

# Marquette Board of Light and Power 7-11-17 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 July 11, 2017 beginning at 4:30 p.m. The meeting was called to order followed by the Pledge of Allegiance and roll call.

Present: Tom Tourville, Chair  
David Puskala, Vice Chair/Secretary  
Jerry Irby  
Robert Niemi  
David Carlson

Absent: None

J. Irby made a motion to accept the agenda, as presented. Support was given by D. Puskala and Board approved unanimously.

1. **Approval of the June 27, 2017 Regular Meeting Minutes:**

R. Niemi made a motion to accept June 27, 2017 regular meeting minutes, as presented. D. Puskala seconded and the minutes were unanimously approved by Board.

2. **Approval of Bills Payable:**

D. Carlson made a motion to approve the Bills Payable, as presented, totaling \$631,861.20. R. Niemi supported motion and after discussion, Board unanimously approved.

3. **Public Comments:**

No public comments at this time.

4. **Revised FY 2017 – 2018 Budget Schedule:**

Acting Executive Director Tom Carpenter stated the 2017-18 Budget Schedule had to be slightly modified this year. He has scheduled Burns and McDonnell representatives to come and give a presentation to the Board at their next meeting on July 26, 2017. T. Carpenter also furnished them with an executive summary tonight so they will have time to review it before that meeting. Discussion followed on how important this report will be to the utility's operation in the future. J. Irby recommended that we inform the candidates that are running for the Board this fall that this topic will be presented. R. Niemi motioned to approve the Revised FY 2017 – 2018 Budget Schedule. Support was given by D. Puskala and Board unanimously approved the revised schedule.

5. **Marquette Energy Center Update:**

T. Carpenter and Manager of Mechanical Engineering Services, John Schultz gave the Board an update on the performance testing of the new engines. The performance testing with fuel oil has been completed but there are some problems when the start-up process is done with natural gas. Because of the ordering of some parts from Finland, they are now projecting the completing to be around August 14. J. Irby made a recommendation to have an Open House to celebrate the new plant when everything has been turned over to the MBLP

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6. **Solar Garden Update:**

T. Carpenter said that the installation of the Solar Garden will begin next week when they start the ground breaking and the digging of the holes. It is estimated that the total installation will take approximately two months. The 450 solar panels have been received with 308 panels prepaid and an additional 80 panels preordered.

7. **Public Comments:**

Jorma Lankinen 8 Marquette Dr. personally welcomed Tom Carpenter in his new position and is sure he will do a fabulous job. He is also encouraged that the MBLP is moving forward on the Solar Garden.

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

Acting Executive Director, T. Carpenter mentioned that the paving of the parking lot should be completed this week. He also informed the Board the yearly, mandated boiler inspection is due on Unit No. 3, so the unit will have to be taken off line for three or four days.

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

T. Tourville brought up the subject of perhaps changing the format of our board meetings to make them more efficient. All of the Board Members voiced different ideas on how to accomplish this. T. Tourville requested legal counsel, Ken Seavoy to review the City Charter to make sure the Board is compliance with any changes to meetings and/or number of monthly meetings.

10. **Adjournment:**

The meeting adjourned at 5:14 p.m.



David Puskala  
Vice Chair/Secretary