

**Commission Members Present:** Craig Bialy, Dan Herlihey (Chair), Matt Elkins, Randy Lee Williams, Christopher Say, Don Cook (Vice Chair), Bill Szmyd, Gary Hausman

**LUC Commission Members Absent:** Gene Packer, John Butler, Richard Bilancia

**Council Liaison Present:** Steve Olson

**Council Liaison Absent:** Andrea Samson

**City Staff Members Present:** Nathan Alburn, Donald Cecil, John Faulkner, Chad Birgenheier, Michelle Erickson, Catharine Kellogg, Ryan Van Plet, Jim Lees, Ali Pascell, Nicole Olsen, Todd Hanlin, Reagan Libal, Adam Bromley, Aaron Rodriguez, Widmar Stiverne, Tracey Hewson, Sharon Israel (Director), Melanie Reeves, Noah Cecil

**Guest Attendance:** None

### CALL TO ORDER

**CALL TO ORDER:** Dan Herlihey called the meeting to order at 3:02 PM.

### ADOPTION OF MINUTES

#### Item 2.1: Adoption of Minutes – Dan Herlihey

This item requested a motion to approve the minutes of the January 15, 2025 meeting.

**Recommendation:** Adopt A Motion to Approve of the Loveland Utilities Commission Meeting Minutes from January 15, 2025.

**Motion:** Don Cook made the motion.

**Second:** Gary Hausman seconded the motion. The minutes were **approved** with a **6-0 vote**.

### 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 January 2025.

**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: Quarterly Electric Outage and Reliability Summary – Q4 2024**

This item details outage data and reliability metrics on our electric system in the 2024 calendar year. The attached report is a quarterly update to our statistics that includes number of outages, outage causes and associated outage times, as well as our year-end reliability indices (metrics).

**Recommendation:** Information Item Only. No Action Required.

#### **Item 4.5: Distributed Energy Resources (DER) Quarterly Activities Update – Q4 2024**

This report provides updates related to Distributed Energy Resources (DER) activities in the 2024 calendar year.

**Recommendation:** Information Item Only. No Action Required.

### **STAFF REPORT**

#### **Item 5.1: 2024 Levels of Service Update for Water and Wastewater Utilities – Michelle Erickson**

Our Levels of Service (LOS) targets are the minimum acceptable levels that water and wastewater should strive to maintain. When we initially worked on setting our LOS, we took into consideration input from LUC, internal staff, customer expectations, regulatory requirements, actual performance, and the physical capabilities and limits of our current assets. Please see the attached presentation slides to view the results of our 2024 LOS compared to historical records back to 2009.

**Recommendation:** Staff item only. No action required.

#### **Discussion:**

**Bill Szmyd** wanted to know if we had any information tracking back to the year 2000 since he thought that was a historically dry year. **Chad Birgenheier** addressed historical water restrictions in the city.

**Councilor Olsen** wanted to know what Levels of Service report was used for. **Michelle Erickson** noted that this report is used to help identify good uses of budget or areas for improvement.

**Don Cook** wanted to know how we set the levels of service that we are trying to achieve. **Michelle Erickson** stated that around 11 years ago for the first report we hired a consultant to help us create

the report with input from staff and LUC. She also noted that the levels of service are the minimum requirements.

**Christopher Say** wanted to commend water staff because a few years ago we had yearly issues with algae blooms in the late summer and early fall and he no longer notices algae taste and odor issues. Great job!

#### **Item 5.2: HIP Streets – 4<sup>th</sup> Street Waterline Replacement – Donald Cecil**

The Heart Improvement Project (HIP Streets) will consist of the revitalization of 4th Street in downtown Loveland, across five (5) blocks from Washington Avenue to Garfield Avenue. As part of the overall infrastructure program, the water division will replace the existing 10" cast iron water main with new 12" PVC for the length of the project.

**Recommendation:** Staff item only. No action required.

#### **Discussion:**

**Gary Hausman** wanted to know how the fire suppression system grants work. **Donald Cecil** noted that the Downtown Development Authority (DDA) helps arrange the grants and then customers sign contracts with the DDA directly.

**Randy Williams** asked for verification that two water lines will be going into each building downtown. **Donald Cecil** confirmed that one water line is residential, and the other is commercial.

**Bill Szmyd** wanted to know who would deal with the parking situation downtown. **Donald Cecil** conveyed that the city is working with the DDA to get information out on alternatives for parking. There are also some city staff parking lots that will be turned over after hours to help accommodate evening parking. He also noted that once this project is complete there will be a net gain of 13 or 14 parking spaces downtown at the end of the project.

**Bill Szmyd** had questions about the 'dry utilities' like Comcast or Pulse. Donald noted that the dry utilities are in the allies downtown so they are behind the buildings and not in the street area where construction will interfere.

**Gary Hausman** inquired about lighting improvements downtown as part of this project. **Donald Cecil** noted that there will be some new transformers and there will be some event lighting installed. **Adam Bromley** noted that they are looking to underground some of the electrical equipment in the downtown area on the south side of 4<sup>th</sup>.

**Gary Hausman** also wanted to know if cameras would be included as part of this project scope. **Donald Cecil** noted that the extra conduit planned as part of the project could help the capabilities for cameras in the future but camera installation is not part of the project.

**Dan Herlihey** had specific questions regarding the right of way across the BNSF crossing. The plan is to have a trenchless design for that area.

#### **Item 5.3: Financial Report Update – Jim Lees**

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

**Recommendation:** Staff item only. No action required.

**Discussion:**

**Christopher Say** wanted to know the trend on outstanding receivables. **Jim Lees** will check on those numbers and report back.

**COMMISSION & COUNCIL REPORTS****Item 6.1:****Commission Reports**

**Dan Herlihey:** Dan wanted to give **Tim Bohling** a shoutout because he responded via email to a citizen inquiry regarding fluoride levels, and he gave a fantastic response to the citizen.

**Gene Packer:** None.

**Bill Szmyd:** Bill noted that he has a business on 4<sup>th</sup> street and stated that there was a lot of homeless traffic in that area. He wanted to know if the contractor for the HIP street project have plans in place to help keep people safe. **Donald Cecil** noted that the contractor is aware and has plans in place. Bill also wanted to know if Sharon will be taking Kevin's place on the PRPA board. **Sharon Israel** confirmed that she was appointed to the PRPA board by City Council but will not be the Chair as Kevin was.

**Don Cook:** Don had a question regarding changes to the Boards and Commission handbook and wanted to know if there were significant changes to the document. **Councilor Olsen** noted that there were not significant changes made, but Steve will be meeting with someone at the Clerk's office to provide suggestions for updating the handbook at a future date.

**Gary Hausman:** Gary welcomed Sharon and noted that she is the fifth director in this position since he has been on the board!

**John Butler:** N.A.

**Matt Elkins:** Matt wanted to commend staff because he recently experienced a water main break, and the repair was finished in one day!

**Randy Williams:** Randy wanted to know if **Councilor Olsen** had any comments on airport management. Councilor Olsen thinks it's a bad idea to give up the airport.

**Richard Bilancia:** N.A.

**Christopher Say:** Christopher requested that we keep informing the commission on HIP streets updates. **Donald Cecil** stated that he could add commission members to the weekly email updates.

**Craig Bialy:** None.

**Council Reports**

**Steve Olson:** Councilor Olsen gave an update on Centerra South. They were looking to increase the number of housing units. Their request to Council was to add 2000+ additional units. He noted that there was a lot of vocal public opposition. The Schmer Farms annexation was approved upon first reading. Councilor Olsen is astounded at the amount of opposition the city has regarding HIP streets.

Councilor Olsen wanted feedback from the Commission on whether we should continue to try and highlight the benefits that the utility provides to the City. Councilor Olsen can utilize two minutes at each City Council meeting for a topic of his choice and suggested using these two minutes to highlight the utility.

**Bill Szmyd** was torn on the idea of promoting the utility because we are meeting standards and maintaining the system, but if we start to promote ourselves to the Council, we also draw more attention to ourselves.

**Don Cook** felt that the education surrounding the Enterprise fund could be better messaged and that the public is not well informed about these types of funds.

**Matt Elkins** thought that it is generally better not to rock the boat.

**Andrea Samson:** N.A.

### DIRECTOR'S REPORT

#### Item 7.1: Director's Report – Sharon Israel

1. Sharon Israel and Adam Bromley attended the Larimer County Planning Commission meeting on Wednesday, February 12, 2025, where the commission discussed and approved the Platte River Power Authority Rawhide 1041 Permit 24-ZONE3715. The Larimer County Board of County Commissions will consider approval of the permit at their March 10, 2025, meeting.
  - a. Sharon offered to bring PRPA in to present to the Commission, if there is interest.
2. Water Project Updates for January – see Attachment A.
3. Electric Project Updates for February – see Attachment B
4. AMI Deployment Project Updates for February – see Attachment C
  - a. Sharon brought **Adam Bromley** up to give an update on the new process to turn off services to customers for non-payment with the completion of our AMI rollout. Our previous operation was to send two mailed notices and a door hanger before shutoff. We will no longer be using door hangers since transitioning to the AMI meters, but we will still be mailing two notices to customers. Adam also noted that we will have additional functions via an app to communicate with customers at some point in the future, but the app is not launched yet.  
**Dan Herlihey** wanted to know how many customers we have regularly not making their utility payment per cycle. Adam will report back as he doesn't have specific numbers.
5. 2024 Water - Peak Day Production Historical and Projections – see Attachment D
6. 2024 Water - Yearly Water Produced - Historical and Projections – see Attachment E
7. Water and Electric Meter Sets – see Attachment F

**ADJOURN:** The meeting was adjourned at **4:57 p.m.**

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

