

Marquette Board of Light and Power 08-25-2020 MINUTES

2200 Wright St., Marquette, MI 49855 (906) 228-0311

A regular meeting of the Board of Light and Power was called and held on August 25th, 2020 beginning at 4:30 p.m. The meeting was called to order followed by the Pledge of Allegiance and Roll Call.

Due to special circumstances and adhering to Governor Executive Directive No. 2020-2 (Public Meetings of State of Michigan Public Bodies during the COVID-19 Emergency) Public Participation was held via conference call.

Present: John Prince, Chair
Robert Niemi, Vice Chair/Secretary
Ed Angeli
Tom Tourville

Absent: Jerry Irby

T. Carpenter asked to add two agenda items, 4a – Recommendation to award Purchase of Wartsila Parts and 4b – Recommendation to award Support for MEC preventative maintenance. E. Angeli made a motion to approve the agenda as amended, T. Tourville Seconded the motion and the Board unanimously approved.

1. **Approval of the July 28th, 2020 Regular Meeting Minutes:**

E. Angeli made a motion to accept the July 28th, 2020 regular Meeting Minutes as presented. R. Niemi seconded the motion and Board unanimously approved.

2. **Approval of the August 4th, 2020 Special Meeting Minutes:**

R. Niemi made a motion to accept the August 4th, 2020 Special Meeting Minutes as presented. T. Tourville seconded the motion and Board unanimously approved.

3. **Approval of Bills Payable:**

E. Angeli made a motion to approve the Bills Payable, as presented, totaling \$784,318.57. T. Tourville seconded the motion and after discussion, the Board unanimously approved the Bills Payables as presented.

4. **Public Comments:**

Mary Thorrington – 2412 Huron St (Email Comment)
Stated her concern for the noise that was still being created by the MEC.

4a. **Recommendation to Purchase Essential Spare Parts for MEC:**

T. Tourville made a motion to approve purchase of essential spare parts from Wartsila in the amount of \$47,523.41. E. Angeli seconded the motion and after discussion, the Board unanimously approved.

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4b. **Recommendation to Award Support Services for MEC Maintenance:**

E. Angeli made a motion to award support services for MEC preventative maintenance in the amount of \$78,262.00. R. Niemi seconded the motion and after discussion, the Board unanimously approved.

5. **Capital Projects**

a. **Second Interconnection** – Schedule, 3-6 months’ worth of Engineering, Land acquisition, easements. While these different studies are being completed, we would also be looking at items that have longer lead time (Transformer (1 year) and Structures (5 months/9months). Timeline - Planning on an end of next year completion if everything goes to plan.

b. **Wright St Expansion** – Making progress, Foundation are in, steel is being received and placed, backfilling expansion soon; looking into March for completion.

c. **Shiras CCR/Shiras Demolition** – Pond and cells are clean – within a week or so of the walls being gone. Beneficial re-use still going down to Delta. MCSWMA approved a reduced rate. J. Prince thanked them for their efforts and was curious about any other product we would have down at Shiras. Quoted rate was still higher than what we are currently paying.

d. **Other** – T. Tourville made a motion to have a Special Meeting on Thursday, August 27th at 1:00pm to discuss the Shiras Demolition and 2020-21 MBLP operating budget. R. Niemi seconded the motion and after discussion, the Board unanimously approved.

6. **Financial Discussion – Mark Link:**

Chief Financial Officer – Mark Link presented the Interim Operating Statement for the month ending July 31st, 2020, Projected Cash Flow Statement, KWH Comparative vs. Prior Year and Five-Year History, and Trending Actual Revenue versus Budget. Discussion followed.

7. **Public Comments:**

No public comment was made.

8. **Any Additional Business the Executive Director Wishes to Present:**

T. Carpenter had nothing additional.

9. **Any Additional Business the Board Members Wish to Present:**

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R. Niemi – In response to T. Tourville’s comment, provided alternate options to disperse the Fuel Adjustment.

E. Angeli – E. Angeli wanted to thank the staff and ensure the public is aware of the large amount work that goes into making their power system better.

T. Tourville – Wanted to point out the fuel adjustment over the last 4 years and what that means. He was hoping there was a way to display that figure as something simple and tangible that people can understand.

J. Prince – Wanted to point out that the Fuel Adjustment may level out with the rate changes going into effect in October.

10. **Closed Session – IT Discussion**

J. Prince made a motion to go into closed session pursuant to Section 8(h) of the Open Meetings Act, to consider material exempt from discussion or disclosure by state or federal statute, which is section 13(1)(y) of the Freedom of Information Act which exempts from public disclosure “records or information of measures designed to protect the security or safety of the municipal electric system and disclosure would impair the MBLP’s ability to protect the security or safety of the system. B. Niemi seconded the motion; the board unanimously approved by roll call vote and went into closed session at 5:31p.m.

E. Angeli made a motion to come out of closed session at 5:48p.m. R. Niemi seconded the motion and the board voted unanimously by roll call vote to come out of closed session.

10a. **Recommendation to Approve IT Upgrades**

R. Niemi made a motion to approve IT upgrades to 906 Technologies of Marquette in the amount of \$56,457.00. T Tourville seconded the motion and after discussion, the Board unanimously approved.

11. **Adjournment:**

The meeting adjourned at 5:51 p.m.



Robert Niemi,
Vice Chair/Secretary