

Block Island Utility District  
January 16, 2020  
**Town Hall, Old Town Road 3:00 PM**

**Minutes**

Present: Barbara MacMullan, William Penn, Elliot Taubman. Absent: Mary Jane Balser and Everett Shorey.

Also, Present: Jeff Wright, a representative from the Block Island Times, and several members of the public.

Barbara MacMullan called the meeting to order at 3:09 PM.

**1. Commissioner's Report**

- Barbara MacMullan welcomed everyone to the meeting. She postponed the election of officers and review and approval of the annual meeting calendar due to two directors being absent due to the weather.

**2. Public Input**

- There was no public input.

**3. Approve Minutes of the December 3, 2019 regular meeting.**

Barbara MacMullan moved to accept the December 3, 2019 minutes, seconded by William Penn. The motion passed unanimously.

**4. Receive and Act on Treasurers Report**

- William Penn presented the Treasurer's Report (on file), noting that all disbursements complied with all policies.
- He provided an update on the audit.
- He informed the Board of a recent meeting held with the DPUC, Mike McElroy, Dave Bebyn, Jeff Wright and CFC at which discussions were had regarding future CFC loans for the spare transformer and employee housing.
- He reviewed the financials as of November 30, 2019, noting that the current debt to equity ratio was approximately 12.5%.

Barbara MacMullan moved to accept the Treasurer's Report, seconded by Elliot Taubman. The motion passed unanimously.

- He presented the NRUCFC Credit Card program.

William Penn moved to approve the NRUCFC resolution on file authorizing President Jeffery M. Wright to execute the necessary documents to enroll in the NRUCFC One Card program. The motion was seconded by Barbara MacMullan. The motion passed unanimously.

**5. Receive and Act on Presidents Report**

- President Jeffery Wright presented the President's Report (on file) and answered questions from those present.

- He presented the Board with a NRUCFC Certificate of Resolutions and Incumbency, loan agreements and promissory note for long term debt for the spare transformer and employee housing.

William Penn moved to accept the President's Report. Elliot Seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

William Penn then moved to approve the NRUCFC loan documents and Certificate of Incumbency. Elliot Seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

#### **6. Review and Act on the Block Island Utility District Efficiency Program**

- President Jeffery Wright presented the changes made to the efficiency plan by RI-OER Nathan Cleveland in response to the Board's request at the previous meeting.

William Penn moved to approve the Block Island Utility District Efficiency Plan and to file it with the RI-PUC for approval. Elliot Seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

#### **7. Discuss Net Metering: Receive Public Input and Discuss**

- Jeffery Wright presented a proposed net metering tariff that was based off from Pascoag Utility District's tariff. The tariff was in draft form and was going to be reviewed by the DPUC and Mike McElroy before the next meeting and suggested that we should strive to approve the tariff next month so that it can be filed with the RI-PUC after the next meeting.

- He presented a proposed Net Metering Statute amendment that he had discussed with the RI-OER and RI-PUC staff for consideration by the Board. Barbara MacMullan inquired about the timing of the amendment and the new tariff approval and wanted clarification to ensure that the existing program would remain closed until the new tariff was approved if the statute amendment was adopted first.

Barbara MacMullan moved to authorize requesting the statute amendment conditional on clarification with the RI-PUC regarding the timing of the approval and its effect on the current and proposed tariff. Elliot Taubman seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

No action was taken on the net metering tariff.

#### **9. Discuss and Act on Hull Suburban Lease**

- President Jeffery Wright presented new lease terms (on record) for Hull Suburban.
- Peter McNurney of Hull Suburban presented his thoughts and company's goals for consideration by the Board.

William Penn moved to approve the new lease terms for Hull Suburban. Barbara MacMullan seconded the motion. Elliot Taubman recused himself. The motion passed unanimously.

#### **10. Review and Act on a Long-Term Solar Purchase Power Agreement\***

At 4:50PM, Barbara MacMullan moved to enter into closed session to discuss the commercial terms of a long term solar PPA, seconded by Elliot Taubman. The motion passed unanimously.

At 5:10 PM, Barbara MacMullan moved to come out of closed session, seconded by Elliot Taubman. The motion passed unanimously.

The Board reported that they had authorized President Jeffery Wright to execute the PPA with Gravel Pit Solar. The term is 20 years with no escalator. The amount that Block Island will receive per year is estimated to be 118,839,000 kWh. This represents 1.67% of the Utility District's total annual energy requirement in 2023.

At 5:12, Barbara MacMullan moved to adjourn, seconded by William Penn. The motion passed unanimously.

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