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John M. Driscoll, *General Manager*

Light Commissioners' Meeting July 21, 2015

Members present were: Dana Blais, Gregg Edwards, Chris Stewart

Employees present were: John Driscoll, Tom Berry

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Dana.

The agenda was approved on a motion by Chris, seconded by Gregg, 3-0 in favor.

The June 16, 2015 minutes were approved on a motion by Chris, seconded by Gregg, 3-0 in favor.

Old Business:

The Manager and the Board had a discussion about the approaching deadline of **August 1, 2015**, for the existing Templeton Wind Turbine insurance coverage to cease from Eagle Insurance thru Traveler's Insurance. Some insurance companies were now opting to get out of the wind turbine insurance business for good after some gearbox failures in Portsmouth, RI, Princeton, MA, Hancock, MA (Berkshire Wind) and several others. The statute under which the MMLDWECC was formed mandates that the wind turbine generation equipment and property have insurance, so the Manager had utilized MMMWEC to develop a solution for this problem. Currently both the Manager and MMWEC felt that normal insurance coverage thru PURMA would not be an option within the existing cooperative structure so there was a possibility that Templeton Light would withdraw from the cooperative like Princeton Light had for different reasons.

MMWEC had reached out to G-Cube, Zurich and AIG, all of whom now had programs offering wind turbine equipment and property insurance at varying levels of premiums and deductibles. MMWEC would make a decision on in the best interest of Templeton Light in advance of the August 1, 2015 deadline and the Manager would report back to the Board on just what happened at the August meeting.

Another discussion was had between the Manager and the Superintendent and the Board on the newer Arc Flash Study results as it related to the Operations Personnel and their personal protective equipment (PPE). After some back and forth between the Superintendent and Power Engineers some edits were made to the first draft to make the new PPE Policy more reasonable to those adhering to while not compromising any of the safety guidelines set forth in the original Arc Flash Study. In short, the Operations

Personnel would now be required to wear FR clothing rated at 8; double the previous level of 4 calories per square centimeter. There would also be the addition of some level 20 and 40 PPE in lesser quantities to perform energized substation work and energized padmount transformer work respectively.

The Manager suggested that the Superintendent prepare for the August meeting a draft PPE Proposal for the Board to vote on which would become part of the TMLWP Employee Policy Manual encapsulating these new changes to FR ratings. This would be in lieu of putting an amendment in the existing agreement between TMLP and Local 104, since this was a safety issue and a regulatory change and a compliance mandate more than anything else.

The Manager updated the Board on his success at entering into a court-ordered payment plan with one of the Light Plant's electric customers in the amount of \$400 monthly plus the customer's regular bill. This electric customer had run up a \$6,000 unpaid electric balance in just under a year and had shown no signs that it would be paid anytime soon. The Manager stated that this customer was now required by the court to pay the Light Plant roughly \$600 per month till the electric arrears were paid up.

Because of the relative ease of this the Manager had decided to duplicate his efforts with four other electric accounts, one active and the other inactive, so that the Light Plant could recover another \$6,650 in previously unpaid electric revenues. This decision was made because all of these individuals were still living in town and thus were relatively easy to track down. The Manager was awaiting a court date for these court-ordered payment plans to begin on these four past due electric accounts.

New Business:

The Manager was still in discussions with MMWEC weighing the pros and cons of Templeton Light's withdrawal from the MMLDWECC for financial savings with the remaining debt on the Templeton Wind Turbine. Some of the recent insurance developments would definitely now play a role in this decision process; the Manager informed the Board that there was not yet a definitive pros & cons list to reference neither as an opponent nor as a proponent of said withdrawal. The outcome of the insurance matter must be known before any structural changes could be made to Templeton Light as it related to the MMLDWECC.

The Superintendent had received an update vehicle quote from MHQ to replace the Manager's existing 2010 Ford Explorer XLT 4x4 with a 2016 unit comparably equipped for \$30,051. The Manager noted that his current vehicle had cost \$23,920 in August of 2010, so essentially adding to this 6 vehicle model years the rate of increase in vehicle cost per year was 4.3%. A navigation system would not be included in this newer vehicle since the Manager could not justify such a cost given his current access to navigation via a department-paid smart phone. A vote was taken as follows:

On a motion by Dana, seconded by Gregg, 3-0 in favor the Board voted to purchase the 2016 Ford Explorer XLT for \$30,051 pursuant to the MHQ Vehicle Quote dated July 2, 2015.

Dana – Aye

Gregg – Aye

Chris – Aye

The Manager had distributed to the Board copies of the June 2015 electric sales summary and revenue report. Results showed the average residential electric bill for 576 KWH at just **\$80.57**, or **13.99¢** per KWH based on 1,950 out of a possible 3,129 electric accounts receiving the early-pay discount.

There were four (4) hand-outs that the Manager had prepared for the Board that did not particularly require any specific discussion:

- May 2015 Power Supply
- June 2015 Wind Generation
- July 2015 Residential Electric Rate Comparisons
- Q2 2015 MMWEC Electric Rate Comparisons

At this time the Board took a roll-call vote in the Open Session as follows:

"On a motion by Gregg, seconded by Chris, 3-0 in favor the Board voted to enter into Executive Session to conduct strategy sessions in preparation for negotiations with non-union personnel and/or conduct contract negotiations with non-union personnel. The Board would re-convene in the Open Session only for the purpose of adjournment."

Dana – Aye

Gregg – Aye

Chris – Aye

There being no other Open Session business to discuss, on a motion by Chris, seconded by Gregg, 3-0 in favor the Light Commissioners' Meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

John M. Driscoll



General Manager