

REGULAR MEETING OF THE JEFFERSON UTILITIES COMMISSION, HELD NOVEMBER 10, 2025

On call of the roll, Commissioners present were: Pieters, Adams, Schroeder, Ganser, Oppermann, Neils and Bristol. Members Excused: Also present were: Business Manager, Sarah Hinze; Electrical Line Superintendent, Nick Baumann; Meter Technician, Jackie Tucker; Billing Clerk, Emily Hein; Lead Lineman, Nick Mueller and City Attorney, Chris Rogers; Bruce Beth, Forster Electrical Engineering. The meeting began at 5:30 p.m.

Public Participation: None

Minutes

Motion by Adams to approve the open session October 13, 2025 meeting. Seconded by Bristol. On voice call, motion carried. Neils and Oppermann abstained.

Approval of September 2025 Income Statements

Motion by Adams and seconded by Ganser to approve the Income Statements as presented. On call of the roll, motion carried. (Pieters-Aye; Adams - Aye; Ganser – Aye; Schroeder-Aye; Bristol – Aye; Oppermann- Aye; Neils - Aye).

Approval of October and November 2025 Expenditures

Motion by Schroeder and seconded by Bristol to approve the expenditures as presented. On call of the roll, motion carried. (Pieters-Aye; Adams - Aye; Ganser – Aye; Schroeder-Aye; Bristol – Aye; Oppermann- Aye; Neils - Aye).

Discussion and Possible Action- 2026 Budget

Hinze explained that the additional time to draft the 2026 budget was helpful. She explained the changes she made to capital additions and depreciation. She explained that with these changes the estimated return on investment is 3.5%. Motion by Bristol to approve the 2026 Budget as presented. Seconded by Admas. On call of the roll, motion carried. (Pieters-Aye; Adams - Aye; Ganser – Aye; Schroeder-Aye; Bristol – Aye; Oppermann- Aye; Neils - Aye).

Discussion and Possible Action- Update Regarding -Circuit Substation Buildout

Hinze indicated that after the Commission approved to move forward with the Construction Authority (CA) application for this project with the Public Service Commission (PSC), that Forster's team is making a few revisions and is recommending some additional enhancements. Beth explained that revisions to the previous project scope included added an inflation percentage to each year of 3.45%. He explained that the additional enhancement over the 5-year implementation recommendation:

- A. Enhanced protection scheme with the creation of zones within the substation that will detect a loss of power in either zone, isolate and allow for the continuation of service to all feeders within the substation. This is provided by the installation and programming of additional relays and associated equipment. With the addition of a few high-usage commercial and industrial businesses, this initiative will provide additional protection to best prevent service interruptions and maintain excellent reliability to all customers.
- B. Installation of 138kv High-side Breakers which will complement upgrade additions planned by ATC. Initial discussions with them indicate a likely upgrade to installing transmission breakers, with the ability to maintain substation power in the event of a disruption from either of the feeds coming into the substation. In conjunction, Forster recommends replacement of the two existing “nearing end-of-life” transformer circuit switchers with 138kV breakers. Your new circuit breakers will provide optimal system protection to complement the ATC installation of incoming breakers from both feed directions.
- C. Continuing with the implementation of the SCADA systems efforts, will entail installing a SEL-2440, then rewiring the alarms to it that previously were tied into an alarm dialer. The Real-Time Automation Controller (RTAC) will be programmed to communicate to the SEL-2440. Additional work will be required to meet with the Jefferson operations crew and set up VPNs on devices to have HMI access to SCADA data.
- D. Add a placeholder for placing the capacitor banks back in service which is something that may be needed in the future depending on load growth. There exists a capacitor bank in the Crawfish

Substation that was taken out of service around 2010, after improved power factor as an incentive to WPPI rates was removed. As ATC is now asking utilities for a 95% power factor, Jefferson will be best served to turn the existing capacitor banks back on. This will require the purchase and installation of two (2) vacuum capacitor switches. Capacitors lower the KVAR and thus reduce the kVA needed to serve industrial-type motor loads.

- E. Added additional electrical service costs associated with two new occupants in the Food and Beverage Park.

The increase for these revisions over the 5-year project is estimated at \$2.5 million. Beth answered questions related to the additional enhancement projects. Hinze answered questions regarding funding this project. She explained that she will be reaching out to Tim Freitag at the City to discuss financing options and will work with WPPI regarding a possible rate case in conjunction with financing. Motion by Oppermann to approve the revised 6-circuit substation buildout as presented in order to file the CA with the PSC. Seconded by Adams. On call of the roll, motion carried. (Pieters-Aye; Adams - Aye; Ganser – Aye; Schroeder-Aye; Bristol – Aye; Oppermann- Aye; Neils - Aye).

Discussion and Possible Action- Jefferson Utilities Name and Logo Change

Hinze explained that she has been working with Attorney Rogers regarding the process to change the official name of the utility, however she is running into problems locating the original incorporation paperwork. She indicated that she would continue to research this. She also presented several options for a new logo and asked the Commission for feedback. She will continue to work on this and report back.

Update on On-going Electric Utility Projects

Baumann informed the Commission that the conduit for the fire protection system at Kikkoman has been installed. He is now waiting for Kikkoman's electricians to notify him when they need power. He stated that the crew is wrapping up the overhead to underground project at St Joh's Lutheran School. He stated that the overhead lines at the Food and Beverage Park will be coming down in the next two weeks, he met with the developer of the Junction Heights project regarding their temporary power needs and that the crew would be putting the Christmas lights and banners up in time for the parade.

Electric Utility Manager Monthly Report

Hinze indicated that 857 AMI have yet to be installed and that most of these meters are multi-family buildings. She stated that work continues to install AMI meters in between other projects. Hinze stated that the auditors will be on site March 18 through 20, 2026.

Future Agenda Items

Motion by Admas and seconded by Neils to adjourn. Motion carried on a voice vote. The meeting adjourned at 6:35 pm.