

Minutes:

Stowe Electric Commissioners' Meeting
January 18, 2017 at 8:00 a.m. at Town of Stowe Electric Conference Room

Present:

BOARD MEMBERS: Richard ("Dick") Marron, Chairman; Larry Lackey, Vice-Chairman; Denise Gutstein, Commissioner

STAFF: Ellen Burt, General Manager; Kevin Weishaar, Controller; Matthew Rutherford, Manager of Regulatory Compliance; David Kresock, Director of Operations; Lily Burgess, Clerk of the Board

Dick called the meeting to order at 8:05 a.m.

Approval of the December 28th, 2016 Meeting Minutes

On motion made and seconded, the minutes of December 28, 2016 were approved.

IT Report

The IT Report was part of the Commissioners' Meeting Packet but was not discussed in further detail beyond SED's geographical information system (GIS) mapping for VELCO. Furthermore, even though no cyber-security threats were found at SED following the events at Burlington Electric, SED purchased an added layer of security to its SED office data center as well as the off-site server that will notify SED if anyone unauthorized attempts to access the server.

Regulatory Update

500 kW Solar Net Metering Projects: Moscow Road and Cady Hill: The developers filed the CPG applications for both projects on December 30th to ensure that the applications receive treatment under the old net metering rules. As a result of concerns raised by Andrew Ruschp at last night's Selectboard meeting, the Town will be filing comments in opposition to the Moscow Road Project. Andrew Ruschp is concerned about the potential noise from the transformer and will be asking that the developers move the transformer to the other side of the project and away from his property line. However, the Town will not be asking for a hearing. As for the Cady Hill Project, multiple members of the Development Review Board as well as abutting neighbors were present at the Selectboard meeting and voiced their concerns. The Selectboard and Planning Commission are likely to file comments expressing their concerns centering mostly on how this project is inconsistent with the Town Plan and requesting a hearing. Some of the abutting neighbors might file comments as well. Stowe Electric will be filing comments on the project based mostly on procedural grounds, as the application as filed is incomplete since it does not include a full System Impact Study.

Interval and Billing Data Transfer: PSB Docket 8316: At issue are two primary questions: what customer information and usage data is the distribution utility obligated to provide to the Energy Efficiency Utility (EEU) to support efficiency programs, and who will bear the cost of any modification necessary to transmit that data in the format requested by EEU. The parties are to discuss capabilities and discuss possible resolutions or next steps. Jamie has spoken with EEU's technical team and EEU understands that SED will be unable to transfer any data for a few months due to SED's ongoing transition to a new billing system. SED has also started the discussion of customer data privacy, data sharing, cyber security and what VEIC plans to use this data for.

Financial Update: November Revenue Summary

Revenue less power costs through November were favorable, with snowmaking as a driving factor. Year-To-Date expenses are on or below budget.

Operations Report

The Operations Report was part of the Commissioners' Meeting Packet but was not discussed in further detail beyond the Fairpoint poles in SED's service area and the tree trimming agreement with Fairpoint.

Personnel (Executive Session)

The Board moved to go into Executive Session at 9:02 a.m. to discuss a personnel matter. The Board made a motion to come out of Executive Session at 9:36 a.m. and the motion carried. No actions or motions resulted from the Executive Session.

Other Business

The VT Utilities Revenue Rankings and the fact that SED's commercial rates are the third lowest in the State were discussed, especially since 2/3 of SED's revenue is from commercial.

The Board scheduled the next Commissioners' meeting for Wednesday, February 22nd at 8:00 a.m.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:38 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Lily Burgess
Clerk of the Board