

Middleton Electric Light Commission
Meeting Minutes
August 12, 2020

The following individuals were in attendance:

Frank Twiss, Chairman

Chuck Clinch

Jim Kelley

Tim Houten

Jim Carbone

Michael Cloutier, Manager

Chairman Twiss called the meeting to order at 4:30 PM.

Approval of Agenda:

Motion:

Tim Houten motioned to approve the agenda as written. Jim Kelley seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

Approval of Minutes:

Motion:

Tim Houten motioned to approve the minutes of February 12, 2020 as written. Chuck Clinch seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

Financials:

The financials are different this month. ENE has been helping Mr. Cloutier. We have had \$160K in sales of renewable energy credits (Recs) YTD. Legislature is moving forward on the MEAM Bill H2863, and we will eventually be retiring these recs in the future. The YTD power cost is \$0.084. Spot market power has been very inexpensive. The batteries are dispatched monthly, and we missed only one peak this year. We are looking at more hydro to add to our power supply. The projects are located in the western part of the state. Our numbers are good

energy wise. May was good even though the investments were down, and we are profitable YTD. Capacity payments are down \$750K. Mr. Cloutier predicts a healthy year due to operations and cash on hand.

Manager's Report:

COVID has brought about some changes. There is now one man to a truck. The office is closed to the public, but business is still being done. We are not shutting off residential customers and we are doing okay in collections, so the cash flow is good.

Legislation for MEAM is getting rolled into a larger climate bill but what was important to us is still included. Amendments were added and it passed the House. It is looking positive and we will be able to live with it. They are looking for net zero by 2050.

There were a couple of outages in Seabrook. The system shut down as it should and was up in a short time.

The MELD audit will be wrapped up soon.

We have had a rash of animal contacts causing outages. Aluminum equipment brackets are being ruined by birds so we will be replacing them with fiberglass brackets.

Kenny and Brendan went to Connecticut for mutual aid Wednesday to Friday for the tropical storm.

We got a license agreement from the Town for the Rail Trail with stronger indemnification wording.

Sixteen feet of curbing at Liberty Street and Maple Street will be lowered so our trucks can drive onto the trail.

Pilot meter program is going well. Two of the five repeaters are working; we are getting the other three replaced due to programming errors at the factory. The 190 single phase meters should allow us to read the whole Town from the office. This system is the least expensive and most practical option we've seen. David has made a lot of progress.

Linemen's Rodeo has been cancelled.

Next meeting: September 16, 2020

Mr. Twiss recognized Mr. Cloutier, the Linemen and the Office Workers for a job well done during the COVID pandemic.

Tim Houten motioned to adjourn the meeting at 5:15.

Respectively submitted,

James Carbone
Clerk