



July 27, 2022
 STERLING MUNICIPAL LIGHT DEPARTMENT
 REGULAR SESSION
 MEETING MINUTES



DATE: July 27, 2022

LOCATION: SMLD, Zoom & Rear Board Room
 50 Main Street, Sterling, MA

BOARD MEMBERS: Joe Curtin (Curtin), Chairman
 Brian Pierce (Pierce), Vice Chair
 Eric Darlington (Darlington), Clerk

SMLD STAFF: Darren Borge (Borge), Manager

MINUTES: Patty Page

6:00 pm. Meeting called to order; Curtin stated that the meeting is subject to audio recording. Roll Call Attendance: Darlington present, Curtin Present, Pierce present.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Board members in attendance pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of America

Safety Announcement - Equipment in office

Approval of Agenda with the exception of 5A to be tabled for now – **Pierce made a motion to approve agenda** Darlington seconded, no discussion, all in favor, Curtin aye, Pierce aye, Darlington aye.

Manager’s report given by Darren Borge

1. Borge presented second quarter SMLD and LAMB financial packets. Subscriptions are growing. Fiber Dept to be invoiced for their operating cash to recoup operations expenses in December 2022.
2. Borge discussed the current peak breakdown from last week (heatwave). 7/20/2022 ISO peak of 24,330 MW. Average SMLD load during this time was 8.413MW. SMLD shed 4.92MW off the system total. If this was not done the usage would have been 13.338MW. All systems and programs worked as expected.
3. Downtown Underground Project - Survey was completed by Weston & Sampson. Nothing proposed will interfere with SMLD, but Meetinghouse to Library might benefit by being completed prior to September (school semester). After some discussion, the Board decided to wait until next summer to see where the project goes.
4. No inquiries to date for the RFP for land acquisition. Borge spoke to some developers who were not able to put together an RFP in the given time frame. Plan to repost RFP in beginning of September.
5. Board vote on a reserve fund transfer of \$787,052.78 to replenish funds spent towards Phase 2 of the fiber deployment to operation cash. **Pierce made a motion to transfer funds**, Darlington seconded, no discussion, all in favor. Curtin aye, Pierce aye, Darlington aye.

Unfinished Business

- a) PURMA Cyber Security Policy Update/Discussion – Discussions have continued with SMLD. SMLD has been in discussion with the vendor Vertikal 6. They will investigate the current cyber security environment and the changes required to become insurable. They work with Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA) which is a federal agency that can assist and reduce the cost and timeframe. Vote required: **Pierce made a motion to approve spending \$3250 for a cyber security assessment.** Darlington seconded, no discussion, all in favor. Curtin aye, Pierce aye, Darlington aye.
- b) Energy Committee Discussion – table for now.
- c) Middle-Mile Grant Update – Continue to gather data. Grant application may need to be catered more to additional expansion of an INET.

New Business

- a. SMLD 5 Year Plan DRAFT – tabled for now.
- b. Replacement LED Sign – Chip card needed is delayed by 3-4 weeks. For a higher resolution replacement, the cost would be \$7865. Other boards have been priced in the ballpark of \$20 to \$21k. After some discussion, the Board decided to wait on this for the time being.

APPROVAL OF PAST MINUTES:

5/18/2022 Minutes: **Pierce made a motion to approve the regular 5/18/2022 minutes**, Darlington seconded, no discussion, all in favor. Darlington aye, Curtin aye, Pierce aye. **Darlington made a motion to approve the executive session minutes of 5/18/2022 as amended, not to be released.** Pierce seconded, no discussion, all in favor. Darlington aye, Curtin aye, Pierce aye.

5/28/2022 Minutes: **Darlington made a motion to approve the executive session minutes of 5/28/2022, not to be released.** Pierce seconded, no discussion, all in favor. Darlington aye, Curtin aye, Pierce aye.

6/22/2022 Minutes: **Pierce made a motion to approve the regular 6/22/2022 minutes**, Darlington seconded, no discussion, all in favor. Darlington aye, Curtin aye, Pierce aye. **Darlington made a motion to approve the executive session minutes of 6/22/2022, not to be released.** Pierce seconded, no discussion, all in favor. Darlington aye, Curtin aye, Pierce aye.

Customer Comments: None at this time.

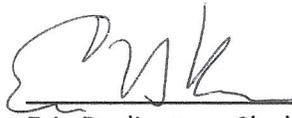
FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS AND SCHEDULE NEXT BOARD MEETING: Next meeting August 24, 2022 @ 6 pm. Add PURMA, Energy Committee, Sign and Rate Study to the agenda.

(Rate Study from May to September. Deadline with auditors is 7/27. Will help MWECC numbers for 5 year plan)

At 6:45 pm **Pierce made a motion to go into Executive Session (1) under M.G.L. Chapter 30A: Section 21(a), Clause 10 (to Discuss Trade Secrets or Confidential, Competitively-Sensitive or other Proprietary Information Provided in the Course of Activities Conducted by a Governmental Body as an Energy Supplier –(9.1) New Vendor Inquiry. Executive Session (2) if needed and time allows, under M.G.L. Chapter 30 A: Section 21(a), Clause 3 (To discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining), only to return to regular session to adjourn**, Darlington seconded, no discussion, Roll Call Vote, Curtin aye, Pierce aye, Darlington aye. All in favor.

The Board reconvened in Open Session, only to adjourn. 7:26 pm meeting adjourned.

ATTEST:


Eric Darlington, Clerk

DATE:

8/31/22

BOARD APPROVAL FOR RELEASE:

✓