

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

FAYAL TOWN HALL

APRIL 14, 2026

The regular meeting of the Fayal Public Utilities Commission was called to order at 6:03 PM by Chairman Ed Vest. Members present were Chairman Ed Vest and Commissioners Chris Erickson, Becky Squibbs, Curt Wercinski and Clerk Heidi Latvaaho. Commissioner Dave Hamalainen was absent. In attendance was Town Board Supervisor Mike Erjavec.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- **Motion to approve the Regular PUC Meeting Minutes of March 17th, 2026 as printed, made by Commissioner Erickson and supported by Commissioner Wercinski. Motion carried unanimously.**

GUESTS- None at this time.

CORRESPONDENCE

Delinquency Report- Chairman Vest responded that the report was shorter. Discussion regarding a few of the larger balances have been paid. Clerk Latvaaho did place a note on a few of the bills that reflected how much in penalties those customers paid by not paying on time. She didn't have enough time to include the information to all the regular delinquent customers, but would like to do that with the next month's bills in hopes that would help. Commissioner Wercinski questioned how many of the delinquents are seasonal customers? There was one seasonal cabin, but they do eventually pay. Discussion regarding quarterly payments. Clerk Latvaaho did put notes on some other notoriously late customers that she could help them set up automatic payment and one did respond looking for help in doing so. Discussion regarding automatic payment and bank bill pays.

March Water/Wastewater Report- Chairman Vest commented that the generators are prepared for storm season. Commissioner Wercinski questioned how often the lift stations are inspected? Clerk Latvaaho responded that one half are done every other year. Discussion that base elbows have been replaced in the past.

OLD BUSINESS

- Sewer Rate Change**- No updates. Discussion to remove from the agenda as there are currently no talks of any rate increases. Discussion that Fayal does not have a water contract with Gilbert at this time for the Differding Point residents and have been waiting for potentially something on that for a number of years.
- Sump Pump Letter**- Clerk Latvaaho had worked the list down to 23 sump pumps, but discovered that tabs were missed for quarterly, yearly and business customers. With those additions, the number has increased to 79. Clerk Latvaaho will work on getting in touch with those individuals.
- Generators for Lift Stations**- Town Foreman Jason Latvaaho met with Hometown Electric last week for an estimate. He wants to start with just one lift station and see how that goes. Discussion regarding threshold for sealed bids and quotes.
- PUC Billing Clerk**- Hired Kris Wilson and she will start on April 20th.

NEW BUSINESS

a. **Delinquent Gilbert Resident**- There is a Gilbert resident located at 4706 Differding Point Road that is connected to Fayal's sewer line and is Fayal's customer who is currently delinquent \$2,500.00. Have asked Gilbert to assist in certifying the balance to the taxes since it is their resident and Fayal cannot do the certification. Hannah Dewhurst from Gilbert spoke with Clerk Latvaaho on Monday and discussed that the City of Gilbert is currently looking at Fayal's request and would like to know if Fayal would be willing to turn the customer over to them and they would begin billing him. Clerk Latvaaho would recommend turning that individual account over to Gilbert. He is also the only customer who is connected to Fayal's line that is a nonresident. The original owner of the property paid the \$6,625.00 sewer connection charge. Discussion that the Township needs to collect the delinquent balance owing in order to be willing to transfer the customer over to Gilbert. Clerk Latvaaho discussed that she would recommend that the customer be notified of the change and that his balances be certified in September with any delinquent balances through July. July's bill is for June usage so his effective date to be billed from Gilbert should be July 1st. Discussion that possibly Gilbert could pay what he owes and then they can collect the funds when he pays his property taxes. Currently, Gilbert does not certify any delinquent utilities to St. Louis County. Discussion regarding the line and reviewing of the sewer line map. Discussion regarding the billing of Gilbert residents as Gilbert's line runs to Fayal's lift station.

- **Motion for 4706 Differding Point property get turned over to Gilbert to be a sewer customer of theirs as long as Gilbert pays us the past due amount and going forward Gilbert deducts the volume usage for that property from our bill, made by Commissioner Erickson and supported by Commissioner Squibbs. Discussion as how the Gilbert volume is determined. Motion carried unanimously.**

Chairman Vest brought forward that Cam Jayson had made him aware of a manhole cover off Ely Lake Drive that has been dislodged. Clerk Latvaaho will share that with the employees to look at.

Commissioner Erickson brought forward that there has been some news regarding cyberattacks on municipalities and if Fayal is updated on security. Clerk Latvaaho just had Roger's Online here to update malware. The SCADA system is only a radio signal so there is nothing that can be accessed.

TREASURER'S REPORT– Financials were provided for March. There is one last 1st quarter dues for the Cable Commission and then Fayal is no longer part of the Joint Powers. Expenditures were a little higher, likely due to three payrolls in March. The Town Board approved the Fire Department loan. Have not received a bill yet for the truck, but the loan is starting immediately for the amount as the payment will align with the airpack and truck chassis payment (April and October).

- **Motion made to approve the Treasurer's report, made by Chairman Vest and supported by Commissioner Squibbs. Motion carried unanimously.**
- **Motion to adjourn, made by Chairman Vest and supported by Commissioner Squibbs. Motion carried unanimously.**

Chairman Ed Vest adjourned meeting at 6:51 PM.

Respectfully submitted by,

Heidi Latvaaho

Heidi Latvaaho

Town of Fayal Clerk/Treasurer

Approved

Killer
4/9/26