

Regional Utility Service System
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MONTHLY MEETING
Minutes
February 11, 2026

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting of the Regional Utility Service Systems Board of Directors was called to order February 11, 2026 at 11:00 a.m. by Chairman Deke Wood.

RUSS MEMBERS PRESENT: The following members were present: Deke Wood - Keokuk County; Denise Fraise – Lee County; Steve Detrick – Henry County; Scot Hunt – Louisa County; Jim Cary – Des Moines County; Mark Meek – Van Buren County; Lee Dimmitt – Jefferson County

RUSS MEMBERS ABSENT: None

OTHERS PRESENT: Bruce Hudson - Executive Director; Diane Meth - Finance Manager

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Motion to approve Agenda by Lee Dimmitt; Second by Mark Meek. All ayes. #MO-38-26

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Motion to approve Minutes for January 14, 2026 monthly meeting by Denise Fraise; Second by Mark Meek. All ayes, with the exception of Jim Cary abstaining (due to being absent from meeting.) #MO-39-26

APPROVAL OF TREASURER’S REPORT: Motion to approve Treasurer’s Report, bills payable and delinquent customer report by Lee Dimmitt; Second by Denise Fraise. All ayes. #MO-40-26

FINANCIALS: Alliant Energy \$1,388.57; Allied Systems \$11,474.02; City of Fairfield \$440.00; City of Ollie \$456.41; Culligan \$23.80; Holmes Hwy Service Center \$80.55; Iowa DNR \$85.00; Iowa One Call \$9.00; Iowa Pump Works \$3,260.57; Lee County Auditor \$49,774.60; Lee County Treasurer \$270.38; LISCO \$133.00; Michael Mason \$120.45; Nationwide \$100.00; New London Municipal Utilities \$6.54; Rathbun Regional Water \$35.78; Rural Development \$12,672.31; Charles Sandersfeld \$62.00; Southeast Iowa Union \$58.19; State Hygienic Lab \$415.00; Swailles Auto Supply \$416.72; T-Mobile \$363.75; USIC Locating \$248.55; VISA \$983.64; W Washington Properties \$600.00; WEX Bank \$1,069.35; Windstream \$315.81

DISCUSS/CONSIDER Audit report FY25: The audit report for fiscal year ending June 30, 2025 (FY25), completed by Forge Financial & Management Consulting, was reviewed by the Board Members. Motion by Mark Meek to approve the audit report for FY25 as presented; Second by Jim Cary. All ayes. #MO-41-26

DISCUSS/CONSIDER RFP for Audits FY27-29: A proposal was received from Forge Financial & Management Consulting to provide audit services for a three-year period: FY27 for \$22,550.00,

FY28 \$23,650.00, and FY29 for \$24,850.00. Motion to approve and accept the proposal received from Forge Financial for FY27-29 by Denise Fraise; Second by Lee Dimmitt. All ayes. #MO-42-26

DISCUSS/CONSIDER Iowa Communities Assurance Pool (ICAP) anniversary supplement coverages for FY27: Motion by Lee Dimmitt to update ICAP anniversary supplement information; Second by Jim Cary. All ayes. #MO-43-26

DISCUSS/CONSIDER Iowa Communities Assurance Pool (ICAP) member proxy information for FY27: Motion by Lee Dimmitt to approve ICAP member proxy information; Second by Mark Meek. All ayes. #MO-44-26

DISCUSS/CONSIDER RUSS employees' hourly wage for Budget FY27: Motion by Mark Meek to approve \$1.00 per hour flat increase for all employees effective July 1, 2026; Second by Lee Dimmitt. All ayes. #MO-45-26

DISCUSS/CONSIDER County membership/operation fees for FY27: The FY27 budget was presented by the Executive Director to the Board of Directors. An amount for operational costs of \$10,470.80 each was presented for six counties and an amount of \$7,283.68 for Lee County as the fiscal agent.

The Board discussed altering the fee amount presented to remain the same as FY26, of \$9,500.00 for each county, with Lee County to be reduced by \$2,731.82. Investment dividends could make up the difference.

Motion by Jim Cary to approve the annual County membership/operation fee for FY27 of \$9,500.00 with Lee County's fee being \$6,768.18 as the fiscal agent; Second by Lee Dimmitt. All ayes. #MO-46-26

DISCUSS/CONSIDER Budget FY27: Motion to approve the budget for fiscal year ending June 30, 2027 (FY27) by Mark Meek; Second by Scot Hunt. All ayes. #MO-47-26

DISCUSS/CONSIDER establishing community Sewer Rate Resolutions effective July 1, 2026 for FY27:

Argyle - Resolution # R01-27: Motion to approve by Lee Dimmitt; Second by Mark Meek. Roll call: Lee County - aye; Henry County - aye; Louisa County - aye; Des Moines County - aye; Van Buren County - aye; Jefferson County - aye; Keokuk County - aye. #MO-48-26

Harper - Resolution # R02-27: Motion to approve by Lee Dimmitt; Second by Scot Hunt. Roll call: Lee County - aye; Henry County - aye; Louisa County - aye; Des Moines County - aye; Van Buren County - aye; Jefferson County - aye; Keokuk County - aye. #MO-49-26

Keswick - Resolution # R03-27: Motion to approve by Lee Dimmitt; Second by Jim Cary. Roll call: Lee County - aye; Henry County - aye; Louisa County - aye; Des Moines County - aye; Van Buren County - aye; Jefferson County - aye; Keokuk County - aye. #MO-50-26

Kinross – Resolution # R04-27: Motion to approve by Lee Dimmitt; Second by Scot Hunt. Roll call: Lee County - aye; Henry County - aye; Louisa County - aye; Des Moines County - aye; Van Buren County – aye; Jefferson County - aye; Keokuk County - aye. #MO-51-26

Linby – Resolution # R05-27: Motion to approve by Jim Cary; Second by Lee Dimmitt. Roll call: Lee County - aye; Henry County - aye; Louisa County - aye; Des Moines County - aye; Van Buren County – aye; Jefferson County - aye; Keokuk County - aye. #MO-52-26

Martinsburg – Resolution # R06-26: Motion to approve by Lee Dimmitt; Second by Scot Hunt. Roll call: Lee County - aye; Henry County - aye; Louisa County - aye; Des Moines County - aye; Van Buren County – aye; Jefferson County - aye; Keokuk County - aye. #MO-53-26

Mt Sterling – Resolution # R07-26: Motion to approve by Mark Meek; Second by Lee Dimmitt. Roll call: Lee County - aye; Henry County - aye; Louisa County - aye; Des Moines County - aye; Van Buren County – aye; Jefferson County - aye; Keokuk County - aye. #MO-54-26

Mt Union – Resolution # R08-27: Motion to approve by Jim Cary; Second by Lee Dimmitt. Roll call: Lee County - aye; Henry County - aye; Louisa County - aye; Des Moines County - aye; Van Buren County – aye; Jefferson County - aye; Keokuk County - aye. #MO-55-26

Ollie – Resolution # R09-27: Motion to approve by Lee Dimmitt; Second by Mark Meek. Roll call: Lee County - aye; Henry County - aye; Louisa County - aye; Des Moines County - aye; Van Buren County – aye; Jefferson County - aye; Keokuk County - aye. #MO-56-26

Pleasant Plain – Resolution # R10-27: Motion to approve by Lee Dimmitt; Second by Mark Meek. Roll call: Lee County - aye; Henry County - aye; Louisa County - aye; Des Moines County - aye; Van Buren County – aye; Jefferson County - aye; Keokuk County - aye. #MO-57-26

East Pleasant Plain – Resolution # R11-27: Motion to approve by Mark Meek; Second by Lee Dimmitt. Roll call: Lee County - aye; Henry County - aye; Louisa County - aye; Des Moines County - aye; Van Buren County – aye; Jefferson County - aye; Keokuk County - aye. #MO-58-26

Webster – Resolution # R12-27: Motion to approve by Lee Dimmitt; Second by Jim Cary. Roll call: Lee County - aye; Henry County - aye; Louisa County - aye; Des Moines County - aye; Van Buren County – aye; Jefferson County - aye; Keokuk County - aye. #MO-59-26

DISCUSS/CONSIDER RUSS hiring attorney of record: Motion by Denise Fraise to approve hiring Ryan Mitchell with Orsborn, Mitchell & Goedken, PC as attorney of record; Second by Steve Detrick. All ayes. #MO-60-26

DISCUSS/CONSIDER RUSS hiring attorney of record to pursue legal remedies for loss of employee services due to injury resulting in workman’s compensation claim: Motion by Denise Fraise for the Legal Committee members to meet with the RUSS attorney and to have a conference with IMWCA; Second by Lee Dimmitt. #MO-61-26

DISCUSS/CONSIDER Argyle Community Boosters connection agreement for ball field: A sewer connection agreement for the Argyle ball field was presented for review. Motion by Lee Dimmitt to sign the agreement after obtaining signatures from the Argyle Community Boosters representatives and all fees associated with reconnection have been paid in full; Second by Mark Meek. #MO-62-26

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR UPDATE: No report

ADJOURNMENT: Motion to Adjourn by Jim Cary; Second by Scot Hunt. All ayes. Meeting adjourned at 12:40 p.m. #MO-63-26

Next meeting is Wednesday, March 11, 2026 at 11:00 a.m. at the Henry County Emergency Management Building, Mt. Pleasant, IA.

Minutes approved: Daryl Wood Date: 3-11-26
Chairman, Daryl Wood