

## Grabe, Meyer, Palmer re-elected to MMUA board; Martodam president-elect

Following recommendations made by the Nominations and Awards Committee, Scott Grabe of Staples, Glencoe's Dave Meyer, and the City of Excelsior's Jenny Palmer were each nominated for a second three-year term on the board.

The committee also recommended that Commissioner Don Martodam of Hawley Public Utilities be nominated as president-elect.

The three board nominees were unanimously re-elected at the Summer Conference, and Martodam was elected as president-elect.

### Jenny Palmer

The Committee nominated Jenny Palmer to continue her service on the board. Palmer, formerly the Winthrop city administrator/EDA director and now Excelsior's finance director, was appointed to the MMUA board in 2018, to fill the remainder of a retiring board members' term.

Palmer (formerly Hazelton) had been with Winthrop 25

years including eight years as administrator. Before that, she served as Winthrop clerk/treasurer, accounting clerk and started as utility billing clerk/receptionist.

Palmer also serves as a commissioner on a multi-city cable commission and on several boards. She holds a bachelor's degree in accounting and several professional certifications, including a municipal clerk certification from the Minnesota Clerks and Finance Officers Association.

Palmer is a Winthrop native and knows how cities operate. Her mother was the city librarian. Her grandfather was water/wastewater superintendent. After retiring, he served on the city council. As a resident of Fairfax, when nobody there filed for a city council seat the administrator asked her to run. She did and was elected in 2015, and served through 2017.

Palmer is a graduate of the MMUA Leadership Academy. She assumed the presi-

dent's duties at the conclusion of the meeting.

### Scott Grabe

Scott Grabe serves as City of Staples public works director, where he oversees the electric, street, water and wastewater divisions.

Previous to joining Staples, Grabe served as Utilities Superintendent for the City of Henning, where he was responsible for the electric, natural gas, and water and sewer utilities. He also managed the public works department and the municipal airport.

Grabe also volunteers for the Henning Fire Department and the city-owned am-



Grabe



Meyer



Palmer

balance service.

Along with his MMUA activities, Grabe regularly is involved with Missouri River Energy Services (MRES). He is a graduate of the MMUA Leadership Academy.

### Dave Meyer

Meyer is general manager of Glencoe Light and Power and a Central Minnesota Power Agency Services (CMPAS) board member. He regularly represents and advocates for public power, traveling to Washington D.C. for the APPA legislative rally and St. Paul for the MMUA legislative rally.

He is always monitoring proposed legislation and evaluating it for possible effects on the local utilities.

Meyer is also formerly the superintendent at Halstad Utilities, where he was responsible for decommissioning an old power plant and building a new one.

Meyer puts municipal utilities first in every aspect, noted his nomination. Every decision that he has to react to or make he does so with the best interest of the utilities and its customers as his guide. He has been an advocate in all aspects of the utility industry.

### Don Martodam

Martodam was appointed to the board in 2018 to fill an unexpired term of a departed board member, and in 2019 was elected to his initial full, three-year term on the board. He is a Hawley Public Utilities commissioner and takes

one of two seats dedicated to policymakers.

He has served on the Hawley Public Utilities Commission for more than 30 years. He has also served on the Northern Municipal Power Agency board for several years.

Martodam was born and raised in Perham, the oldest of 10 children. He graduated from Perham High School. He has a degree in soil science and crop production from the University of Minnesota.

He was a respiratory therapist at St. Luke's Hospital for two years and farmed for five years. He sold the farm and bought the John Deere dealership in Hawley and ran that for 25 years. He was involved in a manufacturing business in the Philippines for four years.

He currently manages Martodam Holdings. He serves on his local parish council and with the Hawley Lions. He is past president of the West Central Initiative board in Fergus Falls. He has served on the Rural Minnesota CEP (Concentrated Employment Program) board for over 30 years, is currently vice president and was president for 12 years. He is a Clean Energy Resource Team board member and a past president of the Minnesota Workforce Board.

Hawley Public Utilities has approximately 1,200 electric customers and also provides natural gas, water and wastewater services.



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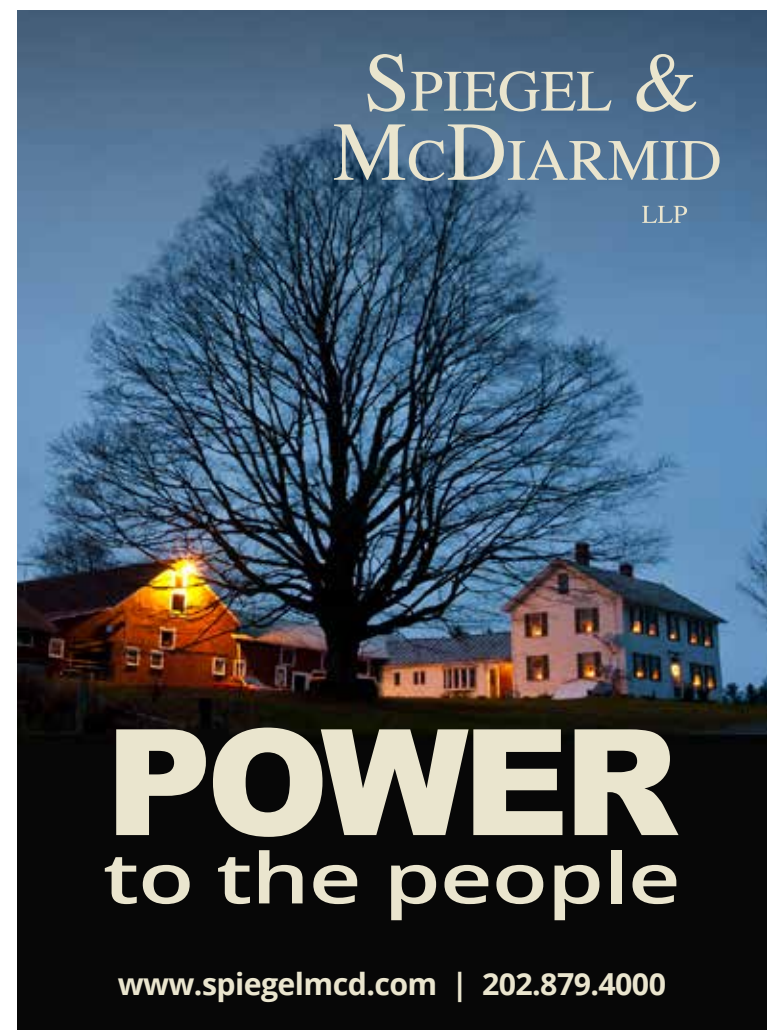
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