October 28, 2009

Governing Board Meeting Minutes


Minutes: Minutes of meeting of September 23, 2009 were approved with minor changes

Communication Guidelines: The board spent some time discussing the Communication guidelines previously distributed by A Voll and presented by her. Ms Voll explained her reasoning for the issue. There is a need for accuracy in the information presented by any board member as there is for any staff person representing the Compact. K Johnson spoke of the right of any board member to speak to the media or make presentations without clearing his/her talk or presentation with CLC Staff. Several others agreed with this approach. The result of the discussion was that there is no intention or desire for censorship of what individual board members say, but wherever possible, if there is time and if there is data to be provided, this data should be checked with staff for accuracy. It was recognized that any individual member will continue to be asked to respond on the spot to requests from media or member of the public. There is no problem if you are unsure of the facts to ask to be able to get back to the person asking and then finding the data with assistance from staff.

It was also noted by F Fenlon that when staff members make presentations or attend meetings in the town, that they should make sure that the governing board member is aware of the event. If a governing board member does respond to media, it is important that they pass on an e-mail to staff to let Amy know that the contact was made.

State wide Energy Efficiency Plan- M Downey announced that the 3 year, statewide plan was approved last evening. We must file our plan in compliance with this plan by year end. In that filing we will point out the differences in our plan and the state plan. For example, our plan is in place while being fuel blind. Municipal incentives are 100% up to $150,000.
Power Supply Update: J Soares provided some statistics on the number of customers who have switched to the current Compact long term offer which offers fixed rates thru July 2011. The rate will be 9.89 cents. As of October 26, 2443 customers have taken advantage of the offer. The ConEd Solutions call center received 1488 calls on this subject in Sept and 2308 in October (through 10/26).

SREC Market programs- In early October, MTC announced they had reached their goals for the Commonwealth Solar Program and rebate funding was being eliminated. Those projects that had applied before October 6th would be given some consideration for funding. The CVEC/ConEd Solutions Solar program did get in on time and is funded. DOER is proposing a new solar REC program called S-RECs, which is very complex and still in the formulation stage. These S-RECs will be required by load serving entities as part of fulfilling their RPS requirements. Each year, the S-REC requirement will increase until the goal of 400 MW of solar installations is achieved in 2020. If retail suppliers cannot obtain these S-RECS through bilateral contracts, they can purchase S-RECs through an auction process or pay the ACP. CLC estimated it will require 96 S-RECs in 2010; with this amount increasing to 15,830 S-RECs in 2020.

A draft of the program and its effects was provided to each board member.

CVEC update: M Downey provided the following information on the coop

- Eight solar projects are contracted for with ConEd for completion prior to 1/1/10. All required license and PPA’s are signed except for Harwich where Special Town Meeting will have to act on the long term license issue before the contracts are signed and the work commences. This should occur on Nov 12
- Treasurer’s report is still not ready for distribution to the governing board members as promised since it was not approved by the CVEC Board. This will be corrected later in November.
- Brewster Town Meeting approved three warrant articles which will result in CVEC sponsoring two turbines on town owned land.
- Harwich will vote on similar warrant articles on Nov 12,2009
- It is the intention of CVEC to go out for EPC contracts in January 2010 to design and permit both installation projects.

Streetlight Maintenance Contracts- There was considerable discussion concerning the adequacy of the work and the reporting of work accomplished and quarterly inspections of our streetlight systems by Republic Electric. The contract will end in June 2010 and we would intend to go out to bid for the work. Our former consultant, George Woodbury is currently employed by Republic and it is possible that he may be able to address some of the on-going problems we have faced. This would go a long way toward assisting us when we go out for bid. The
Streetlight Subcommittee of R Mahoney, B Worth, R Schofield, C Koblish and M Downey will meet in January to review and make recommendations to the board.

**Chairman’s Report** - R Mahoney reported:

- He attended the open house which Habitat for Humanity held in Harwich on October 28. The Gomes Way project has considerable CLC money involved in building these energy efficient homes. B Worth also attended the event.
- Along with J Soares, he attended the ISO-NE Consumer Liaison Group meeting in Westborough on October 19. It appears that ISO-NE is seeking to obtain consumer inputs to their future operations through better informational exchanges between ISO-NE and the Consumer Liaison Group.

Barry R Worth
Secretary