

**Minutes for the
Board of Lowell Light & Power's
Regular Meeting – February 14, 2023**

I. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL:

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Beachum at 6:00 p.m., and General Manager West called the roll.

Present: Perry Beachum, Andrew Schrauben, Daniel Crawford,
and Craig Fonger

Absent: Tina Cadwallader

Also Present: General Manager Charlie West, Financial Analyst Megan Mora, and Mayor Mike Devore

It was MOVED BY CRAWFORD, SUPPORTED BY FONGER, to excuse Tina Cadwallader's absence.

Yea: 4 Nay: 0 Absent: 1 Motion Carried

II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

It was MOVED BY CRAWFORD, SUPPORTED BY SCHRAUBEN, to approve the agenda as presented.

Yea: 4 Nay: 0 Absent: 1 Motion Carried

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

It was MOVED BY FONGER, SUPPORTED BY CRAWFORD, to approve the January 10, 2023 Regular Board Meeting Minutes.

Yea: 4 Nay: 0 Absent: 1 Motion Carried

IV. PUBLIC COMMENTS (for items not on the agenda):

There was no public comment.

V. ACTION ITEMS:

A. Benevolence Request – Red Arrow Robotics:

General Manager West summarized the benevolence request from Lowell Area Schools Red Arrow Robotics to request the use of the old engine room as a build and drive space for the Red Arrow Robotics team. Coach Bryan Forney of the Red Arrow Robotics spoke about the program and the reason for the benevolence request. The board discussed the renovations and insurance needs to make the old engine room suitable for the robotics team.

It was MOVED BY CRAWFORD, SUPPORTED BY FONGER, to approve the benevolence request from Lowell Area Schools Red Arrow Robotics to use the old engine room space pending renovations, fire code approval and insurance coverage.

Yea: 4 Nay: 0 Absent: 1 Motion Carried

B. Battery Energy Storage Systems Capacity Purchase and Sale Agreement:

General Manager West presented the Purchase Power Commitment Authorization for MPPA's Battery Energy Storage Systems (BESS) Capacity and Sale Agreement for the board's consideration.

It was MOVED BY CRAWFORD, SUPPORTED BY FONGER, to approve the Energy Services Project Power Purchase Commitment Authorization for the Battery Energy Storage Systems Capacity Purchase and Sale Agreement.

Yea: 4 Nay: 0 Absent: 1 Motion Carried

C. Strategic Plan Review:

Staff presented the updated Strategic Plan for board review. The board discussed the proposed changes and overall approach for Strategic Plan development.

The board discussed what actions should be taken at the board level and what actions were operational in nature and did not require board approval. The LL&P board agreed to continue discussions around developing strategic plan goals, but decided that they would no longer take board action to approve the annual updates to the Strategic Plan Action Items List. No action was taken.

D. East Side Feed – Overhead Portion Construction Bid Acceptance:

General Manager West presented the path of the overhead construction map and bid tabulation form from GRP Engineering for the overhead construction portion of the new east side feed. Bids we solicited from four companies with three bids received. Staff and GRP Engineering recommended to accept the lowest bid, from Newkirk Electric, in the amount of \$160,090.

It was MOVED BY FONGER, SUPPORTED BY CRAWFORD, to accept the bid from Newkirk Electric of \$160,090 for the construction services for the overhead portion of the new east side feed.

Yea: 4 Nay: 0 Absent: 1 Motion Carried

E. CLOSED SESSION – MCL 15.268(c) – IBEW 876 Memorandum of Understanding:

It was MOVED BY CRAWFORD, SUPPORTED BY FONGER, to go into closed session, pursuant to MCL 15.268(c), to discuss a Memorandum of Understanding to the collective bargaining agreement with IBEW Local 876 at 9:03 p.m.

Roll Call Vote:

Yea: Beachum, Schrauben, Crawford, and Fonger

Nay: 0 Absent: 1 Motion Carried

It was MOVED BY CRAWFORD, SUPPORTED BY SCHRAUBEN, to come out of closed session at 9:20 p.m.

Yea: 4 Nay: 0 Absent: 1 Motion Carried

F. Action Items as a Result of Closed Session:

It was MOVED BY CRAWFORD, SUPPORTED BY SCHRAUBEN, to approve the General Manager to proceed with finalizing the Memorandum of Understanding to execute the final agreement as long as no material changes were made to the level of benefits as outlined in the draft MOU presented in closed session.

Yea: 4 Nay: 0 Absent: 1 Motion Carried

VI. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS:

- A. Presentation of Financial Metrics:** West presented the Key Financial Indicators for FY 2022.
- B. Presentation of Updated Financial Forecast FY 2023:** West presented the updated Financial Forecast for FY 2023.
- C. Performance Data:** West reported on the January 2023 data.
- D. Monthly Outage Report:** There was one outage in the month of January.
- E. Income Statement:** West reported on the January 2023 Income Statement.
- F. Capital Projects Report:** West reported on the January 2023 Capital Projects Report.
- G. Manager's Report:** West provided written updates to the Board on the following items:
- MPPA/MMEA/APPA Update
 - Distribution/Generation Department Update
 - Safety Update
 - Facility Projects
 - Lineshack
 - Transformer Fire
 - Soil Gas Mitigation
 - IJJA/IRA
 - Time-of-Use Rate Implementation
 - Customer Survey
 - GIS
 - Cyber Security Training
 - Christmas Tree Recycling

- APPA Legislative Rally
- Save the Date: 2023 MPPA Stakeholder Meeting
- Work Anniversaries
- Payables

H. **Schedule of Meetings:** February/March was presented.

VII. **NEXT REGULAR LL&P BOARD MEETING:** Scheduled for Tuesday, March 14, 2023 at the Energy Center.

VIII. **BOARD COMMENT:**

Schrauben expressed appreciation that the old engine room will be used and for supporting the Red Arrow Robotics. Fonger mentioned that it was great to attend the Rotary luncheon at the Energy Center, was glad to see so many LL&P staff in attendance of the Chamber Souper event, congratulated the Fire Department on the new fire engine, also expressed appreciation that the old engine room will be used, and thanked Perry for his great leadership and making the company a family. Crawford thanked Charlie and Whitney for hosting a company lunch, thanked staff for their involvement in the strategic planning, and announced that he and his wife are expecting a baby girl. Beachum wished Ryan the best, urged everyone to do something to help others or to ask for help if they need it, and highlighted the APLUS program for those that need help paying their electric bill.

IX. **ADJOURNMENT**

It was MOVED BY CRAWFORD, SUPPORTED BY CADWALLADER to adjourn the Regular Board Meeting at 9:33 p.m.

Yea: 4 Nay: 0 Absent: 1 Motion Carried

Vice-Chairman Schrauben

Date