

AUSTIN UTILITIES

MINUTES OF MEETING

4:00 pm, February 17th, 2026	Regular Meeting	Tyler Hulsebus
Date		President

Members Present: Tyler Hulsebus, President Jay Lutz, Commissioner Geoff Baker, Commissioner Kristin Johnson, Commissioner	Others Present: Tom Dankert, General Manager Sarah Douty, Administrative Coordinator Marc Oleson, Information Technology Director Dan Ulland, Employee Relations Director
Members Absent: Steve Greenman, Commissioner	

President Tyler Hulsebus called the meeting to order at 4:00 pm.

Moved by Geoff Baker, seconded by Jay Lutz, to approve the agenda. Approved unanimously.

Moved by Geoff Baker, seconded by Kristin Johnson, to approve the regular meeting minutes of January 20th, 2026. Approved unanimously.

Moved by Kristin Johnson, seconded by Geoff Baker, to approve the disbursements summary, accounts payable list, additional bills and expenses, and authorize warrants to be drawn for their payment. Approved unanimously.

Tom Dankert, General Manager, presented AU’s Elected Official Travel Policy. The policy is required by the state of MN for elected officials traveling out of state. AU’s policy also includes prior approval for overnight travel in addition to out of state travel. Moved by Jay Lutz, seconded by Geoff Baker, to approve the policy as presented. Approved unanimously.

Moved by Jay Lutz, seconded by Geoff Baker, to approve the travel request for Jay Lutz and Tom Dankert to attend the MMUA Legislative Conference in St. Paul on March 24th and 25th. Approved unanimously.

Tom Dankert, General Manager, reviewed Resolution No. 335 – Delegation of GM Authority. Commissioners had previously asked to review this resolution annually. No changes were recommended by staff. Commissioners asked if an addition might be made to address succession planning responsibilities of the GM. After some discussion it was decided to keep the resolution as is and to have the GM report annually on the status of key positions to the Personnel Committee.

Tom Dankert, General Manager, reviewed the status of the downtown water reservoir in Alex Bumgardner’s absence. One quote to complete an inspection has been received. Once a second quote is received staff will award the inspection accordingly. Upon completion of the report, staff will review the findings and work with Bolton & Menk to develop options for consideration.

Tom Dankert, General Manager, presented the Distributed Generation Tariff and Annual Qualifying Facilities report. The tariff includes the calculation of the average retail utility energy rates and the estimated average incremental energy costs by seasonal, peak and off-peak periods and annual avoided capacity costs from Southern Minnesota Municipal Power Agency. The tariff is approved annually by the Board of Commissioners. Moved by Geoff Baker, seconded by Jay Lutz, to approve the Distributed Generation tariff and accept the Qualifying Facilities report. Approved unanimously.

Tom Dankert, General Manager, presented Resolution No. 344 – Ground lease with SMMPA for NE plant site for future Austin Energy Station. The lease includes a one-dollar cost until AU’s power sales contract expires in 2050. A fair market value lease would be determined in the event AU was no longer a member of SMMPA in the future. Due to the length of the lease agreement, the City of Austin will need to pass an ordinance following AU’s approval. Moved by Geoff Baker, seconded by Jay Lutz, to approve Resolution No. 344 as presented. Roll call vote taken and approved 4 yeas to 0 nays.

Tom Dankert, General Manager, updated the Board on the following:

- SMMPA meeting minutes
- Safety committee minutes
- Natural Gas cost and PGA offset options
- All employee meeting on Feb. 12th
- 5 open job positions

The next regular board meeting was set for 4:00 pm on Tuesday, March 17th, 2026.

Moved by Geoff Baker, seconded by Kristin Johnson, to adjourn. Approved unanimously at 4:44 pm.

	_____ President
_____ Secretary	