

**MINUTES
BOARD OF LOWELL LIGHT AND POWER
REGULAR MEETING JANUARY 14, 2016**

- I. **CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL:** The meeting was called to order at 6:03 p.m. by Chairman Canfield and General Manager Greg Pierce called the roll.

Present: Board Members, Greg Canfield, Perry Beachum, Tina Cadwallader, & Tamela Spicer. It was **MOVED** by **SPICER, SUPPORTED BY BEACHUM** to excuse the absence of Andrew Schrauben.

Yea: 4 Nay: 0 Absent: 1 Motion Carried

Tardy: Schrauben arrived at 6:05 p.m.

Also Present: General Manager Greg Pierce, Electric
Distribution Manager Tom Russo, Financial
Manager Steve Donkersloot and Utility Services
Coordinator Sharon Morris

II. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA:**

Pierce added V.V Action Item, Bank Signatures on the agenda. It was **MOVED BY SPICER, SUPPORTED BY BEACHUM** to approve the agenda as amended.

Yea: 5 Nay: 0 Absent: 0 Motion Carried

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

It was MOVED BY SCHRAUBEN, SUPPORTED BY SPICER to approve the meeting minutes of the December 10, 2015 regular meeting.

Yea: 5 Nay: 0 Absent: 0 Motion Carried

IV. PUBLIC COMMENTS: (Items not on the agenda):

There was no public.

V. GUEST UPDATES

A. Dawn Broene from Flat River Outreach Ministries gave an update on PA95, and the Michigan Energy Assistance Program (MEAP).

B. Greg Northrup from LEAD gave an update on the Biodigester and operator.

V.V. ACTION ITEMS:

- Bank Signatures – Our bond reserve account is being changed from a checking account to a money market savings account (no fees) in order to accumulate interest. The current signatures on our bank accounts are Greg Canfield, Perry Beachum, Tamela Spicer, Greg Pierce, Tom Russo and Steve Donkersloot. There are only two wire transfers per year that come out of our bond account.

It was MOVED BY SCHRAUBEN, SUPPORTED BY CADWALLADER to have the same signers on this bond account as on our other accounts.

Yea: 5 Nay: 0 Absent: 0 Motion Carried

VI. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS:

- A. Performance Data: Pierce reported on December's data.
- B. Income Statement (December 2015): Pierce reported on the December's Income Statement.

Board discussion took place regarding future generation.

Pierce reviewed the Capital Expense Summary, detailed Capital Expense Report, and reported some expenses will be coming through on the AMI meters and the Rolls Royce combustion turbine.

- C. Manager's Report: Pierce gave updates to the Board on the following items:
- **MPPA/MMEA:** There is nothing new to report. The monthly board meetings for both MPPA and MMEA occur the third week of this month.
 - **APPA Update:** The Washington DC Legislative Rally is coming up March 7-9. Anyone interested should contact Greg or Sharon for details.
 - **System/Generation Upgrade Progress:** The East substation decommission is complete. Russo gave an update on water levels and the potential for flooding to damage transformers on our system. The engineers agreed it is not necessary to move any transformers. Board discussion occurred. The Bio-digester update was presented by Greg Northrup. There were four outages in the month of December.
 - **Strategic Planning:** A work session occurred after last month's meeting. A document was included as a tracking document for the Board's review.

- **Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI):** The contract with Easton Cooper is being reviewed by Dick Wendt.
- **Commercial Shutoff Notifications:** Last month commercial customer shutoffs were discussed. Donkersloot gave an update on the office procedure.
- **After Holiday Party:** Pierce gave the Board a few ideas to get more participation. Board discussion occurred.
- **EO Update:** Pierce updated the Board that we exceeded our 2015 EO goals. Final numbers are still being calculated for projects done at the end of December.
- **Payables:** Pierce presented December payables.

Schedule of Meetings: January/February was presented.

VII. NEXT REGULAR LLP BOARD MEETING: The next Board meeting will be held, Thursday, February 11, 2016.

VIII. BOARD COMMENT:

Cadwallader appreciated Dawn's update and was amazed that 59 energy audits have been completed.

Beachum addressed Peggy Covert's comment at the last City council meeting regarding health concerns and additional charges for those who opt out from AMI meters. Perry described in detail the answers to those concerns and if there is a rate increase it will not be because of the AMI meters. Lowell Community Expo is March 26th; during the expo, the Pink Arrow groups along with Michigan Blood are trying to put together the largest blood drive ever, to enhance the educational endowment fund for the Lowell Schools. Perry stated many people in the surrounding community who are not Lowell Light and Power customers were without power during the holidays. He thanked the staff at Lowell Light and

Power for providing, safe, reliable, affordable power to the community.

Spicer commended Sharon for spearheading the MEAP program partnership between Flat River Outreach and Lowell Light and Power. The uniqueness of the partnership is the “poster child” for how this program works. This program has been a huge benefit to the Lowell community. Tamela stated it would be great to have the City council members attend the LLP meetings. She is concerned that they want to “keep an eye on” Lowell Light and Power and yet we don’t have a representative on our Board and no council members have attended any of our meetings. She would like to see them attend and get educated on what Lowell Light and Power is doing.

Canfield thanked Sharon for spearheading the FROM and Lowell Light and Power partnership. It is a great thing for this community.

Pierce concluded the meeting stating he is retiring March 25, 2016. Greg has promoted Steve Donkersloot to the Assistant General Manager position. Steve will be working closely with Greg over the next several weeks.

IX. ADJOURNAMENT:

It was **MOVED BY BEACHUM**, supported by **SPICER** to adjourn the regular meeting at 8:03 p.m.

Yea: 5 Nay: 0 Absent: 0 Motion Carried

Chairman Canfield

Date