

**Minutes for the
Board of Lowell Light & Power's
Regular Meeting – May 14, 2024
LL&P Energy Center (625 Chatham St)**

I. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL:

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

Present: Perry Beachum, Craig Fonger, Tina Cadwallader, Daniel Crawford & Andrew Schrauben

Absent: None

Also Present: General Manager Charlie West, City Council Liaison Jim Salzwedel, Distribution Manager Ryan Teachworth, Generation Superintendent Casey Mier, and Financial Analyst Megan Mora

II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

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

Yea: 5 Nay: 0 Absent: 0 Motion Carried

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

It was MOVED BY CRAWFORD, SUPPORTED BY CADWALLADER, to approve the April 9, 2024 Regular Board Meeting Minutes as presented.

Yea: 5 Nay: 0 Absent: 0 Motion Carried

It was MOVED BY FONGER, SUPPORTED BY CRAWFORD, to approve the April 23, 2024 Special Called Board Meeting Open Minutes as presented.

Yea: 5 Nay: 0 Absent: 0 Motion Carried

It was MOVED BY CRAWFORD, SUPPORTED BY FONGER, to approve the April 23, 2024 Special Called Board Meeting Closed Minutes as presented.

Yea: 5 Nay: 0 Absent: 0 Motion Carried

IV. SAFETY MOMENT:

Generation Superintendent Mier presented a safety moment about sun safety.

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

There was no public comment.

VI. ACTION ITEMS:

A. Revised FY 2025 Operating and Capital Budget:

The board reviewed and discussed the revised Fiscal Year 2025 Operating and Capital Budget, noting changes from the draft budget. General Manager West provided a list of changes. Staff recommended to approve the FY 2025 Budget as presented.

It was MOVED BY FONGER, SUPPORTED BY CRAWFORD, to approve the revised FY 2025 Operating and Capital Budget as presented and send to City Council for final adoption.

Yea: 5 Nay: 0 Absent: 0 Motion Carried

B. Benefits Renewal for FY 2025:

West presented the renewal information for non-union Health, Dental, Vision, Long-Term Disability, Short-Term Disability, and Life/ AD&D Insurance.

For dental insurance, Delta Dental issued a renewal quote that included a 3.4% increase.

For voluntary vision insurance, Delta Vision supplied a renewal quote that included a 3.9% increase. The voluntary vision insurance is made available to each employee and their family at 100% employee cost, with no minimum participation level.

For Life/AD&D, STD, and LTD insurance, UNUM issued a renewal quote that included no rate increase.

It was MOVED BY CRAWFORD, SUPPORTED BY CADWALLADER, to renew the UMUM plan with no rate increase, the Delta Dental plan with a 3.4% increase, and the voluntary Delta Vision plan with a 3.9% increase.

Yea: 5 Nay: 0 Absent: 0 Motion Carried

No action is needed for union employee health insurance as the current Union Working Agreement establishes the terms of bargaining unit members' health coverage.

For non-union employee health insurance, Priority Health terminated LL&P's current plan, therefore new health insurance plans were discussed. It was staff's

recommendation to approve a health insurance benefit package that includes two insurance plan options:

1. Priority HMO 500
2. Priority HMO HSA 1600/20% with an employer HSA contribution of \$1250 for individual plans and \$2500 for double/family plans

It was MOVED BY CRAWFORD, SUPPORTED BY FONGER, to approve the two Priority Health plan options Priority HMO 500 and Priority HMO HSA 1600/20% with an employer HSA contribution of \$1250/ year for individual plans and \$2500/year for double/family plans.

Yea: 5 Nay: 0 Absent: 0 Motion Carried

Optional Priority Health domestic partnership offerings were presented for board consideration. If the board chose to proceed, two Domestic Partnership affidavits were presented to limit to same gender partners or to be open to same or opposite gender partners.

It was MOVED BY FONGER, SUPPORTED BY CADWALLADER, to approve the Priority Health domestic partnership affidavit to be open to same or opposite gender partners.

Yea: 5 Nay: 0 Absent: 0 Motion Carried

C. PA 152 Resolution:

Per Public Act 152 which regulates and controls public employers' permitted expenditures for medical benefit plans, the board is required to review annually the three options available to comply with the law. West recommended the third option which was to opt out of the requirements of the Act.

It was MOVED BY CRAWFORD, SUPPORTED BY FONGER, to approve the PA 152 resolution to opt out of the requirements of the law.

Yea: 5 Nay: 0 Absent: 0 Motion Carried

D. Consideration of Additional Pension and Equipment Fund Contributions:

While proactively monitoring financial metrics throughout the fiscal year, staff identified some additional financial flexibility as FY 2024 comes to a close. Based on internal analysis and LL&P strategic priorities, staff recommended leveraging the financial flexibility to improve the equipment replacement fund position and unfunded pension liability, with a one-time contribution of \$75,000 to the MERS Surplus Division and a one-time contribution to the Equipment Replacement Fund of \$100,000. General Manager West supplied additional information to support the recommendation.

It was MOVED BY FONGER, SUPPORTED BY SHRAUBEN, to approve a one-time contribution of \$75,000 to the MERS Surplus Division and a one-time contribution to the Equipment Replacement Fund of \$100,000.

Yea: 5

Nay: 0

Absent: 0

Motion Carried

VII. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS:

- A. Performance Data:** West reported on the April 2024 data.
- B. Residential Billing Review:** West reported on residential billing/usage trends.
- C. Monthly Outage Report:** Teachworth reported on the two outages in the month of April.
- D. Income Statement:** West reported on the April 2024 Income Statement.
- E. Capital Projects Report:** West reported on the April 2024 Capital Projects Report.
- F. Strategic Plan Update:** West provided an update on the Strategic Plan design.
- G. Manager's Report:** West provided written updates to the Board on the following items:
- MPPA/MMEA/APPA Update
 - Distribution Department Update
 - Generation Department Update
 - Safety Update
 - Lineworker Appreciation Events
 - Facility Projects
 - Lineshack
 - RP3 Application
 - IT Update
 - Business-to-Customer Payments
 - GIS Update
 - ATT Joint Use Agreement
 - Arbor Board Funding
 - 2024 MPPA Stakeholder Meeting
 - Cash Levels/MERS Surplus/Equipment Replacement
 - Budget Presentation
 - Office Spring Cleaning
 - APPA National Conference
 - June Board Meeting
 - Staffing Update
 - Insurance Update
 - Work Anniversaries
 - Payables
- H. Schedule of Meetings:** May/June was presented.

I. **Supplemental Information:** West provided supplemental information to the Board on the following items:

- Sales and Cash & Investments Performance Data Charts
- Benevolence Report
- Full Income Statement
- April Payables

VIII. **NEXT REGULAR LL&P BOARD MEETING:** Scheduled for Tuesday, June 11, 2024 at the Energy Center.

IX. **BOARD COMMENT:**

Crawford congratulated Ryan on 8 years, congratulated Emily on 3 years and stated he's sad to see her go, and requested a new service territory map for the board/meeting rooms. Cadwallader mentioned the new vice president coming in at her work would be interested in living in the LL&P territory and thanked LL&P for being something to brag about. Schrauben congratulated Ryan, Emily, and Tom on their work anniversaries. Salzwedel thanked the line crew for the work done on his street on and off for the past couple weeks, working on the new circuit with great communication and safety practices. Fonger also congratulated Ryan, Emily, and Tom on their work anniversaries, and shared highlights from the MMEA conference. Beachum apologized for missing the MMEA conference; congratulated Ryan, Emily, and Tom; and asked general questions about how wind power is used and how the electric grid works.

X. **ADJOURNMENT**

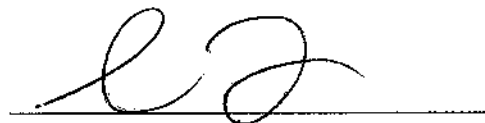
It was MOVED BY CRAWFORD, SUPPORTED BY SCHRAUBEN to adjourn the Regular Board Meeting at 8:15 p.m.

Yea: 5

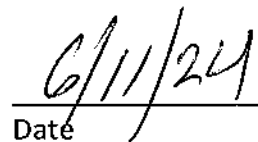
Nay: 0

Absent: 0

Motion Carried



Vice Chairperson Fonger



Date