

Marquette Board of Light and Power 05-05-2026 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 May 5th, 2026, beginning at 4:30 p.m. The meeting was called to order.

D. Campana lead the Pledge of Allegiance and announced Roll Call.

Present: Dave Campana, Chairperson
Carrie Statt
Jerry Irby
John Sonderegger

Absent: None

D. Campana asked to remove agenda item 11 – Closed Session and add a closed session to item 5 – DNR/Vessel Base – Closed Session, J. Irby made a motion to approve the agenda as amended, C. Statt seconded the motion, and the Board unanimously approved.

1. **Approval of March 24th, 2026, Regular Meeting Minutes**

J. Sonderegger made a motion to approve the March 24th, 2026, regular meeting minutes as presented. J. Irby seconded the motion, and the Board unanimously approved.

2. **Approval of Bills Payable:**

C. Statt made a motion to approve the bills paid of \$ 4,418,031.91 and future cash commitments of \$ 2,143,541.22 as presented. J. Sonderegger seconded the motion and after discussion, the Board unanimously approved the Bills Payables.

3. **Public Comments:**

Lisa Janke – 808 S. Lake St – Inquired about communication and a timeline between the MBLP and the residents of S. Lake St regarding the undergrounding of the utility lines. Also inquired about discussion after the closed session that was added for the DNR Vessel Base.

Margaret Brumm – 404 E Magnetic St – Stated she applied for the vacant seat on the MBLP Board that will be discussed tonight, she shared why she wanted to be on the Board and why she believes she is the best candidate for the open seat.

Brian Carlson – 1050 S. Lake St.- Spoke regarding streetlights and stated, if possible, when they are removed with the undergrounding project, is it possible to have the lights placed on the bike path similar to further up the trail and in town.

Cindy Hansen – 1072 S. Lake St. – Concerned about the timeline of the undergrounding work, as of right now she has not opted to go underground, but would like to know the timeline to better understand how long she has to consider it before it is completed.

4a. **Recommendation to Approve Purchase of MEC Fuel Rack Parts**

C. Statt made a motion to approve the purchase of MEC fuel rack parts from Wartsila for \$ 27,863.77, J. Irby seconded the motion, after discussion the Board unanimously approved.

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4b. **Recommendation to Approve Underground Construction Contract**

J. Sonderegger made a motion to approve the underground construction contract from Northern Utility for three (3) years at the proposed unit-based pricing, J. Irby seconded the motion, after discussion the Board unanimously approved.

5. **DNR Vessel Base/Shiras Property Discussion – Closed Session**

D. Campana moved the Board go into closed session under 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)(g) of the Freedom of Information Act which exempts from public disclosure a written opinion by the Board's legal counsel.

J. Irby seconded the motion; a roll call vote was held:

Yes: D. Campana, C. Statt, J. Sonderegger, J. Irby

No: None

D. Campana made a motion to conclude the closed session, J. Irby seconded the motion, a roll call vote was held:

Yes: D. Campana, C. Statt, J. Sonderegger, J. Irby

No: None

J. Sonderegger made a motion to deny the DNR proposal for a Vessel Base located on the former Shiras Steam Plant property. J. Irby seconded the motion; J. Sonderegger made comments regarding the property. The Board unanimously approved the motion.

6. **MBLP Board Member Appointment Recommendation**

M. Zavislak provided background regarding the process the Board could choose to take when recommending a Board Member for appointment during the next City of Marquette Commission Meeting. The Board had a discussion regarding the process and candidates, the Board opted for a straw poll vote to see if any candidates received a relative majority; of the 4 candidates, 1 candidate, Christopher Dehlin received a relative majority of the votes. J. Irby made a motion to recommend Christopher Dehlin to the City Commission for appointment to the MBLP Board, J. Sonderegger seconded the motion, after discussion the Board unanimously approved.

7. **Financial Discussion – Director of Finance, William Toomey:**

Director of Finance, William Toomey presented the Interim Operating Statement for the month ending March 31st, 2026, Projected Cash Flow Statement, KWH Comparative vs. Prior Year and Five-Year History, Trending Actual Revenue versus Budget, and investments

9. **Public Comments:**

Lisa Janke – 808 S. Lake St – Spoke regarding the Shiras Property/DNR Boathouse and spoke to the process, she commented that a lot of the information was in closed session and she would like to see more information be more publicly available.

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

Updated the Board on a recent vehicle purchase per our vehicle replacement plan and policy. T. Carpenter shared some additional background information on the vehicle purchase policy.

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

C. Statt – Nothing additional

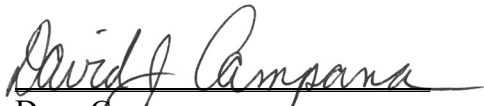
J. Sonderegger – Spoke regarding the DNR request, noted the discussions from the prior meetings and noted that it is City land and it is there for the benefit of the municipality, spoke to his motion and reiterated why we would not want to release the land to a state agency.

J. Irby – Spoke to some of the history regarding the property and that it should be used for the betterment of residents of the City of Marquette

D. Campana – Spoke to J. Sonderegger’s comments, noted he outlined the thoughts regarding the use of the property and that it should be used for the betterment of the community.

12. **Adjournment:**

The meeting was adjourned at 5:45 p.m.


Dave Campana,
Chairperson