

Marquette Board of Light and Power 10-10-17 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 October 10, 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

Per the Executive Director's request, T. Tourville removed item 5 from the agenda and also, requested item 4 be moved to the beginning of the meeting. D. Puskala made a motion to accept the agenda with the two revisions requested. Motion was supported by R. Niemi and was unanimously accepted by the Board.

4. **Mutual Aid Assistance in Florida Presentation – Ben Collins:**

Manager of Distribution and Engineering Services, Ben Collins gave a presentation to the Board on the Mutual Aid Program. B. Collins explained that the MBLP is a signatory to agreements with American Public Power Association (APPA), National Rural Electric Cooperative (NREC), Michigan Municipal Electric Association (MMEA), Alger Delta Cooperative, Consumers Energy Company and UPPCO. These Mutual Aid Agreement provides a means for utilities to request and coordinate assistance for large storm or system events. Recently with Hurricane Irma hitting the Florida coast, APPA put out a request for help to this area. We sent four journey lineman and two bucket trucks to Florida. Even though many of our linemen volunteered, Pat Aho, Nick Quayle, Nate Chaperon and Kevin Wright were chosen to go. The trip took over 40 hours to get there, due to traffic and fuel shortages. There were over 30,000 lineman from across the country that went to help. Our linemen were impressed with the state coordination and the coordination of the workers when they got there. The residents were great, dropping off food, pop and water for the workers. B. Collins stated by this experience, the utility learned a lot about what to do the next time a major storm hits. Even though it was extremely hot and they worked 16 hours days, they all said they would do it again if they had the chance.

1. **Approval of the September 26, 2017 Regular Meeting Minutes:**

D. Carlson made a motion to accept September 26, 2017 regular meeting minutes, as presented. The motion was supported by D. Puskala and the minutes were unanimously approved by Board.

2. **Approval of Bills Payable:**

R. Niemi made a motion to approve the Bills Payable totaling \$991,692.60, with the exception of J. Irby travel reimbursement. D. Puskala gave support to the motion. After questions were answered, the Board unanimously approved the bills payable. R. Niemi made

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a motion to approve the travel reimbursement check written to Mr. Irby. D. Puskala gave support, J. Irby abstained from voting and the motion was passed by the Board.

3. **Public Comments:**

No public comments at this time.

5. **Request for Operational Support Services for MEC:**

This item was removed from the agenda. Acting Executive Director Tom Carpenter stated that Manager of Mechanical Engineering Services, John Schultz talked with Wärtsilä staff and they have agreed to give the MBLP a month of additional operational support services, without charge.

6. **Public Comments:**

No public comments at this time.

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

T. Carpenter stated that he attended the Michigan Municipal Electric Association Annual Conference last week. Chuck Beitel from Sargent and Lundy gave a presentation on the MBLP's new plant. T. Carpenter attended the session and stated that a large group of people attended the session and were very interested in our project.

T. Carpenter informed the Board that the Michigan Public Service Commission recently approved SEMCO's Marquette Connector Pipeline Project.

T. Carpenter stated that he is looking forward to the Joint Work Session Meeting with the City Commissioner, next Tuesday.

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

J. Irby thanked the Board for allowing him to attend the Annual MMEA Conference last week. Dawn Lund from Utility Financial Solutions (UFS) was presenting at four separate sessions and he attended all of them. At the conference, J. Irby said that he was very impressed with Tom Carpenter's professional interactions at the conference. Once he returned, he spent some time with Manager of Accounting and Customer Service, Toby Smith reaffirming some of the numbers and stated the MBLP is right on target with the guidelines given to us by UFS. He stated that this is a really good conference and encourages other Board Members to attend it if their schedules permit them to go.

T. Carpenter agreed with J. Irby, saying this is a really great conference, it is time well spent and encouraged Board members to attend.

D. Puskala asked what the staff were doing to get Unit #3 ready for the winter. T. Carpenter said that they will be running the MEC and Shiras #3 this winter. We have enough coal in reserve to run Unit #3 until April or May.

R. Niemi asked for some information on the output of our Solar Garden. T. Carpenter said he can get that information for the Board.

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T. Tourville stated that the MBLP will be presenting a lot of information to the City Commissioners on Tuesday's Joint Work Session. T. Tourville said that he is considering cancelling the October 31 Board Meeting due to lack of agenda items. He will make that decision at a later date and the members will be informed.

9. **Adjournment:**
The meeting adjourned at 5:13 p.m.



David Puskala
Vice Chair/Secretary