

**Minutes for the  
Board of Lowell Light & Power's  
Regular Meeting – June 13, 2023**

**I. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL:**

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Beachum at 6:01 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, City Council Liaison Jim Salzwedel, Distribution Manager Ryan Teachworth, and Generation Superintendent Casey Mier

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:**

Chairman Beachum requested an additional action item (D) IBEW 876 Collective Bargaining Agreement Discussion – Closed Session.

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

Yea: 4      Nay: 0      Absent: 1      Motion Carried

**III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

It was MOVED BY SCHRAUBEN, SUPPORTED BY FONGER, to approve the May 9, 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. FY 2024 Board Meeting Dates:**

West proposed the following Regular Board Meeting dates for Fiscal Year 2024, to follow the typical Tuesday after the second Monday of each month:

Tuesday, July 11, 2023  
Tuesday, August 15, 2023  
Tuesday, September 12, 2023  
Tuesday, October 10, 2023  
Tuesday, November 14, 2023  
Tuesday, December 12, 2023  
Tuesday, January 9, 2024  
Tuesday, February 13, 2024  
Tuesday, March 12, 2024  
Tuesday, April 9, 2024  
Tuesday, May 14, 2024  
Tuesday, June 11, 2024

It was MOVED BY CRAWFORD, SUPPORTED BY SCHRAUBEN, to approve the proposed FY 24 Board of Lowell Light and Power Meeting date.

Yea: 4      Nay: 0      Absent: 1      Motion Carried

**B. FY 2024 PA-95 Opt-In or Opt-Out Decision:**

Each year by July 1<sup>st</sup>, LL&P is required to decide whether or not LL&P will participate in the state's low-income energy assistance fund (LIEAF) for the upcoming year. For utilities that choose to participate, a LIEAF charge is collected for each meter every month and the charge cannot exceed \$1.00 a month. Utilities that choose to opt out cannot disconnect services for non-payment from November 1<sup>st</sup> through April 15<sup>th</sup>. The board discussed both options.

It was MOVED BY FONGER, SUPPORTED BY SCHRAUBEN, to opt out of PA-95 for the upcoming year.

Yea: 4      Nay: 0      Absent: 1      Motion Carried

**C. Strategic Plan Workshop Discussion:**

The board reviewed and discussed the Strategic Plan as presented by General Manager West. No action was taken.

**VI. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS:**

- A. July 3, 2023:** West presented the idea of giving staff Monday, July 3, 2023 as a paid holiday as a one-time bonus.
- B. Performance Data:** West reported on the May 2023 performance data.
- C. Monthly Outage Report:** There were two outages in the month of May.
- D. Income Statement:** West reported on the May 2023 Income Statement.
- E. Capital Projects Report:** West reported on the May 2023 Capital Projects Report.
- F. 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
  - Strategic Plan Update
  - Bowes Rd Trees
  - Customer Survey
  - Engine Room
  - RP3 Application
  - Emergency Action Plan

- ITC
- MERS Update
- Storytime at the Library
- IT Update
- Cyber Security Training
- Work Anniversaries
- Payables

G. **Schedule of Meetings:** June/July was presented.

VII. **NEXT REGULAR LL&P BOARD MEETING:** Scheduled for Tuesday, July 11, 2023 at the Energy Center.

VIII. **BOARD COMMENT:**

Crawford inquired into board terms and days of cash, and extended a special thanks to the staff for being a part of Storytime at the Library. Fonger mentioned that he attended the Lowell DPW's breakfast and extended LL&P's thanks to the Lowell DPW for working so well with LL&P's staff. Beachum advocated for LL&P paperless customers be notified of bill inserts and highlighted the city's water bill newsletter, and mentioned that Steve Turnbull at the Lowell Schools is retiring and Greg Pratt is taking his place.

IX. **ACTION ITEMS:**

D. **CLOSED SESSION – MCL 15.268(c) – IBEW 876 Collective Bargaining Agreement Discussion:**

It was MOVED BY CRAWFORD, SUPPORTED BY SCHRAUBEN, to go into closed session, pursuant to MCL 15.268(c), to discuss negotiations on the Collective Bargaining Agreement 2023 with IBEW Local 876 at 8:00 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 9:01 p.m.

Yea: 4      Nay: 0      Absent: 1      Motion Carried

**E. Action Items as a Result of Closed Session:**

It was MOVED BY CRAWFORD, SUPPORTED BY SCHRAUBEN, to ratify and adopt the IBEW 876 Collective Bargaining Agreement presented in closed session.

Roll Call Vote:

Yea: Beachum, Schrauben, Crawford, and Fonger

Nay: 0      Absent: 1      Motion Carried

**X. ADJOURNMENT**

It was MOVED BY CRAWFORD, SUPPORTED BY SCHRAUBEN to adjourn the Regular Board Meeting at 9:03 p.m.

Yea: 5      Nay: 0      Absent: 0      Motion Carried

PERRY BEACHUM  
Chairman Beachum

7/11/2023  
Date