

MINUTES

A regular meeting of the Board of Light and Power was called and held on April 22, 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
Richard J. Goodney
Kenneth C. Wanberg

Absent: Craig G. Stien

The Board excused the absence of C. Stien as he is out of town.

On a motion by K. Wanberg, seconded by C. Piirala and unanimously carried, the Board approved the April 8, 2008 regular session meeting minutes.

The reading of the Bills Payable was called and following a discussion, it was moved by R. Goodney, seconded by K. Wanberg and unanimously carried to approve the payment of the Bills Payable totaling \$452,283.26.

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

Executive Director Kirby Juntala requested the additions of: 2-A – Presentation by Superiorland Soccer Association Regarding Pavilion Construction at River Park Sports Complex and 4-D – Purchase of Eastern Coal. The Board accepted the additions to the agenda.

2. **Citizen Comment.**

No comments were received from citizens.

2-A. **Presentation by Superiorland Soccer Association Regarding Concession Stand Construction at Riverpark Sports Complex.**

Robert Anderson of the Superiorland Soccer Association gave a presentation to the Board regarding grant funding it has been awarded from the L.G. Kaufman Endowment Fund and Shiras Institute for improvements to the Riverpark Sports Complex including the construction of a year-round pavilion, road improvements, a lighted score board, and lighting for nighttime games. The Superiorland Soccer Association also has funds available for the project earned through various fundraising projects. The projects will equally benefit the soccer, baseball/softball, and BMX athletes and their families who currently use the facility. The pavilion will include restrooms, storage, and concessions along with providing shelter during inclement weather. Mr. Anderson requested continued Board support/participation including entering into a lease agreement with the City for undeveloped land at the complex allowing for construction of the pavilion and road improvements. The group is also requesting another donation of sand for fill at the proposed pavilion site and in-kind materials and labor for lighting projects. K. Juntala advised the Board he had walked the proposed site for the pavilion and said it is not in an area that will be needed by the MBLP for future expansion and that a portion of the Noquemanon Trail adjacent to Power Mill Road could be widened and developed to serve as access to the back soccer field and BMX track. He added that the utility annually participates in a community project and has donated in-kind materials and labor at the Peter White Public Library Expansion, YMCA, and Kids Cove Playground and that electrification of the site would not be a large undertaking. C. Piirala questioned if in-kind donations count towards matching fundraising requirements? Mr. Anderson responded in the affirmative. K. Wanberg questioned who would receive profits from the concession stand? Mr. Anderson responded the BMX, soccer, and baseball/softball groups will retain concession profits. K. Wanberg asked who will pay for electric service at the complex? K. Juntala said the Association will pay electric charges. R. Goodney commented positively on the pavilion being built for year-round use. It was moved by C. Piirala, seconded by T. Humphrey and unanimously carried to have Board Legal Counsel K. Seavoy draft a lease agreement allowing for the construction of a pavilion and road improvements at the Riverpark Sports Complex and authorizing in-kind donations of sand for fill at the site and labor/materials for electrification at the sports complex.

3. **Recommendations for Payment:**

- A. Hot Line Tools Inspection/Repair.
- B. Atomizer Wheel.
- C. Circuit Breaker Repair.

It was moved by K. Wanberg, seconded by R. Goodney and unanimously carried to approve payment totaling \$3,007.64 to Power Line Supply, Inc. for the annual high voltage hot line tool calibration and repairs.

On a motion by R. Goodney, seconded by K. Wanberg and unanimously carried, the Board approved payment totaling \$14,760 to AllTech Tool for the construction of a new atomizer wheel used in the flue gas desulphurization system.

It was moved by T. Humphrey, seconded by K. Wanberg and unanimously carried to approve payment totaling \$3,386.11 to Energis High Voltage Resources, Inc. for the cost of repairs including expenses made to Unit No. 3 Reserve Supply Circuit Breaker OCB 5003.

4. **Recommendations to Award:**

- A. Purchase of Two (2) Carbon Dioxide Analyzers for Unit No. 3.
- B. Flood Flow Modeling.
- C. VCB29 Circuit Materials.
- D. Purchase of Eastern Coal.

On a motion by K. Wanberg, seconded by R. Goodney and unanimously carried, the Board awarded the purchase of two (2) carbon dioxide analyzers to Thermo Fisher Scientific per their low bid meeting specifications totaling \$15,100. The new analyzers will replace current analyzers in service which are being discontinued by the manufacturer.

It was moved by R. Goodney, seconded by K. Wanberg and unanimously carried to award the incremental modeling at the Tourist Park Dam to STS Consultants per their quote of \$31,600. R. Goodney, C. Piirala, and R. Goodney commented positively on awarding the work to a local firm. K. Wanberg questioned contracting a PMF study at Forestville Dam. K. Juntala responded the FERC required guidelines and parameters have changed and that discussions with FERC are continuing and a proposal for the Forestville Dam study will be brought to the Board in the near term.

On a motion by K. Wanberg, seconded by T. Humphrey and unanimously carried, the Board awarded the purchase of materials for the No. 2 Substation VCB29 Circuit addition totaling \$70,879.97 to Border States Electric per project consultant GRP Engineering's recommendation.

It was moved by C. Piirala seconded by K. Wanberg and unanimously carried to award the purchase of 12,000 tons Eastern Coal from Alpha Natural Resources for Shiras Unit No. 2 totaling approximately \$1.524 million per their low bid meeting specifications. R. Goodney commented on the price increases over the years. K. Juntala responded demand for both Eastern and Western coal from China during the past few years combined with recent U.S. mine accidents which have forced several companies out of

business have contributed to the price increases. He added that continued test burns of a biomass product in Unit No. 2 may reduce the utility's need for Eastern coal. K. Juntala said the previous shipment of Eastern coal lasted for three (3) years. K. Wanberg commented on the utility's proactive plan to cover the coal pile with a tarp ensuring maximum usability of the coal.

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

K. Juntala advised the Board: 1). A Michigan Public Service Commissioner recently spoke to members of the Michigan Municipal Electric Association, of which he is a member. He commented it was a great opportunity for the concerns of municipal electric utilities to be heard in conjunction with energy legislation currently being reviewed by the Michigan Senate; 2). in response to a suggestion by the public, additional security has been added to the Board Room; 3). Investigation into the cause of a boat accident and diesel spill in the Lower Harbor Monday is continuing with divers scheduled to look for the propeller which fell off the ship after hitting bottom, and; 4). He thanked the Board for its continued support of area youth through its leases and in-kind material/labor donations at the Riverpark Sports Complex. He added as a longtime soccer coach and supporter of Noquemanon Trail improvements to the facility will enhance the community as a whole.

6. **Time for Citizen Comments.**

Earl Robinson of the Township Utility Review Committee commented the Board should request fair usage rates from the City when it drafts a lease for construction of a pavilion and road improvements at the Riverpark Sports Complex. He said the City charges high rates for township residents to use its facilities and reminded the Board many township residents are customers of the MBLP.

Lou Chappell of 2021 Woodland asked if Eastern coal was blended with biomass material during the test burns in Unit No. 2? Superintendent of Production John Reynolds responded in the affirmative.

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

R. Goodney commented positively on the Board's continued support of youth at the Riverpark Sports Complex.

C. Piirala commented on a copy of a letter the Board received from a customer praising the work of MBLP linemen during the recent spring snowstorm. She said the utility has a

great group of employees and that their work and efforts are appreciated. She added the magazine article featuring K. Juntala and the utility reflected positively on the utility and its employees.

T. Humphrey agreed with C. Piirala's comments on the hard work put forth by utility employees and added that the improvements at Riverpark Sports Complex have wide appeal encompassing soccer, baseball/softball, and BMX cyclists. He complimented K. Juntala on the magazine article featuring the MBLP adding it promoted positively the employees and organization as a whole.

8. **Adjournment.**

The meeting adjourned at 6:28 p.m.

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.