

Commission Members Present: Craig Bialy, Dan Herlihey (Chair), Matt Elkins, Gary Hausman, Gene Packer, Randy Lee Williams, Bill Szmyd, Christopher Say

LUC Commission Members Absent: Don Cook (Vice Chair), John Butler, and Richard Bilancia

Council Liaison Present: Steve Olson

Council Liaison Absent: Andrea Samson

City Staff Members Present: John Faulkner, Donald Cecil, Brian Gandy, Nathan Alburn, Chad Birgenheier, Aaron Rodriguez, Ryan Van Pelt, Jim Lees, Adam Bromley, Tim Bohling, Kevin Gertig (Director), Melanie Reeves, Noah Cecil, Andy Fayram, Robert Moore, Kim Edwards, Tracey Hewson, Todd Hanlin

Guest Attendance: None

CALL TO ORDER

CALL TO ORDER: Dan Herlihey called the meeting to order at 3:01 PM.

ADOPTION OF MINUTES

Item 2.1: Adoption of Minutes – Dan Herlihey

This item requested a motion to approve the minutes of the November 20, 2024 meeting.

Recommendation: Adopt A Motion to Approve of the Loveland Utilities Commission Meeting Minutes from November 20, 2024.

Motion: Gary Hausman made the motion.

Second: Bill Szmyd seconded the motion. The minutes were **approved** with a **5-0 vote**.

*There was one abstention: **Matt Elkins** did not vote since he was not present at the November meeting.*

CITIZENS REPORT

Item 3.1: Citizens Report

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

Item 4.1: Water Treatment Plant Daily and Monthly Flow Report – Chad Birgenheier

This item provides an update on the Loveland Water Treatment Plant daily and monthly flows for the month of November 2024.

Recommendation: Information Item Only. No Action Required.

Item 4.2: Water Supply Update – Ryan Van Pelt

This report focuses on the City's current water supply and the status of our raw water resources for the remainder of the water year (November 1 through October 31).

Recommendation: Information Item Only. No Action Required.

Item 4.3: Water Law and Legislative Update – Ryan Van Pelt

This item provides a brief update on:

- (1) water-related legislation introduced or under discussion by the Colorado General Assembly during the legislative session;
- (2) water court developments or items of interest in District 4 of Water Division 1 (Big Thompson and Little Thompson River basins); and
- (3) Colorado or Loveland-related water news.

Recommendation: Information Item Only. No Action Required.

Item 4.4: Financial Report Update – Jim Lees

This item summarizes the preliminary monthly and year-to-date financials for November 2024.

Discussion: Bill Szmyd noted that we sometimes change from indicating 'households' vs. 'people' in our financial reports. Bill requested that we choose one measurement and stick with it.

Recommendation: Information Item Only. No Action Required.

Item 4.5: Utility Financial Dashboards – Aaron Rodriguez

This agenda item shows the Utility Financial Dashboards based on November 2024 year-to-date financial and operational data.

Discussion:

Bill Szmyd had questions on the Wastewater Financial dashboard that were addressed by Aaron Rodriguez.

Recommendation: Information Item Only. No Action Required.

STAFF REPORT

Item 5.1: Cathodic Protection for the City's Water Infrastructure – Brian Gandy

This agenda item provides a brief overview of Cathodic Protection (CP). What is it? How does it work? How is it used in the City's water system?

Recommendation: Staff item only. No action required.

Item 5.2: 2024 Wastewater Manhole Rehabilitation Project – Donald Cecil

In order to continue providing excellent and continuous sewer service, Loveland Water & Power has, through our Wastewater Collection System Rehabilitation Program, been evaluating wastewater manholes and rehabilitating those in need of repairs. The Water Division proposes to use budgeted funds for 2024 to

renew its indefinite delivery contract with Miller Pipeline, LLC for rehabilitation of manholes identified for repair.

Discussion: Bill Szmyd wanted to know how many manholes the city has. John Faulkner estimated 5000 manholes. Donald Cecil noted that they are focusing on the older areas of town to rehab the pipelines. Gary Hausman wanted to know how many manholes we can afford to do per year. Donald Cecil estimated around 75-90 manholes per year.

Recommendation: Staff Item Only. No Action Required.

Item 5.3: 2024 UV-CIPP Sanitary Sewer Rehabilitation Services Project – Robert Moore

As a means of continuing the ongoing rehabilitation of existing sanitary sewer pipelines to ensure the conveyance system continues to function adequately, Loveland Water and Power has, through our Wastewater Collection System Rehabilitation Program, been evaluating wastewater pipelines throughout the City and rehabilitating those in need of repairs. The Water Division is continuing this program and proposes to use budgeted funds for 2024 to renew its yearly delivery contract with C&L Water Solutions for continued rehabilitation of existing sanitary sewer pipelines.

Recommendation: Staff Item Only. No Action Required.

Item 5.4: Natural Resources Conservation Service – Emergency Watershed Protection Grant – Tim Bohling, Andy Fayram, Nate Dorff

In 2024, the Alexander Mountain Fire (AMF) burned approximately 10,000 acres of forested land upstream of the Loveland Water Treatment Plant intake. The Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) administers the Emergency Watershed Protection (EWP) program, designed to mitigate immediate risks to infrastructure, life, and property following natural disasters such as wildfires.

Loveland Water and Power (LWP) submitted a letter to NRCS agreeing to sponsor EWP funds for fire mitigation work associated with the AMF. This agenda item will outline the affected areas, LWP's involvement and responsibilities, current project status, proposed mitigation work, and what the intended goals and outcomes are.

Recommendation: Staff Item Only. No Action Required.

Item 5.5: Water Efficiency Program 2024 Update – Nathan Alburn

The City of Loveland Water Division has many comprehensive plans that have been written as guides for preparing for our future regarding the planning and use of our water resources. The reports include the City of Loveland 2020 Raw Water Master Plan, the City of Loveland Water Efficiency Plan (Updated May 2020), and the City of Loveland Drought Management Plan (June 4, 2013). This LUC Agenda Item is directly related to the Water Efficiency Implementation Plan (March 2024) and is a follow-up for the Loveland Utilities Commission (LUC) to an item first shared in May of 2023, another presented in April of 2024, and an informational item given in October of 2024. There are many strategies that have been put into place because of Water Efficiency Implementation Plan as well as anticipated future changes, plans, and projects that will help pave the way to create lasting successes regarding water efficiency.

Discussion: Randy Williams was impressed with the way we are able to quantify the results of our plan. Gene Packer noted that the CO Compact and noted it will end in 2026. He wanted to know how that would affect us as a future presentation. Councilor Olson wanted to understand what we would do with additional water that is flowing downstream, unused, in addition to the water we are already not using.

Recommendation: Staff Item Only. No Action Required.

COMMISSION & COUNCIL REPORTS

Item 6.1:

Commission Reports

Dan Herlihey: None.

Gene Packer: None.

Bill Szmyd: Bill had some additional comments regarding the cost of providing water to a city that we don't necessarily have control over (like EPA requirements).

Don Cook: N.A.

Gary Hausman: Gary agreed that Christopher made a good point that there are several longstanding LUC members who would provide unique insight into the hiring of the new director.

John Butler: None.

Matt Elkins: None.

Randy Williams: None.

Richard Bilancia: N.A.

Christopher Say: Christopher wanted to know what the past process is to involve the LUC in the selection of the new Director of Utilities. Kevin Gertig noted that the position was filled by the City Manager's office and the selection process was up to them, but he would reach out to Human Resources for additional information on the process.

Craig Bialy: None.

Council Reports

Steve Olson: Councilor Olson gave an update on the homeless shelter and there will be an impact statement study. Council also set a date for the recall on Councilor Krenning.

Andrea Samson: N.A.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Item 7.1: Director's Report – Kevin Gertig

1. Water Project Updates for November – see **Attachment A**.
2. Electric Capital Project Updates – See **Attachment B**.
3. AMI Deployment Project Updates for December – See **Attachment C**.

4. Water and Electric Meter Sets – See **Attachment D**.
5. The City of Loveland has hired Sharon Israel as its next director of utilities, and she will begin her new role on December 30, 2024. Through the City's Knowledge Transfer program, Sharon will work alongside current Director Kevin Gertig throughout January in preparation for Kevin's retirement on February 7, 2025. See the full media release – **Attachment E**.

ADJOURN: The meeting was adjourned at **5:20 p.m.**

Respectfully submitted,
Melanie Reeves
Recording Secretary
Loveland Utilities Commission /s/ Dan Herlihey, Chair

