# MINUTES

A regular meeting of the Board of Light and Power was called and held on February 26, 2008 at 5:30 p.m. in the Board Meeting Room at 2200 Wright St.

**Present:**

Thomas G. Humphrey, Chair
Carolyn M. Piirala, Vice Chair/Secretary
Kenneth C. Wanberg
Craig G. Stien
Richard J. Goodney

**Absent:** None

On a motion by C. Stien, seconded by K. Wanberg and unanimously carried, the Board approved the February 13, 2008 regular session meeting minutes as amended.

The reading of the Bills Payable was called and following a discussion, it was moved by R. Goodney, seconded by C. Piirala and unanimously carried to approve the payment of the Bills Payable totaling $544,455.77.

1. **Additions or Corrections to the Agenda.**

   There were no additions or corrections to the Agenda.

2. **Citizen Comment**.

   No comments were received from citizens.

3. **Recommendations for Payment:**

   It was moved by K. Wanberg, seconded by C. Stien and unanimously carried to authorize payment to Roland Machinery Company totaling $3,191.05 for repair/replacement of transmission oil cooler for the Hough 560 Tractor. C. Piirala questioned the invoice date. Supervisor of Administrative Services Mary Adamini reviewed protocol for payment.

K. Wanberg questioned if this equipment is the backup loader? Assistant Director of Operations William Pyle responded in the affirmative.

On a motion by C. Piirala, seconded by T. Humphrey and unanimously carried, the Board authorized payment totaling $3,210.59 to Yokogawa Corporation for a Display Data Logger for Unit No. 2.

It was moved by R. Goodney, seconded by K. Wanberg and unanimously carried to authorize payment totaling $3,968.80 to Omega Engineering, Inc. for replacement of 18 thermocouples and assemblies for Unit No. 2.

4. **Recommendation to Purchase AutoCAD Software for Shiras Steam Plant.**

On a motion by K. Wanberg, seconded by C. Stien and unanimously carried the Board authorized the purchase of AutoCAD Software for Shiras Steam Plant from DLT Solutions, Inc. totaling $3,623.53. C. Piirala asked why the purchase was being made now? W. Pyle responded budgeted projects are undertaken as time permits. He said the software will be linked to the new printer recently approved by the Board for drafting purposes.

4-A **Recommendation to Purchase 100 Wooden Penstock Pipe Bands**.

It was moved by C. Stien, seconded K. Wanberg, and unanimously carried to purchase 100 wooden Penstock Pipe Bands totaling $12,075 from International Tank & Pipe Company as they are the only known supplier.

5. **Recommendations to Award:**

A. Design/Construction of Circuit.
B. Unit No. 3 Replacement Ash Piping.
C. Unit No. 3 Flame Scanning System.
D. Unit No. 3 Valve Rebuild Kits.

On a motion by K. Wanberg, seconded by C. Piirala and unanimously carried, the Board awarded the design/construction of a circuit to diversify loads and provide greater reliability into the City of Marquette to GRP Engineering totaling $5,500.

It was moved by R. Goodney, seconded by T. Humphrey and unanimously carried to award the purchase of replacement ash piping for Unit No. 3 to Allen-Sherman-Hoff totaling $12,479.40 as they are the only known supplier of this non-standard ash pipe. K. Wanberg questioned the need for pipe clamps. W. Pyle responded the original clamps

may be reused but some may also need to be replaced.

On a motion by K. Wanberg, seconded by C. Stien and unanimously carried, the Board awarded the purchase of a new turn key Flame Scanning System for Unit No. 3 totaling $171,400 to Hamworthy Peabody Combustion. C. Piirala questioned the bidding of the project? W. Pyle said this company is an original designer of the boiler and this safety equipment is critical to the unit's operation. R. Goodney questioned if the replacement is original equipment? W. Pyle responded in the affirmative.

It was moved by K. Wanberg, seconded by T. Humphrey and unanimously carried to award the purchase of two (2) valve rebuild kits for Unit No. 3 boiler totaling $10,600.78 to Crane Engineering Sales, Inc. Crane Engineering is the manufacturer's representative for these valves.

6. **Any Additional Business the Executive Director Wishes to Present**.

W. Pyle advised the Board: 1). A Renewafuels biomass wood test burn in Unit No. 2 was conducted recently with the material performing well and burning similar to coal. He added both Renewafuels representatives and Plant personnel were learning and making adjustments during the test burn which began with a mix of coal and biomass wood and concluded with a burn of 100 percent biomass wood material. Currently, Renewafuels is looking to build a local facility while the utility is awaiting the final requirements for the state's renewable energy portfolio, determination of what credits will be given for using biomass materials, and the cost of the biomass wood product. Additional testing of the biomass material is planned; 2). the Unit No. 2 grate replacement project is scheduled next week, and; 3). The largest solar powered facility in the United States encompasses 140 acres and produces a maximum of 14 megawatts of electricity just became operational last December. Recent news stories indicated that a proposed Negaunee High School solar project would produce 10 megawatts, however, a much smaller output is anticipated.

R. Goodney questioned the cost of burning the biomass wood product vs. coal? W. Pyle said further testing of the biomass material to determine the burn efficiency is necessary to make cost comparisons. He asked if the biomass material would cause wear on the boiler equipment? W. Pyle responded the biomass product may be less abrasive than burning coal. Plant personnel watched the condition of the grate which requires a bed of ashes to keep it cool and the biomass material didn't increase the temperature of the grate. C. Stien questioned the ash by-product produced by the biomass burn? W. Pyle responded the biomass product produces very little ash.

K. Wanberg questioned the installation of the new thermocouples for monitoring the grate. W. Pyle responded the new technology will provide a better picture of the grate showing all temperature readings at one time. C. Piirala commented the biomass technology is new and the process is exciting. T. Humphrey questioned if the biomass product is made specifically for the utility's needs? W. Pyle responded the product can be adjusted to accommodate the requirements of the utility's boiler.

7. **Time for Citizen Comments.**

Earl Robinson of the Utility Review Committee commented if CCI, the Board, and other utilities intend to burn the biomass wood product the price will go up based on demand. He suggested a long-term contract be negotiated if the utility proceeds with using the wood biomass product.

8. **Any Additional Business the Board Members Wish to Present**.

K. Wanberg asked for an update on the Tourist Park Dam. W. Pyle responded he had no additional information to present.

C. Piirala questioned obtaining a new background for the listing of the Board members on the City's TV channel. M. Adamini responded she had a few ideas on new backgrounds and will talk to the City regarding the same.

February 26, 2008 Regular Board Meeting Minutes (continued)

9. **Adjournment.**

The meeting adjourned at 6:18 p.m.

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Carolyn M. Piirala,
Vice Chair/Secretary

Regular Meeting Minutes are on file at the MBLP Office at 2200 Wright St., City Hall, and the Peter White Public Library.