



N O R W I C H  
BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES' COMMISSIONERS  
REGULAR MEETING

July 28, 2009

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The Regular July Meeting of the Norwich Board of Public Utilities' Commissioners was held on Tuesday, July 28, 2009 in the Training Room at the NPU's office located at 16 South Golden Street, Norwich.

Item 1. The Meeting was called to order at 6:00 P.M. by Chairman James Sullivan.

Present: Chairman James Sullivan, Vice Chairman Diana Boisclair, Secretary Fran Demicco and Commissioners Alan Remondi and Stanley Israelite. Also in attendance were: General Manager John Bilda; NPU Staff Members Steve Sinko, Chris LaRose, Jeanne Kurasz, Jeff Brining, Dave Poore and Michele Addabbo.

Item 2. Fifteen-Minute Public Comment Period. Chairman Sullivan complemented the staff involved in creating the NPU float for the City's Semiseptcentennial parade, which won an award for "Best use of motion."

Roberta Paro, 246 Yantic Street – Ms. Paro referenced the May 26<sup>th</sup> Board Meeting, at which she addressed the Board regarding the US Mayor's Climate Protection Act. She feels options and possibilities exist to avoid installing diesel generators and polluting the air. She presented the Board with information found on the Internet concerning other utilities' solutions for addressing peak load issues.

General Manager Bilda responded that NPU is working on solutions involving new technologies and is applying for stimulus money to invest in smart grid technology.

Chairman Sullivan encouraged Ms. Paro to continue communicating with NPU on these important issues. He stressed that NPU is trying to find ways to stop dirty generators from operating, and are doing what we can with limited resources. He asked for the citizens of our community to help support NPU's efforts towards a cleaner environment. One way this can be accomplished is to get the fleet of state cars located in Norwich to fuel with natural gas available at NPU's natural gas station.

Ernie Cohen, 136 Hunters Road – Mr. Cohen expressed concern about air quality issues resulting from the installation of diesel peaking generators in three locations in Norwich and suggested NPU chose a new location away from a residential area. He also asked if NPU had completed its Time of Use Rate Plan required under Public Act 05-1.

General Manager Bilda responded that the plan is underway.

Chairman Sullivan interrupted Mr. Cohen comments to determine if any other member of the public wanted a chance to address the Board. Hearing none, Mr. Cohen was allowed to continue.

Mr. Cohen questioned if NPU has an annual energy efficiency plan. General Manager Bilda responded that through CMEEEC, NPU has a plan on file with the Energy Conservation Management Board (ECMB). Under this plan, the 2 mils collected for the energy efficiency fund stays local.

Chairman Sullivan added that at a recent CMEEEC meeting the president of the American Public Power Association (APPA) stated that CMEEEC and its member utilities are among the top three utility companies taking a leadership role in the area of energy and conservation programs.

Hearing no further comments, Chairman Sullivan closed the public comment period.

Item 3. Minutes of the Regular June Meeting, which was held on Tuesday, June 30, 2009. Secretary Demicco seconded by Commissioner Remondi moved to approve the Minutes of the Regular June Meeting, which was held on Tuesday, June 30, 2009. Unanimously approved.

Item 4. Action Items.

Transco Resolution #09-01 Appointing a Board of Directors. Commissioner Israelite, seconded by Commissioner Remondi moved to place the Transco Resolution #09-01 on the floor for discussion. Commissioner Remondi, seconded by Chairman Sullivan, moved to amend Transco Resolution #09-01 as follows: Appoint James Sullivan and John Bilda as Directors and appoint Alan Remondi and Stephen Sinko as Alternate Directors. Unanimously Approved. Secretary Demicco, seconded by Vice Chairman Boisclair, moved to approve Transco Resolution #09-01 Appointing a Board of Directors, as amended. Unanimously approved.

## RESOLUTION

**WHEREAS**, the enabling statute for the Connecticut Transmission Municipal Electric Energy Cooperative (“TRANSCO”) sets forth that the governing body of the Cooperative shall be a Board of Directors, consisting of Representatives of the Members, in which all legislative power of the Cooperative is vested; and

**WHEREAS**, the Bylaws of TRANSCO set forth that each of the Members shall appoint two (2) Representatives to the TRANSCO Board of Directors, and each Member shall appoint one (1) Alternate Representative to the TRANSCO Board of Directors; and that Representatives and Alternate Representative shall be appointed for a term of three (3) years.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the (utility commission formal name) hereby appoints (insert 2 names) as Representatives on the Board of Directors for TRANSCO for a term of three (3) years, and (insert alternate’s name) as an Alternate Representative on the Board of Directors for TRANSCO for a term of three (3) years.

Item 5. Performance Reports. The following performance reports were provided to the Commissioners for their review:

- a) Financial Reports: The June 2009 financial statements were provided to the Board for their information. Steve Sinko provided a brief summary of the year-end reports and informed the Board that the final year-end reports will be provided in August. General Manager Bilda will be providing a rate stabilization fund plan, including feedback received from the Commissioners. He also informed the Board that the summer load is down about 30% and preparations are underway to adjust the cash flow accordingly. Chairman Sullivan asked why bills aren't lower this year, in light of lower gas prices? General Manager Bilda responded that NPU had kept rates steady to avoid large price swings and the price customers were paying last winter could have been much higher.
- b) Collections Reports: Informative. General Manager Bilda informed the Board that NPU is currently working with TVCCA to begin accepting energy assistance applications.
- c) Customer Satisfaction Indicators: Informative.

Item 6. NPU Tactical Information. The following tactical reports were provided to the Commissioners for their review:

- a) Operations & Construction Report. Informative.
- b) Water Division Report. Informative.
- c) Communications Calendar. Informative.
- d) Energy Efficiency Initiatives.
- e) Construction Project Status Report. Informative.
- f) PGA/PPA. There are no changes to the PGA or PPA this month.
- g) ARRA Stimulus Grants. NPU will be receiving stimulus money for water tank upgrades (\$750,000) and the wastewater treatment plant upgrade project (\$300,000). An application was submitted for a micro turbine project at the wastewater treatment plant. An application will be submitted for funding for the municipal area network project as it becomes available.
- h) Other
  - Dave Poore, GIS Supervisor gave a presentation to the Board showing the status of the GIS System.
  - Water Treatment Plant Job Description. Informative
  - Acme Auto Building. The closing to take ownership of this property will take place on July 30<sup>th</sup>. The site will be used for additional parking for the customer service center.

Commissioner Remondi seconded by Commissioner Israelite motioned to recess the meeting at 7:00 p.m. and enter into the Sewer Authority Meeting.

The Board Meeting resumed at 7:15 p.m.

Item 7. Executive Session. Vice Chairman Boisclair, seconded by Secretary Demicco moved to enter into Executive Session at 7:15 p.m. to Discuss Confidential Trade Secret & Commercially Valuable Confidential or Proprietary Information Not Subject to Inspection or Public Disclosure Pursuant to Section 1-210[5] and 7-232a of the CT General Statutes. Unanimously approved. General Manager Bilda and Chris LaRose were asked by the Board to stay for the purpose of providing proprietary information.

The Board arose from Executive Session at 7:20 p.m.

There were no votes taken during Executive Session.

Executive Session. Commissioner Remondi, seconded by Secretary Demicco moved to enter into Executive Session at 7:41 p.m. to Discuss Confidential Trade Secret & Commercially Valuable Confidential or Proprietary Information Not Subject to Inspection or Public Disclosure Pursuant to Section 1-210[5] and 7-232a of the CT General Statutes. Unanimously approved. General Manager Bilda was asked by the Board to stay for the purpose of providing proprietary information.

The Board arose from Executive Session at 7:40 p.m.

There were no votes taken during Executive Session.

Item 8. Other Business. General Manager Bilda discussed comments made by the director of the American Public Power Association to the CMEEC board. The director stated that the most important focus a utility company should have is in customer relations and communication.

Item 9. The next Regular Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, August 25, 2009.

Commissioner Remondi, seconded by Commissioner Israelite, moved to adjourn the Meeting at 7:50 p.m. Unanimously approved.

Attest:

Frank Demicco  
Secretary