

Minutes of May 19, 2010

Meeting of the Ashburnham Municipal Light Plant

Present Commissioners: Mark Carlisle, Richard Ahlin

Stan Herriott Manager

Kevin Lashua Absent

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m.

The Minutes of the April 21, 2010 could not be voted because lack of a quorum of the Commissioners that attended that meeting. The minutes will be added to the June 16th agenda for approval.

Present at the meeting were representatives from Firstwind David Velez, Ashburnham Engineer David Colombo, MMWEC representatives Mike Lynch and Ed Kaczinski on behalf of Ashburnham's power supply portfolio. A discussion opened with Manager Herriott setting the stage that brought this meeting together, which was Firstwind's interest in seeking a joint venture with Ashburnham Municipal Light Plant where they would build the wind project out and Ashburnham would do the interconnect. David Velez stated that they could be looking at as much as a 10 megawatt installation, while they are interested in the project there are some things to overcome, but he did not think these issues were insurmountable. The one issue that would make the project unlikely to proceed is the cost of the interconnection to the grid which is where AMLP would provide that valuable service. Several scenarios were discussed, that included AMLP signing a long term PPA for a portion of the output then wheeling the rest of the project out to the grid for sale.

The questions that need to be considered now are:

1. How large will the project be?
2. How much of the output does AMLP want from the project?

3. How much will AMLP be willing to pay?
4. How much will the interconnection by AMLP cost to make the necessary upgrades to the system to allow for the total projects output getting to the grid?

Ashburnham's engineer Dave Colombo will be pricing up the interconnect work and MMWEC will look at what amount of output that AMLP would need from the project and at what cost of purchasing as PPA might be.

At that point Dave Velez left the meeting and a general discussion on the strategy of going forward was held with the Commissioners, Dave Colombo, Mike Lynch and Ed Kaczinski. The discussion was positive and we will continue to pursue this venture. Prior to Ed Kaczinski leaving he gave the Commissioners an update of the status of the Stony Brook 3 Project. The Commissioners were pleased with the presentation.

Manager Herriott then reviewed the budget through April with a particular focus on the cash so that our new Commissioner Mark Carlise could get an idea of the function of the various accounts.

Manager Herriott reviewed the budget through April 2010. Receipts are tracking 4% above projections with expenses tracking at projected levels. Receipts were \$1,774,010 and expenses were \$1,600,623.

Manager Herriott opened the discussion of replacing Marcia's position, he felt that we need to consider bringing someone in that could eventually replace Anne's position. This position would be a full time position and would support office operations as well as field work, things such as meter changes, shut-offs, reads and checks. The Commissioners generally agreed with the concept, they made several recommendations on things to add to the job advertisement and agreed that it was okay to move forward with the advertisement.

Manager Herriott gave the Commissioners information on the employees' benefits request.

1. The first request was 75% paid healthcare upon retirement. The Commissioners directed Manager Herriott to conduct further research on this before the next meeting.
2. Wage increases were again taken under advisement.

3. Requested increase of sick time to 5 days, it was the recommendation of Manager Herriott that we do not increase this to more than the existing 4 days. Manager Herriott said that employees needing more sick days could use them, but anymore than 4 days would disqualify them for the year end bonus payment of a week's pay.
4. The request of the lineworkers to move back to year round hours of 7:00 to 3:00 p.m. was considered. Manager Herriott said that he really felt that the winter hours of 7:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. which allow for lineworkers coming back to the garage to have a meal in a warm building was a better idea. Manager Herriott said that it makes sense to have field operations work a straight 8 hours during the good weather the same argument could not be made for the winter months. The Commissioners agreed with that idea.

Manager Herriott gave a copy of the revised vacation policy to be reviewed and approved by the Commissioners. Manager Herriott pointed out the changes that were in the area of the approval process and how to calculate the vacation owed in a year of separation.

Manager Herriott presented his expenses for the last couple of months. The only expense was an overnight stay at the MEAM annual meeting. A total of \$117.29 was approved.

Manager Herriott gave a brief update on Berkshire Wind long term financing, which will roll the current short term interest rate payments in when complete, so we will get a check back for the payments up to that date.

Manager Herriott reported that the lease with Mr. Ojanen was complete and properly filed with the courts and the registry.

Manager Herriott gave a status report on the two solar projects that we are doing for the Public Safety Building and Oakmont Regional High School. Both projects are just about set to go.

There was no executive session needed.

A motion to adjourn was made by Commissioner Carlisle and seconded by Commissioner Ahlin. The vote was unanimous. The meeting adjourned at 9:23 p.m.

Respectfully submitted

Richard Ahlin,
Secretary