

MINUTES OF THE  
SHAKOPEE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION  
November 3, 2025  
Regular Meeting

1. Call to Order. President Letourneau called the November 3, 2025, meeting of the Shakopee Public Utilities Commission to order at 5:00 P.M. President Letourneau, Vice President Mocol, Commissioner DuLaney, Commissioner Fox, and Commissioner Krieg were present.
2. Agenda Approval. Vice President Mocol moved, seconded by Commissioner Fox, to approve the agenda. Ayes: Letourneau, Mocol, DuLaney, Fox, and Krieg. Nays: None.
3. Communications. President Letourneau summarized the conclusions of the performance review of the General Manager, noting Mr. Drent's leadership skills within SPU and the broader community, and the request for continued evaluation of staffing needs and for longer-term financial analysis. President Letourneau also noted media coverage of another community in which board members were asked to sign a non-disclosure agreement with a potential large customer. He clarified that SPU has not signed any non-disclosure agreements with potential large customers and asked Commissioners to refer any requests to Mr. Drent.
4. Public Comment Period. No public comments were offered.
5. Consent Agenda. Commissioner Fox moved to approve the consent agenda as presented: (5a) Approval of October 6, 2025 Minutes; (5b) November 3, 2025 Warrant List; (5c) Monthly Water Dashboard for September 2025; (5d) September 2025 Financial Reports; (5e) 2026 Commission Meeting/Holiday/Workshop Calendar; (5f) MMPA October 2025 Meeting Update; (5g) Results of Request for Proposals (RFP) – Medical and Dental Insurance; and (5h) Phased Retirement – Joe Adams. Commissioner Krieg seconded the motion. Ayes: Letourneau, Mocol, DuLaney, Fox, and Krieg. Nays: None.
6. Liaison Report. Commissioner DuLaney noted that he and Mr. Drent met with Scott County Commissioner Brennan concerning nuclear energy. He also asked if a joint meeting date has been set with the City Council. Mr. Drent noted that the joint meeting is in the process of being scheduled.
7. Customer AMI Appeal Request. Sharon Walsh, Director of Marketing, Key Accounts, and Special Projects, provided an overview of the communications with this customer. Andrea Lynn spoke on behalf of Darlene Cianflone, noting health concerns with the radiofrequency associated with advanced meter infrastructure (AMI) and stating concerns for the community. A man who lives in Jordan, Minnesota spoke about his sensitivity to radiofrequency exposure. Ms. Lynn asked the Commission to adopt an opt-out policy to allow customers to avoid radiofrequency exposure from AMI.
8. Semi-Final Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) for 2025 – 2030. Joseph Adams, Planning and Engineering Director, presented the Administrative CIP, as well as the semi-final version of the Electric CIP and the Water CIP. He noted any revisions made since the Commission work

session. Mr. Adams noted that the final version of the CIPs will be presented at the December Commission meeting.

9. 2026 Semi-Final Operating Budget. Kelley Willemssen, Director of Finance and Administration, presented the usage and rate assumptions for both electric and water service, including a 3% increase in energy rates, no changes to monthly electric service charge, and a 7% increase in water rates and \$1.00 increase in monthly service charges. Commissioner DuLaney asked about SPU rates compared to neighboring utilities. Mr. Drent explained that when SPU compared rates last year, SPU was ten percent below Xcel and within .5% of Minnesota Valley. Ms. Willemssen explained that the 2026 budget included market-based wage adjustments of 3.5% for non-union employees, with further adjustment based on individual performance, and that the union contract negotiations are in process. Mr. Drent presented a summary of employee benefits.

10. Operations Report. Brad Carlson, Director of Field Operations, provided a water update, noting the addition of a large valve in Tower #4 to isolate it when it is out-of-service for restoration in 2027. He reported that the lead service lines report was submitted to the State. Mr. Carlson noted that twelve service lines require attention, one of which was replaced, and that a few hundred are unknown, and SPU is preparing a ten-year plan for replacements. He also reported that the Tank #9 footings and foundation were completed. As the electric update, Mr. Carlson reported that crews installed the Amphitheater loop, that the changeouts to AMI meters continue, with approximately 69 electric meters remaining, that underground was installed for the SMSC healing center, and that Bonnevista phase 2 was completed. Mr. Carlson noted that three outages occurred since the last Commission meeting, one was animal-related and one involved a failed transformer.

11. Residential Customers - Amended Policy for Non-RF Equipment. Ms. Walsh explained another proposed option to the Opt-Outside Policy for AMI, which would permit residential customers to select non-radiofrequency communication modules and pay the associated costs. She explained a one-time fee for electric (\$175) and for water meter (\$110) installation, as well as an on-going monthly fee of \$75 for manual meter reading, based on SPU's equipment and labor costs. The fees would be adjusted annually. Commissioner DuLaney spoke in favor of the option. Commissioner Fox voiced concerns with this option for a small number of customers and due to the inherent exposure to radiofrequency on a system-wide basis. Commissioner Mocol agreed and noted that this option would still require wiring to the outside of the home. President Letourneau noted the benefits of this option from a risk mitigation perspective, and Commissioner Krieg emphasized that the option should cover all of SPU's costs. Commissioner DuLaney moved to amend the current policy to allow for the installation of non-radiofrequency equipment, and to address SPU's costs through a one-time setup fee of \$175 electric and \$110 water, based on the average costs and SPU's current published rates, all adjusted annually according to SPU's published fee schedule. The customer also needs to provide wiring outside of house for touchpad installation. Commissioner Krieg seconded the motion. Ayes: Letourneau, DuLaney, and Krieg. Nays: Fox and Mocol. Motion passed 3-2.

12. Organizational Restructuring of Utilities, Operations, Engineering, and Administrative Support. Mr. Drent described the proposed changes to the organizational chart for 2026, namely, the Director of Electric Engineering and Operations, the Director of Water Engineering and Operations, and administrative support reassignment. Vice President Mocol moved to approve the

new Organization Chart 2026-1. Commissioner Fox seconded the motion. Ayes: Letourneau, DuLaney, Mocol, Fox, and Krieg. Nays: None.

13. IT Report. Philip Dubbe, Director of IT and Technical Services, explained SPU's work for the past three years with FR Secure on IT risk assessment. He reported that the most recent testing resulted in 728 out of 850 points, a significant improvement from 452 points in 2023.

14. General Manager Report. Mr. Drent reported that the MMPA Board meeting last month discussed a preliminary budget containing a three percent increase. He explained that environmental testing is underway for the Hawkins site. Mr. Drent noted that he has met with 22 individual employees. A meeting with Xcel Energy is planned for November 13 to discuss service territory. Mr. Drent noted on-going work on the budget and the employee handbook. Mr. Drent explained that SPU's application for Solar on Public Buildings was denied because it did not meet the requirements of at or below 80% of median income for Scott County. He also noted that union negotiations continue.

15. Adjourn. Motion by Commissioner Fox, seconded by Commissioner DuLaney, to adjourn. Ayes: Letourneau, Mocol, DuLaney, Fox and Krieg. Nays: None.



Greg Drent, Commission Secretary