures grid reliability for the 2015-2016 planning year;
 - Allows generators time to install catalytic converters;
 - After May 1, 2016, the 100-hour exemption will be vacated if no progress is made by the EPA and/or courts.
- **After May 1, 2016, your diesel generation may no long qualify as MISO capacity.**
 - We cannot assume the 100-hour exemption will be reinstated after May 1, 2016;
 - If your diesels already have catalytic converters, this is not an issue;
 - If your diesels do not qualify, you will be required to purchase capacity at market prices which may outweigh the cost of installing the catalytic converters;
 - If catalytic converters are planned, earlier installation should be considered;
 - If catalytic converters are not planned, seriously reconsider.

Mt. Lake’s diesels do not have catalytic converters. The cost to install as found in the 2016 Capital Improvement Plan is \$350,000. This estimate is several years old. CMMPPA is and will continue to advise Mt. Lake.

Regional transmission organization

A **regional transmission organization (RTO)** in the United States is an organization that is responsible for moving electricity over large interstate areas. Like the European transmission system operator (TSO), an RTO coordinates, controls and monitors an electricity transmission grid.

An **independent system operator (ISO)** is an organization formed at the direction or recommendation of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC). In the areas where an ISO is established, it coordinates, controls and monitors the operation of the electrical power system, usually within a single US State, but sometimes encompassing multiple states. RTOs typically perform the same functions as ISOs, but cover a larger geographic area.

A more detailed explanation of the differences between an RTO and an ISO is available at: [ISO RTO](#).

RTOs were created by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) Order No. 2000, Issued on December 29, 1999.

1 Details

The four required characteristics are:^[1]

- Independence – the RTO must be independent of any market participant.
- Scope and regional configuration – the RTO must serve an appropriate region.
- Operational authority – the RTO must have operational authority for all transmission under its control.
- Short-term reliability – the RTO must have exclusive authority for maintaining the short-term reliability of the grid it operates

There are eight functions, including tariff administration and design, congestion management, parallel path flow, ancillary services, OASIS total transmission capability and available transmission capability, market monitoring, planning and expansion, and interregional coordination.^[2]

Only electric utilities that are located within the United States fall under FERC authority, but a larger organization called the North American Electric Reliability Corporation (NERC) overlays the entire FERC footprint and

also includes a Mexican utility and several Canadian utilities. As such, international reciprocity is commonplace, and rules or recommendations introduced by FERC often are voluntarily accepted by NERC members outside of FERC's jurisdiction. Therefore, one Canadian Province is a member of a U.S.-based RTO, while two others function as an Electric System Operator (ESO), an organization essentially equal to a U.S.-based ISO.

Some ISOs and RTOs also act as a marketplace in wholesale power, especially since the electricity market deregulation of the late 1990s. Most are set up as nonprofit corporations using governance models developed by FERC.

FERC Orders 888 and 889 defined how independent power producers (IPPs) and power marketers would be allowed fair access to transmission systems, and mandated the implementation of the Open Access Same-Time Information System (OASIS) to facilitate the fair handling of transactions between electric power transmission suppliers and their customers.

TSOs in Europe cross state and provincial borders like RTOs.

2 History

RTOs were created by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) as a way to handle the challenges associated with the operation of multiple interconnected independent power supply companies. FERC describes this as a voluntary system. The traditional model of the vertically integrated electric utility with a transmission system designed to serve its own customers worked extremely well for decades. As dependence on a reliable supply of electricity grew and electricity was transported over increasingly greater distances, power pools were formed and interconnections developed. Transactions were relatively few and generally planned well in advance.

However, in the last decade of the 20th century, some policy makers and academics projected that the electrical power industry would ultimately experience deregulation, and RTOs were conceived as the way to handle the vastly increased number of transactions that take place in a competitive environment. About a dozen states decided to deregulate but some pulled back following the California electricity crisis of 2000 and 2001.

RTOs ensure three key free marketer drives: open access

and non-discriminatory services, the continued reliability of a system unequalled anywhere else, and multiple transmission charges that will not negate the savings to the end-use customer. Critics of RTOs counter that the wholesale electricity market as operated through the RTOs is in fact raising prices beyond what would obtain in a truly competitive situation, and that the organizations themselves add a needless layer of bureaucracy.

The RTO concept provides for separation of generation and transmission and elimination of pancaked rates, and it encourages a diverse membership including public power. Wider membership contributes to the establishment of an entity with the size necessary to function as an RTO.

3 Purpose

In the 1990s, as states and regions in the United States established wholesale competition for electricity, groups of utilities and their federal and state regulators began forming independent transmission operators that would ensure equal access to the power grid for non-utility firms, enhance the reliability of the transmission system and operate wholesale electricity markets. Today, seven of these grid operators, either independent system operators (ISOs) or RTOs, coordinate the power grid to ensure the reliable delivery of two-thirds of the electricity used in the United States to two-thirds of its population. Most are overseen by FERC.

ISOs and RTOs coordinate generation and transmission across wide geographic regions, matching generation to the load instantaneously to keep supply and demand for electricity in balance. The grid operators forecast load and schedule generation to assure that sufficient generation and back-up power is available in case demand rises or a power plant or power line is lost. They also operate wholesale electricity markets that enable participants to buy and sell electricity on a day-ahead or a real-time spot market basis. These markets provide electricity suppliers with more options for meeting consumer needs for power at the lowest possible cost.

ISO/RTOs provide non-discriminatory transmission access, facilitating competition among wholesale suppliers to improve transmission service and provide fair electricity prices. Across large regions, they schedule the use of transmission lines; manage the interconnection of new generation and monitor the markets to ensure fairness and neutrality for all participants. Providing these services regionally is more efficient than providing them on a smaller-scale, utility by utility.

Today's power industry is far more than a collection of power plants and transmission lines. Maintaining an effective grid requires management of three different but related sets of flows – the flow of energy across the grid; the exchange of information about power flows and the equipment it moves across; and the flow of money be-

tween producers, marketers, transmission owners, buyers and others. ISO/RTOs play an essential role in managing and enhancing all three of these flows:

4 List of RTOs

As of 2012 there are ten ISO/RTOs operating in North America:^{[3][4]}

- Alberta Electric System Operator (AESO)
- California independent system operator (CAISO)
- Electric Reliability Council of Texas (ERCOT)
- Midcontinent Independent System Operator, Inc. (MISO)
- New Brunswick Power System Operator (NBPSO)
- ISO New England (ISO-NE)
- New York Independent System Operator (NYISO)
- Ontario Independent Electricity System Operator (IESO)
- PJM Interconnection (PJM)
- Southwest Power Pool (SPP)

Non-RTO transmission organizations:

- ColumbiaGrid
- Northern Tier Transmission Group