# MINUTES

A regular meeting of the Board of Light and Power was called and held on June 24, 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

On a motion by K. Wanberg, seconded by R. Goodney and unanimously carried, the Board approved the amended June 10, 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 $530,532.69.

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

Executive Director Kirby Juntila presented no additional information.

2. **Citizen Comment**.

Lou Chappell of 2021 Woodland St., Marquette, said as a candidate for the Board he has been talking to voters who are questioning the status of the Tourist Park Lake and the rebuilding of the dam. He added that he had spoken with Parks and Recreation Director Hugh Leslie regarding K. Wanberg's suggestion of moving the water slide from the closed Shiras Pool to the Tourist Park and was advised the slide requires two (2) lifeguards at all times, electricity to circulate the water, and there are liability issues because the area is not enclosed. He said H. Leslie suggested the Board present a drawing of what it wants to see at the Tourist Park, i.e. boat ramp, beach area, handicapped fishing, etc. which could be presented to the City Commission.

3. **Recommendations for Payment:**

A. Unit No. 2 Water Blast/Vacuum Cleaning.
B. Unit No. 2 Boiler Tube Leak Repair.

C. Purchase of Unit No. 3 Coal Conveyance Parts.
D. Unit No. 3 Motors Maintenance/Repair.
E. Shiras Steam Plant Relay Work.
F. Surveying.

It was moved by K. Wanberg, seconded by C. Piirala, and unanimously carried to authorize payment to Mid Valley Industrial Services, Inc. totaling $26,428 for its water blasting and cleaning of Unit No. 3's air heater and ductwork.

On a motion by R. Goodney, seconded by K. Wanberg and unanimously carried, the Board authorized payment to D.K. Services Inc. totaling $5,970.88 for its tube leak repair of Unit No. 2. K. Wanberg questioned if samples of the tube thickness have been taken? Executive Director Kirby Juntila responded the leaks have been in the attachment joints to the tubes which is a weaker area on the tubes. Superintendent of Production John Reynolds said the joints are hard to get to, but added if the generating bank is replaced in the future the attachment joints can be fixed permanently.

It was moved by K. Wanberg, seconded by T. Humphrey and unanimously carried to authorize payment totaling $15,559 to Alstom Power Inc. for the purchase of two (2) riffle distributor housings for Unit No. 3 B coal conveyance system.

On a motion by R. Goodney, seconded by K. Wanberg and unanimously carried, the Board authorized payment to Malton Electric Company totaling $9,411 for its overhaul and repair of Unit No. 3's ID Fan and Atomizer motors.

It was moved by T. Humphrey, seconded by K. Wanberg and unanimously carried to authorize payment totaling $4,374.12 to Energis High Voltage Resources, Inc. for its Shiras relay work.

On a motion by C. Piirala, seconded by R. Goodney, and unanimously carried, the Board authorized payment to Van Neste Surveying totaling $27, 228.75 for surveying work at the Shiras Steam Plant including the coal pile survey, Shiras Beach, No. 2 Substation. K. Wanberg questioned the survey of the beach area. K. Juntila responded the MDNR, MDEQ and Army Corps of Engineers required a survey to determine the flow of water from the Plant along with a post survey to direct the flow out to the lake. R. Goodney questioned the approximate 1.5 year time frame of the invoices presented. W. Pyle said timely invoicing was discussed.

4. **Any Additional Business the Executive Director Wishes to Present.**
K. Juntila advised the Board: 1). the new Office/Warehouse Copier has been installed and staff is pleased with the technology and thanked the Board for their support of the purchase; 2). staff will give an AMI presentation at an upcoming Board meeting to

review the specification, how the system will be used, and return on investment. K. Juntila said the expected payback is five (5) to six (6) years for a system that will provide service for 15 to 20 years. He added that Superintendent of Distribution David Lynch is doing an excellent job leading the effort as he and J. Reynolds have been researching the automatic meter reading technology and are making positive strides to bring the rest of the staff up to speed for implementation of the project; 3). the Board Room has been painted in preparation for the installation of technology to enable teleconferencing and better viewing of power point presentations. K. Wanberg commented on reorganizing the layout of the seats for better viewing by all; 4). Unit No. 2 was put on line today and will run through Friday with the new grate clips operating well; 5). work is proceeding at Silver Lake although he did not have an update from UPPCo. on progress to date and said William Pyle, Assistant Director of Operations has been working on Tourist Park and internal progress is being made. W. Pyle said tangible results at Tourist Park will not be seen until next summer, but design flows will be submitted to FERC within a week or two which will enable the consultant to proceed with dam design. Discussions with fishery personnel regarding the reservoir have been beneficial with the biggest undertaking to be the Environmental Assessment required by FERC. He suggested starting to get the bulk of the report completed with planned submittal to FERC by fall with subsequent approval projected by late spring or early summer. A public hearing will have to be scheduled and he said proposals to inspect and clean up the Tourist Park Powerhouse building will be sought including painting, roof replacement, and transformer design interconnection work.

5. **Time for Citizen Comments.**

Mike Carpenter of 812 Elm St., Marquette said earth work has begun at Silver Lake with a large notch being carved out for a new spillway.

L. Chappell said the information presented regarding restoration of Tourist Park should be given to the media so the public knows the project is moving forward.

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

R. Goodney said he appreciated W. Pyle's Tourist Park Dam update, but cautioned about going to the media and committing to timeframes that are only projected. He suggested waiting until more concrete information is available.

C. Piirala concurred with R. Goodney regarding the media. She commented when the Board voted to restore the dam the process was expected to be completed in 2010. She commented positively on the painting of the Board Room.

K. Wanberg said he appreciated STS Consultants being able to complete its hydro flow modeling work in a timely manner, said the trees planted alongside the Plant are an

improvement, the dock retaining wall project is about 80 percent complete, and the utility's RP3 award was featured in the recent MMEA Currents newsletter. He commented he has also heard comments on the lack of progress at Tourist Park and understands there is a lot of behind the scenes work being done, and added he is pleased that cleanup work will be initiated at the Tourist Park Powerhouse. He cited a recent article in the MMEA Currents Newsletter regarding Lansing's need to construct a new generating facility or its residents will see electric bill increases of 52-55 percent. K. Juntila responded Lansing can help pave the way for the Board if new generation is to be built to serve future growth, adding that self-generation is cheaper than purchasing power.

T Humphrey said K. Juntila's membership on the MMEA Board is invaluable. K. Juntila said the MMEA's work was very important to former Executive Director David Hickey and he is fortunate to be able to represent the U.P. municipal utilities. He said updating the Board Room's power point and teleconference capabilities is money well spent which can help contain employee education costs through Internet presentations while expanding their horizons through new technology and training. T. Humphrey said he is pleased to see the Environmental Assessment effort beginning and asked if the assessment work and dam design will take place simultaneously? W. Pyle responded in the affirmative adding if the dam design parameters change they can be incorporated into the Environmental Assessment. He added a final dam design is anticipated this fall. He added UPPCo. used relicensing work already completed in its Environmental Assessment and the Board will be able to do the same which will speed the process. T. Humphrey said he saw the photo in the newspaper of the MBLP employees who participated in the Walk America Program sponsored by the Marquette County Health Department and was impressed by the number of participants. Supervisor of Administrative Services Mary K. Adamini and Chair of the utility's Health/Wellness Committee said because of the utility's active health/wellness program we were chosen as the first worksite sponsor of the event and all participants gave up their lunch hour to participate. T. Humphrey said the program encourages healthy lifestyles, but also develops camaraderie between employees. K. Juntila said the Committee plans to get retirees involved in health/wellness.

7. **Adjournment.**

The meeting adjourned at 6:27 p.m.

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Carolyn M. Piirala,
Vice Chair/Secretary