

# WEST BOYLSTON MUNICIPAL LIGHTING PLANT

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## **Board of Light Commission, Regular Session Meeting Minutes July 25, 2013**

**Present:** Board members, Anthony Meola, Winthrop Handy and William Smith, and GM Jonathan Fitch were present.

The meeting was called to order at 5:10 pm by Chairman William Smith

**Agenda:** The Board approved the agenda without changes

**Meeting Minutes:** The board reviewed and approved 3-0, the meeting minutes of July 2, 2013.

**2013 Union Contract:** Mr. Fitch gave the Board an update on the negotiations between the union and WBMLP for new contract to replace the 3 year contract that ended June 30, 2013. The union and WBMLP are currently considering a written set of proposals presented by the union.

Mr. Fitch told the Board that the union rejected our offer that was based on a 1.5%, 2, and 2.5% increase in wages. Other policy changes considered and discussed would modify sick, vacation, emergency response, health insurance, reporting pay, standby pay, and uniforms.

The Board discussed the wage survey that Mr. Fitch prepared to compare surrounding MLP wages and benefits. Commissioner Handy asked Mr. Fitch what was WBMLP's cost per hour for each employee with benefits. Mr. Fitch gave the board a worksheet he uses to calculate this.

Commissioner Smith made a motion to increase the base wages as of June 31, 2013 by 2% and increase annual wages by 1.5%, 2%, and 2.5% over the next three years, effective July 1, 2013. Commissioner Handy seconded the motion. The Board voted 3-0 to approve the 2% base and 1.5%, 2%, and 2.5% annual wage increase for both union and office staff employees. Mr. Fitch will meet with the union BA to present a counter offer.

**Garage Replacement:** Mr. Fitch gave the Board a project update. Most of the remaining work is related to landscaping around the perimeter of the building and driveway around the building.

**Paving:** WBMLP will solicit quotes to repave the entire driveway. It is approximately 15,000 square feet of paving and curbing along the appropriate edges.

**115kV Substation Replacement:** Mr. Fitch told the Board that the project is going well and there are no major issues. BMLD's side of the substation is complete. WBMLP's side of the substation is under construction.

Next Key Dates/Activities:

August 5                      Install security cameras

September 29              NGRID reenergize WBMLP side of substation

**Other:** None

The meeting adjourned at 6:10pm. The next meeting will be September 3, 2013.

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Anthony Meola Jr,

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Winthrop Handy

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William Smith