

Marquette Board of Light and Power 09-28-2021 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 September 28th, 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
J. Irby
John Sonderegger arrived approx. 4:50pm

Absent: None

E. Angeli made a motion to excuse J. Sonderegger's absence, R. Niemi seconded the motion, the Board unanimously approved. (Motion was made before J. Sonderegger arrived at 4:50pm)

E. Angeli made motion to approve the agenda as presented, J. Irby Seconded the motion, the Board unanimously approved.

1. **Approval of the August 24th, 2021 Regular Meeting Minutes, August 26th, 2021 Special Meeting, & September 1st, 2021 Special Meeting**

J Irby made a motion to accept the August 24th, 2021 Regular Meeting Minutes, August 26th, 2021 Special Meeting, & September 1st, 2021 Special Meeting Regular Meeting Minutes as presented. R. Niemi seconded the motion and the Board unanimously approved.

2. **Approval of Bills Payable:**

J. Irby made a motion to approve the Bills Payable, as presented, totaling \$ 1,293,670.63. R. Niemi seconded the motion and after discussion, the Board unanimously approved the Bills Payables as presented.

3. **Public Comments:**

Tammy Wills (Hiawatha Music Cooperative) – 1015 N 3rd St #9
(Write-in) The Hiawatha Music Co-op has 3 seasonal meters at the Tourist Park Campground that are only activated one weekend per year/intermittent throughout the year. This year, when activating one of the seasonal meters, they were informed, once activated, there would be a \$24.05/month charge moving forward for seasonal meter. The Hiawatha Music Co-op is requesting an exemption from the new billing for season meters.

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4. **Recommendation to Approve Purchase if Forestville Hydro Plant Controls Upgrade**
E. Angeli made a motion to approve the purchase of Forestville Hydro Plant controls upgrade from GE Renewables US, LLC in the amount of \$ 549,500. J. Irby seconded the motion and after discussion, the Board unanimously approved.
5. **Recommendation to Approve Purchase of MEC Engine Oil**
J. Irby made a motion to approve the purchase of MEC Engine Oil from Shell SOPUS in the amount of \$ 58,754. E. Angeli seconded the motion and after discussion, the Board unanimously approved.
6. **Recommendation to Approve 12k Hour Preventative Maintenance Field Support Services**
R. Niemi made a motion to approve 12k hour preventative maintenance field support services from Wartsila in the amount of \$ 39,568.00. J. Irby seconded the motion and after discussion, the Board unanimously approved.
7. **Public Hearing 2021-22 Budget**
Chief Financial Officer, Mark Link presented an overview of the 2021-22 Budget.

R. Niemi made a motion to approve the 2021-22 Budget, J. Irby seconded the motion and after discussion, the Board unanimously approved.
8. **Capital Projects**
 - a. Second Interconnection – Cost amount was received from ATC, new location is more expensive than the original option, however, this second location may provide additional longer-term benefits to the utility.
 - b. Shiras Demolition – #1 #2 boilers are gone; #3 boiler is going to be coming down soon. Demotion is continuing on as scheduled.
 - e. Other –T. Carpenter & M. Link updated the Board on the NISC conversion and the some of the benefits the customers can expect to experience.
T. Carpenter also updated the Board on our most recent new hire; Tim Kopacz is the new Director of Distribution. He also spoke regarding the transition of some of our internal personnel; Chris Nelson, is now the Manager of Metering. Ben Collins has taken on a new role as the Manager of Projects and Utility Planning, and the continuing search for the Manager of Distribution Position.
9. **Financial Discussion – CFO, Mark Link:**
Chief Financial Officer, Mark Link presented the Interim Operating Statement for the month ending August 31st, 2021, Projected Cash Flow Statement, KWH Comparative vs. Prior Year and Five-Year History, and Trending Actual Revenue versus Budget.

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10. **Public Comments:**

No public comment was made.

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

T. Carpenter shared with the Board some information related to the possibility of a customer satisfaction survey for those in our service territory. This company specialized in working with Public Utilities. T. Kopacz expanded on the benefits associated with conducting a customer satisfaction survey.

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

R. Niemi – Nothing additional

E. Angeli – Welcomed T. Kopacz. Inquired about what action has been made regarding the public comment from Hiawatha Music Co-Op. T. Carpenter gave some background information and K. Downs expanded on what action is currently being taken to help the Co-Op.

J. Prince – Spoke to our cash position and the upcoming projects and initiatives that are planned for the next few years; along with our responsibility to maintain a reserve for the security of the utility.

J. Irby – Nothing additional

J. Sonderegger – Inquired about outage information on the website. Also inquired about what was the cause of the outage on Saturday night.

Adjournment:

The meeting adjourned at 5:46 p.m.



Robert Niemi,
Vice Chair/Secretary