

# WEST BOYLSTON MUNICIPAL LIGHTING PLANT

4 Crescent Street, West Boylston, Massachusetts 01583

Telephone (508) 835-3681

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## **Board of Light Commission, Regular Session Meeting Minutes June 5, 2013**

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

The meeting was called to order at 5:05 pm by Chairman Anthony Meola

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

**Meeting Minutes:** The Board approved the meeting minutes dated April 2, 2013 without changes.

**2012 Financial Statements:** Mr. Fitch told the Board that Goulet, Salvidio & Associates P.C., will attend the next board meeting to review and discuss the FY2012 annual audit and DPU report.

**2013 Financials:** Mr. Fitch provided the Board with the attached draft income statement from January 2013 through April 2013 and bank balances as of April 30, 2013.

**Solar Coop:** Mr. Fitch will schedule a solar cooperative board meeting at the same time as the next light board meeting to appoint an Assistant Clerk. This will facilitate the filing of annual reports without hiring the clerk to perform the work.

**NGRID Transmission Rates:** WBMLP pays for transmission through a Regional Network Service (RNS) rate. The new RNS rate which will be in effect for the June 1, 2013 through May 31, 2014 time period is \$86.66199/KW-Year. This represents a 15.2% increase over the \$75.25485/KW-Year rate that was in effect from June 1, 2012 through May 31, 2013.

**Legacy Phone System:** The GM let the Board know that the WBMLP currently uses a "Nortel" telephone system. New hardware is no longer available as of October 2010, because Nortel was purchased by another company and this product line was discontinued. Our existing system was initially installed in 2009. Over the next year or so, WBMLP should

consider replacing the telephone system. The estimate cost to replace is \$5k-\$10k. The Board will consider in the future.

**Garage Replacement:** Mr. Fitch provided the Board a project status and update. The garage exterior is basically complete. The interior and concrete apron needs to be completed.

Original Budget	\$299,500.00
Approved Change Orders	\$12,059.94
Current Budget	\$311,559.94

Amount Paid to Date	\$216,722.97
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The Board would like the GM to get a quote for paving the driveway.

**115kV Substation Replacement:** Construction activities are going well and are basically on schedule. Boylston and West Boylston are feed through one transformer at this time. Boylston's side of the substation is being re-constructed first and should be completed by July 2, 2013.

**Solar PPA:** The town attorney and Borrego's attorney are currently working on the land lease. I talked to Borrego today and they are still interested in the project.

**Oakdale Hydro:** MMWEC's invoice for work related to the Oakdale Hydro billing dispute is approximately \$150k. The amount is mostly legal services. WBMLP requested MMWEC to justify the invoice. MMWEC forwarded me on May 8<sup>th</sup> the attached opinion justifying the ability to charge WBMLP.

**Union Contract:** The existing lineman contract ends June 30, 2013. Mr. Fitch recommended the board consider changing the contract to match the general human resources policy, as much as practical, in order to eliminate differences. This would make the policy and contract more uniform and fair for all employees.

Mr. Fitch let the Board know that he met with the union BA on May 24, 2013. The BA will provide a written proposal for the Board to consider shortly.

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**Other:** The Board and the GM discuss how to prepare a welcome packet for new businesses. The packet would promote WB low cost for services.

The Board tentatively scheduled its next meeting for August 3, 2013.

**The meeting adjourned at 6:05pm.**

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**Anthony Meola Jr, Chairman**

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**Winthrop Handy**

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**William Smith**