

Ashburnham Municipal Light Board

Thursday, November 15, 2018
24 Williams Road, Conference Room
Ashburnham, MA 01430

Meeting Minutes

Commissioners: Rick Ahlin, Chairman

Mark Carlisle, Vice Chairman

Stephen Hogan, Secretary

AMLP General Manager: Kevin Sullivan

Other Attendees: Brooke Czasnowski, Ron DeCurzio, MMWEC CEO (left at 11:10 am)

Ahlin called the meeting to order at 10:05 am with a roll call vote. Carlisle present, Hogan present, Ahlin present.

Ahlin announced all Board meetings are subject to audio and video recording.

Ahlin made a motion to accept the agenda as written. Hogan seconded. All in favor. Carlisle aye, Hogan aye, Ahlin aye.

General Manager Items:

Battery Storage Update: The delays in the battery storage project were discussed. Ahlin expressed his concerns with the project delays and the possible financial impact to the AMLP. DeCurzio explained his letter to the Board and he discussed the lack of communication between MMWEC's different project management groups. He explained that changes have been made to their project management process to ensure that communications are more than adequate in the future. DeCurzio also mentioned that MMWEC could not give NEC the go ahead until all the contracts had been finalized with the other MLP's. Sullivan noted that there has been no change order to increase cost. The cost increase is due to the increase in the size of the unit. Additionally, there were no added costs to have the project pulled in from the projected March date.

Sullivan discussed the battery storage work timeline. He stated that the biggest impact to the schedule would be weather. He said the transformer has been delivered, the recloser is scheduled to ship 12/7 and the primary meter is shipping 12/13. Sullivan has been working with the vendors to try and reduce lead times.

Meter Replacement Update: Sullivan informed the Board that there are 13 meters left to be replaced. These are all industrial meters that require a scheduled outage to be changed. Sullivan anticipates they will be replaced in the 1st quarter of 2019. Czasnowski mentioned that she is working with Landis+Gyr to get the net meters to report the requested reads to the Command Center.

MADEP Closeout Letter: Sullivan discussed the letter the he submitted to the MassDep in response to their "Return to Compliance" letter. He also discussed the letter that the AMLP received from the Board of Health.

Cost of Service Study Update: Sullivan presented the cost of service study overview. He mentioned that Matt Ide from MMWEC recommends a cost of service study be completed every five years. The process began with MMWEC performing a financial check-up on the AMLP. The next step involved getting all the financial information into the cost of service model that was designed by Baker Tilly. MMWEC receives the information on projected power costs used in the model from third party forecasters. This modeling step is considered the "science" behind the rate study. The final step is the "art" behind the rate study and will begin when all the relevant financial information has been captured in the model. Sullivan presented a summary of the two scenarios created by MMWEC. The difference between the "base case" and "with battery" is the expected reduction in expenses with the battery storage installation.

General Manager Contract, Sections III, VI: Ahlin submitted the General Manager evaluation summary. Hogan made a motion to accept the evaluation. Carlisle seconded. All in favor. Hogan aye, Carlisle aye, Ahlin aye. Ahlin noted that they will discuss a salary increase for the General Manager at the December meeting.

Other: Sullivan informed the board that Bruce Brackett has submitted his letter of resignation and will be retiring on 2/1/2019.

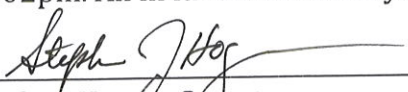
Sullivan mentioned to the Board that he would like to discuss the OPEB benefits at the next meeting.

The next meeting for the Board was scheduled for December 12, 2018 at 10:00am.

Ahlin made a motion to enter in to executive session under **M.G.L. Chapter 30A: Section 21(a)** and the following clauses:

10: To discuss trade secrets or confidential, competitively-sensitive or other proprietary information provided: when such governmental body, municipal aggregator or cooperative determines that such disclosure will adversely affect its ability to conduct business in relation to other entities making, selling or distributing electric power and energy.

Carlisle made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Hogan, seconded. Vote was taken at 12:02pm. All in favor. Carlisle aye, Hogan aye, Ahlin aye.



Stephen Hogan, Secretary