

**Block Island Utility District  
Board Meeting Minutes  
January 27, 2022**

Board Members: Barbara MacMullan, Maryjane Balsler, Tom Risom, John Warfel and Elliot Taubman  
Also Present: President Jeff Wright, Tracy Fredericks, Chris Warfel, David Lewis, Dan Ciullio (ENE), and Ken Stambler (ENE).

Board Chair, Barbara MacMullan called the meeting to order at 4:01 pm

**1. Public Input-**

Ray Torey requested via Tom Risom that Chris Warfel investigate battery storage for the solar array at the Block Island Health Services. This is a town facility and is not a BIUD concern.

**2. Review and Discuss Utility-Scale Battery Proposal/RFP/Bid Evaluation with Energy New England**

Jeff suggested that we are ready to address the formal bidding process for the battery proposals. Energy New England has agreed to help explain the proposal process and what we should take into consideration.

It was mentioned that there are lots of different PPA structures available, and that we need to see what makes sense for Block Island.

The next step would be to talk with other battery vendors and ask about the pricing and the structure of the proposal. Ken mentioned that there are other small utilities doing this, but none are as small as BIUD.

Jeff said he will talk with other vendors.

**3. Correspondence from Chris Warfel**

Chris Warfel email-submitted, in packet

**4. Commissioner's Report:**

No Report

**5. Approve Meeting Minutes: December 18 and December 27, 2021**

Maryjane Balsler made a motion to approve the meeting minutes of the December 18, 2021, meeting. The motion was seconded by Elliot Taubman. The motion passed unanimously.

Barbara MacMullan made a motion to approve the meeting minutes of the December 27, 2021,

meeting. The motion was seconded by John Warfel. The motion passed unanimously.

## **6. Presidents Report**

- a. National Grid BITS (Cable) Charge Update
- b. Voltage Conversion Update-Work is in progress, most of the materials are in, the budget and schedule are on track.
- c. 2022 Pole Replacement Program Update-Project is on track. Currently focused on Coast Guard Road and then Lakeside Drive.
- d. Tree Trimming Update-Tree trimming is ongoing. Every foot of line will be cleared, with 3' or 6' clearance.
- e. 2021 Audit Update-in progress
- f. Staffing Update-Dave Milner is retiring in April 2022. We are looking for someone to fill his role and to also work in the field. Eventually everyone will have the same job description.
- g. Housing Update-Town has ordered an appraisal of the lot on the corner of Beach Ave and Ocean Ave.
- h. EV Charger Update- No update
- i. EV Charging Rate Design Discussion-Dave Beyben and Dave LaCapra are working on a rate for the level 3 charger. They will update us when they have a rate.

## **7. Net Metering (Docket 5192) Update**

Jeff reported that there were many questions regarding the old tariff, and only clarification questions regarding the new tariff.

Motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Elliot Taubman, seconded by Maryjane Balser. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 5:39 pm.

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