

GRAND HAVEN BOARD OF LIGHT AND POWER  
MINUTES  
OCTOBER 17, 2024

A regular meeting of the Grand Haven Board of Light and Power was held on Thursday, October 17, 2024, at 6:00 PM at the Board's office located at 1700 Eaton Drive in Grand Haven, Michigan and electronically via live Zoom Webinar.

The meeting was called to order at 6:01 PM by Chairperson Westbrook.

**Present:** Directors Crum, Knoth, Polyak, Welling and Westbrook.

**Absent:** None.

**Others Present:** General Manager Rob Shelley, Secretary to the Board Danielle Martin, Operations and Power Supply Manager Erik Booth, Finance Manager Lynn Diffell, and Dan Deller as Technical Support.

**24-15A** Director Welling, supported by Director Crum, moved to approve the meeting agenda.

**Roll Call Vote:**

In favor: Directors Crum, Knoth, Polyak, Welling and Westbrook; Opposed: None.  
Motion carried.

**Pledge of Allegiance**

**Public Comment Period**

Jeffrey Miller, 1120 S Harbor Drive, commented on attendance at Board meetings, the proposed amendment to the August 3, 2022 resolution, and legal services.

**24-15B** Director Welling, supported by Director Knoth, moved to receive and file the 2024 financial audit.

Matt Vredeveld, Vredeveld Haefner LLC, presented the annual audit report. The auditor's opinion is the financial statements present fairly in all material respects and is a "clean" audit. The audit process went smoothly with BLP staff. Residential sales revenue remained consistent while commercial and industrial revenue was down slightly. Wholesale power costs have come down some. Net pension liability is down due to good market returns. The change in net position for the year was positive.

**24-15C** Director Welling, supported by Director Polyak, moved to approve the consent agenda. The consent agenda includes:

- Approve the minutes of the September 19, 2024 Regular Board Meeting
- Receive and file the September Financial Statements, Power Supply and Retail Sales Dashboards
- Receive and File the September Key Performance Indicator (KPI) Dashboard

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- Receive and File the MPPA Energy Services Project Resource Position Report dated 9/30/2024
- Approve payment of bills in the amount of \$2,472,071.29 from the Operation & Maintenance Fund
- Approve payment of bills in the amount of \$162,024.45 from the Renewal & Replacement Fund

The General Manager stated industrial sales are below the forecast. Staff will examine the data and report any findings to the Board at next month's meeting.

**Roll Call Vote:**

In favor: Directors Crum, Knoth, Polyak, Welling and Westbrook; Opposed: None.  
Motion carried.

**24-15D** Director Welling, supported by Director Polyak, moved to approve the Purchase Orders. The Purchase Orders include:

- Purchase Order #23205 to Irby in the amount of \$19,335 for five 50kVA pad transformers for stock
- Purchase Order #23211 to Power Line Supply in the amount of \$31,050 for 15kV #4/0 wire for stock
- Purchase Order #23212 to Border States in the amount of \$27,960 for 128 electric meters for stock
- Purchase Order #23213 to Koppers in the amount of \$17,880 for 44 wood distribution poles for stock
- Purchase Order #23217 to Asplundh in the amount of \$146,220 for the 2024 tree trimming contract

The tree trimming contract came in under budget. Additional services may be added later in the year.

**Roll Call Vote:**

In favor: Directors Crum, Knoth, Polyak, Welling and Westbrook; Opposed: None.  
Motion carried.

**24-15E** The General Manager provided a quarterly strategic goals update focusing on fiscal year 2024 capital improvement projects. Six projects were reviewed. Those that are finished came in under budget and were completed on schedule.

**No formal action taken.**

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**24-15F** Director Welling, supported by Director Knoth, moved to approve the Hart Solar PPA Amendment.

The Hart Solar Project is a 120 megawatt facility. MPPA, on behalf of its members, contracted to take 50 megawatts for a 20 year period. The agreement was signed in May 2021 and a previous amendment was passed in December 2022. The developer has been facing obstacles and requested another amendment. The in-service date will move from June 2025 to December 2026. The price remains about 15% lower than other solar projects currently being marketed. MPPA feels the amendment is the best option for its members.

**Roll Call Vote:**

In favor: Directors Crum, Knoth, Polyak, Welling and Westbrook; Opposed: None.  
Motion carried.

**Motion:** Director Welling, supported by Director Crum, moved to approve the Amendment to the August 3, 2022 Resolution.

Following the City Council and Board's joint meeting, two things needed to be addressed. First, the August 3, 2022 Resolution needed to be amended and second, a process needed to be established for approving Harbor Island expenditures. Both items are coming before the Board for approval tonight. The General Manager asked for Board direction on the wording of the Amendment.

**24-15G** Director Knoth, supported by Director Welling, moved to change the word "will" to "may be" and add "withdrawn at a future date" to the first BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED statement.

**Roll Call Vote:**

In favor: Directors Crum, Knoth, Polyak, and Welling; Opposed: Westbrook.  
Motion carried.

**24-15H** Director Crum, supported by Director Welling, moved to approve the Amendment to the August 3, 2022 Resolution as amended.

**Roll Call Vote:**

In favor: Directors Crum, Knoth, Polyak, Welling and Westbrook; Opposed: None.  
Motion carried.

**24-15I** Director Crum, supported by Director Knoth, moved to approve the Harbor Island Approval Procedure with the modification of removing any instances of "\$5,000" and replacing them with "the BLP General Manager's approval limit".

The proposed procedures have been reviewed by both City and BLP staff. The DPW Director will take charge of the process and BLP staff will review each item as it comes.

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**Roll Call Vote:**

In favor: Directors Crum, Knoth, Polyak, Welling and Westbrook; Opposed: None.  
Motion carried.

**24-15J** Director Welling, supported by Director Crum, moved to approve purchase orders 23123 and 23130 in the amount of \$25,557.

These purchase orders are for reimbursement to the City of Grand Haven for work related to Harbor Island.

**Roll Call Vote:**

In favor: Directors Crum, Knoth, Polyak, Welling and Westbrook; Opposed: None.  
Motion carried.

**24-15K** The General Manager provided an update on Public Act 235. This Act is part of the MI Healthy Climate Plan passed last November. It requires utilities to utilize 50% renewable energy by 2030. The BLP must submit a plan to the Public Service Commission by February 27<sup>th</sup> and update the plan at a minimum of every two years. Staff is working with MPPA on this process and will bring the final draft to the Board for review in the next couple of months.

**No formal action taken.**

**24-15L** Director Welling, supported by Director Crum, moved to approve the 2025 meeting schedule.

A discussion was held regarding the meeting time. Director Crum commented the meetings were at 4 pm when he joined the Board, moved to 5 pm, and are now at 6 pm. He noticed no change in attendance with any time changes.

**Roll Call Vote:**

In favor: Directors Crum, Knoth, Polyak, Welling and Westbrook; Opposed: None.  
Motion carried.

**24-15M** The Board Secretary provided the Board with its annual update of items for the Board's orientation binders.

**No formal action taken.**

**24-15N** The Board discussed Governance Training Lessons 9 "Performance Monitoring for Boards" and 10 "Governing Board Self Assessments".

**No formal action taken.**

**24-15O** The Board will watch Governance Training Lessons 11 and 12 for discussion at November's meeting.

**No formal action taken.**

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**Other Business**

The General Manager provided the following updates:

- Congratulations to the BLP's communications team on reaching 3,000 followers on Facebook.
- The outage management text alert system has deployed.
- Thank you to our line crew who went to Florida to help with hurricane restoration. They have returned after working there for one week.

**Public Comment Period**

No comments.

**Adjournment**

At 7:24 PM by motion of Director Welling, supported by Director Knoth, the October 17, 2024 Board meeting was unanimously adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,



Danielle Martin  
Secretary to the Board

DM