

February 6, 2024

The Winnebago County Board of Supervisors met in session at 9:00 A.M. February 6, 2024 adjourned from January 30, 2024.

Present: Supervisors Smith, Durby, and Jensvold

Absent:

On a motion by Jensvold and seconded by Smith the Supervisors moved to approve the minutes for the January 30, 2024 Board Meeting and approve the agenda for February 6, 2024. All voted aye. Motion carried.

Bennie Hostetler discussed the use of his property. He purchases items such as steel wheels and sells the items at auctions.

Thad Wunder discussed buildings at Golden Oval substation.

Scott Meinders, Engineer discussed Secondary Road matters including some stock piles are full, crushing gravel in spring, and budget items including paving of the Asmus Farm Road.

Kris Oswald, Drainage Clerk discussed drainage matters.

Terry Axman, ICAP, Hannah Spear and Tom Heyer, Heyer-Spear Insurance discussed ICAP insurance. Our property values have gone up \$3,000,000 and our rates were up 41%.

On a motion by Jensvold and seconded by Smith the Supervisors approved the following Resolution and asked Auditor Weiss to send it to City Clerks to have them put it on their agendas to pass as well. All voted aye. Motion carried.

**Resolution # 2-6-2024-01-01**

**A RESOLUTION OPPOSING ALLIANT ENERGY'S ELECTRIC RATE INCREASE**

WHEREAS, Interstate Power and Light Company (dba Alliant Energy) has asked the Iowa Utilities Board to approve a two-year phased-in rate increase that the company estimates will increase the electric bills of residential customers by 13.4%, small businesses by 20%, and large general service customers by 17.4% - 20%,<sup>1</sup> and

WHEREAS, this is Alliant Energy's sixth electric rate increase since 2004 and, if approved as proposed, will be the largest in the company's history, and

WHEREAS, Alliant Energy posted \$1.72 billion in gross profits in 2022,<sup>2</sup> increased its annual common stock dividend by 6%,<sup>3</sup> and paid its Chief Executive Officer \$7,283,270 in total compensation in 2022,<sup>4</sup> and

WHEREAS, according to utility data furnished to the Iowa Utilities Board,<sup>5</sup> Alliant's average annual cost per kWh for residential customers in 2022 was once again almost the highest in the state, and

WHEREAS, Alliant's average annual bundled cost per kWh in 2022 for the three major ratepayer classes was significantly higher than the other investor-owned electric utility in Iowa (MidAmerican Energy Company), and

<b>Ratepayer Class</b>	<b>Alliant Energy 2022 Cost Cents/kWh</b>	<b>MidAmerican 2022 Cost Cents/kWh</b>	<b>Alliant Percentage Higher</b>
Residential	17.75	11.01	61.3%
Commercial	13.25	8.90	48.9%
Industrial	8.36	6.35	31.6%

WHEREAS, according to the U.S. Energy Information Agency (EIA), in 2022 MidAmerican Energy Company had the lowest residential costs per kWh and Alliant had the third highest residential costs among similarly-sized investor-owned utilities in the Midwest,<sup>6</sup> and

WHEREAS, Alliant's high rates are causing serious hardship for low and moderate-income households, fixed-income households, small businesses, industries, nonprofit institutions, educational institutions, and our municipal government, and

<sup>1</sup> Alliant Energy, [Notice of Proposed Electric Rate Increase](#), October 6, 2023.

<sup>2</sup> Yahoo Finance, [Alliant Energy, Statistics](#), accessed October 7, 2023.

<sup>3</sup> Alliant Energy, [2022 Annual Report](#), pg.1,

<sup>4</sup> Salary.com, [John O. Larsen, Board Chair and Chief Executive Officer of Alliant Energy](#), accessed October 17, 2023.

<sup>5</sup> Iowa Utilities Board, [Information from Utility Annual Report Filings](#), Electric (2022).

<sup>6</sup> U.S. Energy Information Administration, [Electric Sales, Revenue, and Average Price: 2022](#), Release date: October 5, 2023, Table T6, accessed October 21, 2023.

WHEREAS, Alliant's high and rising rates are creating a serious hindrance to economic development in Winnebago County and for all communities in Alliant's service territory, and

WHEREAS, Alliant's proposed \$284 million additional revenue requirement<sup>7</sup> will drain, on average, another \$565 from each one of Alliant's 502,937 electric customers,<sup>8</sup> and

WHEREAS, a 15% - 20% increase to Winnebago County current electricity purchases will result in an increased expenses that could otherwise be spent on vital public services.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED . . .

Winnebago County:

- 1) Opposes the magnitude of Alliant Energy's proposed electric rate increase and urges the Iowa Utilities Board to:
  - a) Address Alliant's high, rising, and unreasonable costs that are imposing serious hardship for low and moderate-income households, fixed-income households, small businesses, industries, nonprofit institutions, educational institutions, and our own municipal government.
  - b) Maintain and improve the ability of customers and communities to save and prosper through investments in customer- and community-owned distributed energy resources, such as energy efficiency, solar power, geothermal energy, and battery storage.
  - c) Require rate-regulated utilities to conduct integrated resource planning and competitive procurement to ensure all utility investments are justified and cost-effective.
  - d) Cease approving unnecessarily high returns on equity that reward shareholders at the expense of Alliant ratepayers.
- 2) Authorizes our Economic Development Director to file this resolution as an official comment in Docket RPU-2023-0002 within ten days and to send copies of this resolution to our State Representative and State Senator to inform the Legislature's current study of ratemaking in Iowa.
- 3) Encourages all citizens and ratepayers in our community to voice their perspectives and concerns to the Iowa Utilities Board by submitting comments and objections by email to [customer@iub.iowa.gov](mailto:customer@iub.iowa.gov) or by mail at Iowa Utilities Board, 1375 E. Court Avenue, Des Moines, IA 50319-0069. All communication should reference Docket RPU-2023-0002 in the subject line of the email or letter.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 6<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2024.

  
Terry Durby, Chairperson

ATTEST:   
Winnebago County Auditor

<sup>7</sup> Interstate Power and Light Company, "[Application for Revision of Electric and Natural Gas Rates](#)," (RPU-2023-0002), October 12, 2023, para. 9, pg. 3.

<sup>8</sup> Interstate Power and Light Company, "[Number and Classification of Customers Affected](#)," (RPU-2023-0002), October 12, 2023.

The following claims were approved and ordered to be paid:

Ahlers & Cooney PC	Services	\$151.50
Alliant Energy	Utilities	\$70.56
Amazon Capital Services	Supplies	\$1,443.10
AT&T Mobility	Telephone	\$371.43
Audrey Skjeie	Reimbursement	\$18.98
Austin Office Products	Supplies	\$133.90
Barb Wolf	Mileage	\$304.85
Bethel Cemetery	Care of Graves	\$168.00
Black Hills Energy	Utilities	\$246.92
Bomgaars	Supplies	\$282.21
Brightree Home Health	Services	\$2,801.25
Byron Carlson MD	Medical Examiner	\$100.00
Chase Decals	Services	\$1,722.25
Chosen Valley Testing	Services	\$785.00
Cintas Corporation	Services	\$373.83
City of Forest City	Utilities	\$4,787.58
City of Lake Mills	Utilities	\$307.54
City of Thompson	Utilities	\$157.59
Connections Inc EAP	Services	\$341.76
Crysteel Truck Equipment	Parts	\$950.00
Dale Rayhons	Medical Examiner	\$200.00
Deann Derscheid-Hanna	Education	\$1,100.00
Eric Hythecker	Reimbursement	\$169.85
Farm Chem	Parts	\$1,293.33
Farmers Coop Assn	Fuel	\$106.38
Fastenal	Supplies	\$2,833.24
Five Star Cooperative	Fuel	\$343.68
Force America Inc	Parts	\$1,254.60
Forensic Assessments LLC	Services	\$937.50
Forest City Auto Center	Parts	\$690.00
Forest City Ford	Services	\$638.05
Grp & Associates	Services	\$43.00
H & S Auto Parts	Parts	\$326.94
Hanson Tire Service	Services	\$584.00
Healthcare First	Services	\$111.02
Huber Supply Co	Supplies	\$242.93
Hy-Vee Inc	Jail Food	\$6,351.70
Iowa Law Enforce Academy	Education	\$150.00
Iowa Prison Industries	Supplies	\$798.80
IP Pathways	Services	\$119.50
IT Savvy LLC	Services	\$895.28
Jack's Ok Tire Service	Parts	\$3,721.52
Jennifer Johnson	Mileage	\$458.49
Julie Sorenson	Mileage	\$81.54
K1 Excavating & Drainage	Supplies	\$3,140.36
Karla Weiss	Mileage	\$205.04
Kingland Construction Services	Services	\$1,101.45

Kossuth Co Auditor	Education	\$150.00
Krystal Wempen	Mileage	\$545.38
Lake Mills Graphic Inc	Advertising	\$801.10
Mail Services	Services	\$383.24
Main Street Market	Supplies	\$41.25
Medline Industries Inc	Supplies	\$248.91
Melissa Vaudt	Mileage	\$727.16
Melissa Warren	Mileage	\$230.78
Mid-America Publishing Corp	Advertising	\$163.43
Midwest Wheel & Equip Co	Parts	\$1,467.13
Motorola Solutions Inc	Services	\$23,183.00
Napa - Forest City	Supplies	\$754.97
Neapolitan Labs LLC	Services	\$1,500.00
North Central Iowa Alliance	Services	\$110.02
Nuway	Fuel	\$9,427.49
Ole's Office	Services	\$100.00
Panoramic Software Inc	Services	\$495.00
Randee Lindeman	Mileage	\$231.82
Rhonda Schriever	Mileage	\$204.56
Shred-It USA	Services	\$58.99
Singelstad Hardware	Supplies	\$502.77
Sonja Alamsya	Mileage	\$225.33
State Hygienic Laboratory	Services	\$250.00
Stearns Co Sheriff	Services	\$140.00
Storey Kenworthy	Supplies	\$50.01
T-Mobile	Telephone	\$25.80
Trinity Lutheran Cemetery	Care of Graves	\$204.00
US Bank Voyager	Fuel	\$4,560.75
Verizon Wireless	Telephone	\$1,025.95
WCTA	Telephone	\$829.50
Zetron Inc	Services	\$338.69
Ziegler Inc	Parts	\$4,149.71

The Supervisors discussed budgets.

On a motion by Durby and seconded by Smith the Supervisors moved to reduce the compensation board recommendations by the following. The Sheriffs increase will decrease by 2% and the other elected officials will decrease by 1.5%. The Supervisors decided to leave the Stipends alone. All voted aye. Motion carried. The Resolution will be tabled until next week.

The following Manure Management plan was received by the Auditor's office: Circle D #61466 in Winnebago County, Iowa.

The session was adjourned until 9:00 A.M. February 13, 2024.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Terry Durby, Chairperson

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
Karla Weiss, County Auditor