

Middleton Electric Light Commission  
Meeting Minutes  
September 18, 2019

The following individuals were in attendance:

Chuck Clinch, Acting Chairman  
Tim Houten  
Jim Kelley  
Jim Carbone  
Michael Cloutier, Manager

Acting Chairman Clinch called the meeting to order at 5:05PM.

***Approval of Agenda:***

**Motion:**

**Jim Kelley motioned to approve the agenda as written. Tim Houten seconded the motion. Motion carried 4-0.**

***Approval of Minutes:***

**Motion:**

**Tim Houten motioned to approve the July 24, 2019 minutes as written. Jim Kelley seconded motion. Motion carried 4-0.**

***Financials:***

Power Supply overall for the year is \$0.094. Last year at this time we were \$0.102. Our spot market pricing is down more than \$0.01 from 2018. The numbers on the ISO Interchange show \$0.468 which includes capacity and all other charges from ISO. Last year we were at \$0.40. We bought less energy from the spot market than in 2018. Seabrook was slightly less by \$0.001 and Granite Wind and First Light Hydro are also coming in at a nice low price. Mr. Cloutier expects that trend to continue for the rest of 2019.

Balance Sheet for July 2019 is showing operating cash up over \$1 mil and our investments are also up from 2018. We are up over \$1.5 mil in our overall position which is basically the difference of \$1.2 mil in our interest income from 2018. Our power supply is \$600K less than 2018.

***Battery Storage Update:***

The site work is complete. The fence is up, the stone is laid, the pipes are in, containers are set with the air conditioners installed on top and the two transformers are there. The only missing item is the inverter, but it should be delivered next week. When it is received, we will connect

all the wires and it should be online in October or possibly November. Site contractor did a great job.

**Manager's Report:**

We sent a crew to Orlando, FL for a mutual aid. They reported for duty on Saturday and drove to Orlando arriving on Sunday. They were released on Tuesday when the hurricane did not impact Florida. They arrived back in Middleton on Thursday evening. On the return home they stopped in Tallahassee and picked up a trailer that was left down there during the last mutual aid.

The bucket truck came in today. It will be sent out for lettering next week.

The MELD building now has numbers on the building (197 North Main Street) after 35 or 36 years. Now visitors will differentiate between the MELD Office and the DPW Office.

We gave the digger derrick to NEPPA. They were thrilled to get it and it will be a great training aid.

Mr. Cloutier has been appointed as an Electric Commissioner on the Groveland board.

Last year there was a pilot program for the Navajo Nation. Four local municipal departments participated; Littleton, Sterling, Paxton and West Boylston. The Navajos are trying to get electricity to people located in 27,000 square miles. Thirty-Two percent lack electricity. The cost is \$40k per house. They are asking for help in achieving this goal. MELD linemen are interested in doing this. It would be done sometime from April to June. Their pay, which MELD would pay, would be for a 40-hour week with no overtime. Last year the volunteers put 233 homes online but 15K homes still don't have electricity. Mr. Cloutier would like the Commissioners to make a motion to aid the Light Up Navajo Nation Project.

**Motion:**

**Mr. Houten made a motion to pay MELD employees 40 hours per week to assist the Light Up Navajo Nation Project and donate any surplus materials. Mr. Clinch seconded the motion.**

**Motion carried 4-0**

Next meeting: October 16, 2019

Mr. Houten made a motion to adjourn at 6:00 PM. Mr. Carbone seconded the motion. Motion carried 4-0.

Respectfully submitted,

James Carbone  
Clerk