



Peabody Municipal Light Plant

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PEABODY MUNICIPAL LIGHTING COMMISSION MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING DECEMBER 19, 2019

A regular meeting of the Peabody Municipal Lighting Commission was called to order on Thursday, December 19, 2019 at the Peabody Municipal Light Plant, 201 Warren Street Ext., Peabody, Massachusetts at 6:30 p.m.

Present for the meeting were Commissioners William Aylward, Charles Bonfanti, Thomas D'Amato, Thomas Paras and Robert Wheatley; Manager Charles Orphanos, Assistant Manager Bryan Howcroft, Attorney Philip Durkin and Recording Secretary, Barbara Previte.

Chairman Paras asked if there were any additions to the agenda and Manager Orphanos stated that under Section G. Manager's Report to discuss the FEMA reimbursement from 2018 storm.

- Agenda Item A: Approval of Agenda:

MOTION BY COMMISSIONER AYLWARD, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER BONFANTI AND UNANIMOUSLY VOTED (5-0):

MOVE TO APPROVE THE AGENDA.

- Agenda Item B: Announcement:

Chairman Paras acknowledged that this is an open meeting and informed the public that the meeting is being recorded by hand and voice recorder.

- Agenda Item C: Approval of Minutes:

MOTION BY COMMISSIONER AYLWARD, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER D'AMATO AND UNANIMOUSLY VOTED (5-0):

19-56 MOVE TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 21, 2019.

MOTION BY COMMISSIONER AYLWARD, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER D'AMATO AND UNANIMOUSLY VOTED (5-0):

19-57 MOVE TO APPROVE AND NOT RELEASE THE EXECUTIVE SESSION MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 21, 2019.



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- Agenda Item D: Appointments:

There being none, the meeting continued.

- **REMARKS OF THE GENERAL PUBLIC:**

- Agenda Item E: Award of Bids:

There being none, the meeting continued.

- Agenda Item F Correspondence:

There being none, the meeting continued.

- Agenda Item G: Manager's Reports:

STATUS REPORTS:

- **DONATION TO NAVAJO NATION – SURPLUS CUTOUT** – Manager Orphanos explained to the Commission that when PMLP experienced the porcelain cutouts break apart for no apparent reason, PMLP made the decision to replace all porcelain cutouts in our system with polymer cutouts. PMLP also made numerous attempts to get reimbursement from the manufacturer and was unsuccessful. Therefore, PMLP has approximately 680 new porcelain style cutouts in our stockroom. Manager Orphanos is suggesting that we donate these cutouts to the Navajo Nation.

MOTION BY COMMISSIONER AYLWARD, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER D'AMATO AND UNANIMOUSLY VOTED BY ROLL CALL (5-0):

19-58 MOVE TO DECLARE THE PORCELAIN CUTOUTS IN OUR STOCKROOM AS SUPRLUS.

The Commission requested Manager Orphanos to determine if the Navajo Nation wants the porcelain cutouts.

MOTION BY COMMISSIONER WHEATLEY, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER AYLWARD AND UNANIMOUSLY VOTED (5-0):

19-59 MOVE TO GRANT THE MANAGER PERMISSION TO DONATE THE SURPLUS PORCELAIN CUTOUTS AS NEEDED TO THE NAVAJO NATION.



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There was a short discussion about weather regarding the porcelain cutouts and Manager Orphanos stated that they would not experience the breaking that we did because of the warm climate in New Mexico and Arizona. The “breaking problem” seemed to be limited to cold weather climate like here in New England and freeze-thaw cycles.

- **AIR NEW ZEALAND SPARE ENGINE** – Manager Orphanos stated that Air New Zealand has completed the assembly of the engine and performed some testing at their facility in Auckland on Sunday and Monday, December 8 and 9, 2019. Manager Orphanos was able to monitor the testing via a live internet feed with our consultant Steve Johnson. The test on Sunday had a couple of mechanical problems with the fuel supply. Once it was squared away, the engine ran for about an hour. At that time, it was not brought to full speed; however, the monitored vibration was low and the engine run looked good. On the second run on Monday, December 9, 2019 did not go well. The engine ran for two hours while vibration and performance were recorded. The vibration levels were quite different from Sunday. At low speed (sync idle), the core of the engine would vibrate and at high speeds, the front of the engine or low press compressor section would vibrate, and the unit could not reach top speed or achieve its performance speed. Our consultant, Steven Johnson was contacted by Air New Zealand to discuss the results. Air New Zealand is very concerned with the vibrations as well as the performance of the engine. It is very likely that the engine will need to be disassembled for an internal inspection.

Our original plan was to install the engineer in April/May 2020 so the delay has little impact. The engine does not meet the performance standards of the contract and Air New Zealand will need to de-stack the engine to rectify the problems. I will keep you posted.

- **SEMI ANNUAL BUDGET AND ACTION PLAN REVIEW** – Manager Orphanos discussed the budget meeting with the review of the action plans only. The Commission asked when he expected to have the final numbers so the Commission could schedule a final budget meeting. Manager Orphanos stated that he is waiting for some numbers from MMWEC regarding the Special Project 2015A and budget review would be around the end of January or at the February Commission meeting depending upon if the Commission wants a separate meeting or not and their availability.



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- **FEMA REIMBURSEMENT FROM MARCH 2018 STORM** --Manager Orphanos reported that at Tuesday's staff meeting, it was announced that Peabody Municipal Light Plant would be receiving approximately \$82,000 in FEMA funds from the storms that occurred March 2 and 3 as well as March 13 and 14, 2018.
- Agenda Item H: Committee Reports:
- There being none, the meeting continued.
- Agenda Item I: General Business:
- **NATIONAL GRID (\$132,213.54)** – Manager Orphanos stated that this check is for network transmission service for the September 2019 in the amount of \$132,213.54.
- **MMWEC (\$41,302.42)** – Manager Orphanos stated that this is for Hydro Quebec credits in the amount of \$41,302.42.
- **REMARKS OF COMMISSION** – Commissioner Wheatley requested that the lobby be more festive during this holiday season and consider playing holiday music.
- Commissioners Wheatley, Bonfanti, Aylward, D'Amato, Paras and wished all a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. Commissioner D'Amato wanted to address an issue at 7 Antonio Drive whereby the customer experienced a power surge and lost his very expensive range. Commissioner D'Amato stated he reviewed our indemnification language as well as indemnification language that Eversource and National Grid has. Commissioner D'Amato believes that the customer is very upset and wants to pursue reimbursement from Peabody Municipal Light Plant to replace his range / stove. Discussions ensued regarding the incident. Commissioner D'Amato wants to go on record that he intends to make a motion for reimbursement.

MOTION BY COMMISSIONER D'AMATO, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER AYLWARD AND VOTED BY ROLL CALL WITH COMMISSIONER WHEATLEY, BONFANTI, AYLWARD AND PARAS VOTING NO AND COMMISSIONER D'AMATO VOTING YES (1-4):

- 19-60** MOVE TO REIMBURSE THE CUSTOMER AT 7 ANTONIO DRIVE IN THE AMOUNT OF \$1,784 TO REPLACE THE GE PROFILE RANGE.



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THE MOTION FAILED.

The Manager and Commission stated that he should submit a claim to his insurance company for reimbursement, because our electric service agreement with the customer states that PMLP is not responsible for loss that occurs due to power outages or surges.

MOTION BY AYLWARD, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER D'AMATO AND UNANIMOUSLY VOTED BY ROLL CALL (5-0):

MOVE TO ENTER INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION IN ACCORDANCE WITH CHAPTER 30A, SECTION 21(a) TO DISCUSS COMPETITIVELY SENSITIVE INFORMATION AND NOT TO RETURN.

Chairman Paras declared the Regular portion of the Meeting of December 19, 2019 adjourned at 7:00 p.m.

A TRUE RECORD

Attest:

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Thomas M. D'Amato", is written over a horizontal line.

Thomas M. D'Amato, Secretary
Peabody Municipal Lighting Commission