Marquette Board of Light and Power 05-25-2021 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 25th, 2021 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 as permitted by Public Act 228 of 2020, public participation was held via conference call.

Present: John Prince, Chair
Robert Niemi, Vice Chair/Secretary
Ed Angeli
Jerry Irby

Absent: John Sonderegger

R. Niemi made a motion to excuse J. Sonderegger from the May 25th, 2021 meeting. J. Irby seconded the motion.

T. Carpenter requested item 5a – street light contract work be added to the agenda. E. Angeli made a motion to approve the agenda as amended. J. Irby seconded the motion. The Board unanimously approved

1. **Approval of the April 20th, 2021 Regular Meeting Minutes**

   J. Irby made a motion to accept the April 20th, 2021 Regular Meeting Minutes as presented. R. Niemi seconded the motion and the Board unanimously approved.

2. **Approval of Bills Payable:**

   E. Angeli made a motion to approve the Bills Payable, as presented, totaling $ 1,163,525.08. R. Niemi seconded the motion and after discussion, the Board unanimously approved the Bills Payables as presented.

3. **Public Comments:**

   No public comment was made at this time.

4. **K. Benstrom Retirement Presentation**

   T. Carpenter presented K. Benstrom with a plaque for his 23 years of service to the Marquette Board of Light & Power. Chairman Prince spoke to quality of work that Karl has done while at the MBLP and thanked him for his service. K. Benstrom thanked the Board and & staff for the opportunity 23 years ago to further his career and finish it here at the MBLP.

5. **IT Update**
Manager of Information Technology, Mark Tracy provided an update to the Board on the status of our IT program. He discussed the various methods and systems we have implemented to ensure our system is protected.

5a. **Street Light Contract Work**
E. Angeli made a motion to award street light contract work to B&B Electric, Inc. in the amount of $ 27,740.00. R. Niemi seconded the motion and after discussion, the Board unanimously approved.

6. **Energy Optimization (EO) Program Discussion**
T. Carpenter continued the discussion from the April 20th, 2021 Board Meeting. The Board discussed possible options of continuing the Energy Optimization program and if it is in the best interest of our customers and the utility to continue after the program expiration at the end of the year.

7. **Capital Projects**

a. Second Interconnection – Currently looking at alternate routes to connect to ATC; working with Black & Veatch to find the best fit solution.

b. Wright St Renovation – East side is done; west side is currently being worked on. The exterior of the building is still being worked on as well.

c. Shiras CCR/Shiras Demolition – Buildings are coming down, moving along quickly; currently finishing the wash down process, pump house has been torn down, sluice tank removed, and they are beginning to work on the bag houses (which are currently cleaned out.)

d. Fiber Optic Project – Ongoing, rough draft received from Tom Asp. Currently T. Asp is working to compile a complete and comprehensive report outlining different possible options. Customer survey response rate was higher than expected and higher than they typical average.

e. Other – None

8. **Financial Discussion – Mark Link:**
Chief Financial Officer – Mark Link presented the Interim Operating Statement for the month ending April 30th, 2021, Projected Cash Flow Statement, KWH Comparative vs. Prior Year and Five-Year History, & Trending Actual Revenue versus Budget.

9. **Public Comments:**

No public comment was made.

10. **Any Additional Business the Executive Director Wishes to Present**:
T. Carpenter informed the Board that we received final approval from EGLE for our Tourist Park wetlands restoration.

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

R. Niemi – Nothing additional

E. Angeli – Thanked K. Benstrom for his service & was happy to meet M. Tracy in person. E. Angeli also appreciated the work M. Link has done on the financials and stated that it is more important than ever to keep an eye on our financial trends.

J. Irby – Nothing additional

J. Prince – Inquired J. Hendrickson & B. Collins about parts availability and lead times for the MEC and for distribution projects. J. Hendrickson and B. Collins indicated that current inventory levels are in good shape and they are planning appropriately for those longer lead times. J. Prince inquired on the status of the Fiber Optic resolution with the City of Marquette; T. Carpenter & L. Reilly stated that the resolution is slated to be on the 06-14-21 City Commission meeting agenda.

Adjournment:
The meeting adjourned at 5:51 p.m.

Robert Niemi

Robert Niemi,
Vice Chair/Secretary