

# Marquette Board of Light and Power 11-28-17 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 November 28, 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  
Edward Angeli  
Robert Niemi

Absent: None

J. Irby made a motion to accept the agenda, as presented. R. Niemi gave support and Board unanimously approved the agenda.

1. **Approval of the November 14, 2017 Regular Meeting Minutes:**

A motion was made by E. Angeli to accept November 14, 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:**

J. Irby made a motion to approve the Bills Payable, as presented, totaling \$919,574.78 with R. Niemi giving support. After discussion, Bills Payable were unanimously approved by the Board.

3. **Public Comments:**

No comments at this time.

4. **Recommendation to Approve Payment for:**

a. Water Blast & Vacuum Cleaning of Unit #3 Air Heater.

E. Angeli made a motion to award payment to H2O Under Pressure, Inc. for water blasting and vacuum cleaning Unit #3's air heater, seal trough, sumps, and ductwork in the total amount of \$30,798.34. It was noted that H2O Under Pressure, Inc. is the only known qualified hydro cleaning company in the region and this project was a budgeted FY 17 Unit #3 shutdown expenditure. R. Niemi seconded the motion. During the discussion, D. Puskala requested to have more information and would like the Board to be able to have more input before large projects are started. Board unanimously approved the payment.

b. Metal Thickness & Integrity Inspections on Unit #3.

A motion was made by J. Irby to authorize payment to Acuren Inspections, Inc. in the total amount of \$27,246.68 for performing metal thickness and integrity inspections on Unit #3's boiler. Support was given by D. Puskala. Acuren Inspection Inc. is the only known qualified regional inspection company and this item is a budgeted FY 17 Unit #3 shutdown expenditure. After questions, the payment was unanimously approved by the Board.

# Marquette Board of Light and Power 11-28-17 MINUTES

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

5. **Recommendation to Adopt the 2018 Regular Board Meeting Schedule:**

T. Tourville suggested that the Board cancel one of the Board Meetings in December due to the holidays and lack of agenda items. He requested that the Board consider cancelling the second meeting on December 26. After discussion, J. Irby made a motion to cancel the second Board meeting of the month and keep the first meeting scheduled on December 12. Board unanimously approved the change in Board Meeting schedules.

Discussion continued on the adoption of 2018 Regular Board Meeting Schedule. One of the options brought up was to only have one Board Meeting a month. T. Tourville asked Executive Director Tom Carpenter to give his opinion on this option. T. Carpenter stated that because the MEC has been completed and the Board letter approval limit has been raised to \$25,000, the actual approval business has been cut down significantly. T. Carpenter has discussed this option with various staff members to make sure there would not be any problems with a change in the schedule. R. Niemi suggested using a consent agenda at the meetings which would give the Board more time to focus on long-term projects and larger overall topics. D. Puskala agreed with Mr. Niemi. E. Angeli commented that he wants to make sure the Board does their due diligence but does not want staff to have to find things just to have a board meeting. J. Irby stated that initially, he favored the two meetings a month, but because of his confidence in the staff and having the option to come in anytime to talk to department heads, he would support the removal of the second meeting on the month. He also suggested trying it for a year and re-evaluating then. Board members are challenging staff to make sure the Board are made aware of what is going on. J. Irby made a motion to adopt a revised 2018 Regular Board Meeting Schedule, with one meeting a month on the second Tuesday of the month. Board will have the option of scheduling a second meeting if needed. D. Puskala supported the motion and Board unanimously approved a revised schedule.

6. **Public Comments:**

Jorma Lankinen, 8 Marquette Drive, Marquette. He stated that changing the meeting to one a month was a good thing and would be a good use of their time. He thanked staff for calling him with his monthly usage (request from last month's meeting) and he has reduced his consumption significantly without living in the dark. Thanks for keeping the lights on.

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

T. Carpenter showed the Board the new 'Community Garden Member' yard signs that were created for our solar garden participants.

Regarding the recent article in the Mining Journal about the noise from the Marquette Energy Center, he stated that Marquette Township sent letters out to their residences regarding the MEC and they have received 11 complaints about noise. All residents lived in the same area. He stated that the plan is to get Wärtsilä staff back here to see if there is anything else we can do to make it quieter.

Tomorrow a group of students from Marquette Area Public Schools will be here for a presentation and tour of the MEC and Solar Garden. The class is studying energy issues.

Marquette Board of Light and Power 11-28-17 MINUTES  
2200 Wright St., Marquette, MI 49855 (906) 228-0311

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

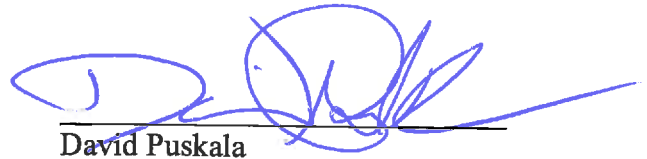
J. Irby asked about having a Shiras Planning Evaluation Study done to find out the costs of keeping it running and/or shutting it down.

D. Puskala commended staff on following through with the sign, stickers and yard signs. Regarding the new meeting schedule, D. Puskala asked how this might affect the financials and suggested that the Board discuss this at the next meeting.

R. Niemi asked if there was a plan for having a Grand Opening for the Marquette Energy Center. T. Carpenter answered that we are planning on in the spring.

9. **Adjournment:**

The meeting adjourned at 5:17 p.m.



David Puskala  
Vice Chair/Secretary