

# Marquette Board of Light and Power 10-29-2024 MINUTES

## 2200 Wright St., Marquette, MI 49855 (906) 228-0311

A regular meeting of the Board of Light and Power was called and held on October 29<sup>th</sup>, 2024, beginning at 4:30 p.m. The meeting was called to order followed by the Pledge of Allegiance and Roll Call.

Present: John Prince, Chair  
Margaret Brumm, Vice Chair/Secretary  
Dave Campana  
Jerry Irby  
John Sonderegger

Absent: None

T. Carpenter asked to remove item 5b. – Change order for MEC Engine/Generator Alignment/Inspection. T. Carpenter also asked to add item 3a. – Shiras Dock Discussion.

M. Brumm made a motion to approve the agenda as amended, J. Sonderegger seconded the motion, and the Board unanimously approved.

1. **Approval of the September 24<sup>th</sup>, 2024, Regular Meeting Minutes**

J. Irby made a motion to approve the September 24<sup>th</sup>, 2024, Regular Meeting Minutes as presented. D. Campana seconded the motion, and the Board unanimously approved.

2. **Approval of Bills Payable:**

J. Sonderegger made a motion to approve the Bills Paid, \$ 3,697,393.60 and future cash commitments of \$ 1,452,909.91 as presented. D. Campana seconded the motion and after discussion, the Board unanimously approved the Bills Payables.

3. **Public Comments:**

*Andy Tanka – 2005 Jenny Lane*

Following up from a prior meeting relating to the concerns he brought to the Board relating to the MEC sound issues he is experiencing.

*Roger Steele – 387 M-553*

Spoke to the concerns he has relating to how he was approached about the easement & how it is being valued. He also spoke to the concerns he has relating to the brushing and related cleanup.

3a. **Shiras Dock Discussion**

T. Carpenter shared some background on the current use of the Shiras dock & the possible future use of the dock. Mike from FA Industrial/Marquette Mineral shared information relating to their possible use of the Shiras Dock as a loading site for aggregate material from their local quarry. Board discussion and inquiries followed. No actions/approvals were acted upon,

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4. **AMI Assessment Presentation**

T. Carpenter & Manager of Metering & Customer Service, Pat Havel, presented background information relating to our AMI (Automated Metering Infrastructure) system that was put in place in 2011. Tom Asp of PSE (Power Systems Engineering, Inc.) presented information relating to the current health of our system and viability of the system moving forward, along with presenting alternative options to our current system if we ever decided to change our metering infrastructure. Board discussion followed.

5a. **Recommendation to Approve Purchase of Tourist Prk PLC & HMI Upgrades**

J. Irby made a motion to approve the purchase of Tourist Park PLC & HMI Upgrades from Cascade Hydro in the amount of \$73,300.00, M. Brumm seconded the motion and after discussion, the Board unanimously approved.

6. **Capital Projects**

a. **Second Interconnection** – T. Carpenter shared with the Board that we have requests for proposals ready to be sent out for the substation work and construction of the tie-line. The anticipated timeline for receiving quotes back is in the range of 4-6 weeks. RFPs for brushing are also being prepared to be sent out.

b. **Other** – Nothing additional

7. **Financial Discussion – Director of Finance, William Toomey:**

Director of Finance, William Toomey presented the Interim Operating Statement for the month ending September 30<sup>th</sup>, 2024, Projected Cash Flow Statement, KWH Comparative vs. Prior Year and Five-Year History, Trending Actual Revenue versus Budget, and Summary of Investments

8. **Executive Director Annual Review**

J. Price and the Board reviewed and advised that all performance evaluation forms were positive regarding Executive Director Tom Carpenter's performance. J. Price and the Board spoke to T. Carpenter's abilities as the Executive Director of the MBLP. T. Carpenter thanked the Board and thanked all the staff for the work they do for the MBLP.

9. **Public Comments:**

*Andy Tanka – 2005 Jenny Lane*

Spoke briefly to the length of our meetings and states that he would not like to spend the next year attending them, but he would like to find a resolution to the concerns he has.

10. **Recognition of Board Member Term Completion**

T. Carpenter congratulated Board Chair J. Prince on his successful completion of a second term on the Board of the Marquette Board of Light & Power. T. Carpenter shared J. Prince's history with the MBLP, and other impacts J. Prince had in the community J. Prince was presented with a plaque for his time served on the Board.

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11. **Any Additional Business the Executive Director Wishes to Present:**

Nothing additional

12. **Any Additional Business the Board Members Wish to Present:**

J. Irby – He has enjoyed the years he has been able to serve on the Board with J. Prince and has appreciated all the conversation he has had with J. Prince and that he will be missed when he is no longer on the Board.

M. Brumm – Spoke to the impact J. Prince has had on the MBLP, the Marquette area, and that it has been a joy to serve on the Board with him, along with his ability to ensure these meetings run smooth and efficient. Stated that he will be missed when he is no longer on the Board.

J. Sonderegger – Echoed D. Campana's statements related to J. Prince. Also inquired about current dock revenue and inquired if we could have a more in-depth discussion in the future.

D. Campana – Shared sentiment that he would hope J. Prince considers returning to the Board in a few years. Spoke to the positive impact J. Prince has had on the MBLP in his time here.

J. Prince – Spoke to his time serving on the Board and has appreciated working with all the staff and employees of the MBLP. Noted that he typically doesn't share many compliments unless they are deserved, but he noted that the MBLP deserves every compliment he has passed along to them, from the professionalism they exhibit to the value they bring to the community and that he is proud to have been part of the organization.

13. **Closed Session**

J. Prince moved that the Board go into closed session under Section 8(d) of the Open Meetings Act, to consider the purchase or lease of real property up to the time an option to purchase or lease that real property is obtained. M. Brumm seconded the motion. A roll call vote was held:

*Yes: J. Prince, D. Campana, M. Brumm, J. Irby, J. Sonderegger*

*No: None*

J. Irby made a motion to conclude the closed session, M. Brumm seconded the motion, a vote was held:

*Yes: J. Prince, D. Campana, M. Brumm, J. Irby, J. Sonderegger*

*No: None*

J. Prince made a motion to authorize payment of \$49,631.00 relating to easements for the second interconnection project, D. Campana seconded the motion, the Board unanimously approved.

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14. **Closed Session**

J. prince moved that the Board go into closed session under Section 8(c) of the Open Meetings Act, "For strategy and negotiation sessions connected with the negotiation of a collective bargaining agreement" M. Brumm seconded the motion. A roll call vote was held:

*Yes: J. Prince, D. Campana, M. Brumm, J. Irby, J. Sonderegger*

*No: None*

M. Brumm made a motion to conclude the closed session, J. Irby seconded the motion, a vote was held:

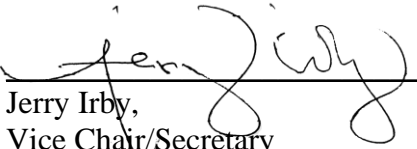
*Yes: J. Prince, D. Campana, M. Brumm, J. Irby, J. Sonderegger*

*No: None*

J. Prince made a motion to authorize staff to move forward with the proposed contract. M. Brumm seconded the motion, the Board unanimously approved.

15. **Adjournment:**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:10 p.m.

  
Jerry Irby,  
Vice Chair/Secretary