

**Block Island Utility District
December 18, 2021
11:00 AM**

THIS MEETING WAS HELD IN PERSON AT THE BLOCK ISLAND COMMUNITY CENTER
ON CHAPEL STREET, BLOCK ISLAND, RI

Minutes

Participating BOD Members Present: Barbara MacMullan, Mary Jane Balsler, Elliot Taubman, John Warfel and Tom Risom.

Also Present: President Jeffery Wright, Renee Myers, Ken Tripp, Dave Lewis and Chris Warfel.

Board Chair Barbara MacMullan called the meeting to order at 11:02 AM.

1. Public Input

- Chris Warfel expressed his desire to have the board meeting materials posted to the website sooner and requested that a dual meter drawing for net metering be posted to the website. President Jeffery Wright promised that all necessary materials will be posted to the website pertaining to the net metering program after the tariff was approved. He also stressed that the meeting materials would be posted as soon as they were available but sometimes that is not until 48 hours prior to the meeting.
- John Warfel had a question pertaining to BIUD's requirements for service secondary wire and pipe. President Jeffery Wright responded by explaining BIUD's policy of allowing the member, or member's electrician to size all secondary equipment and that all secondary equipment was required to meet the National Electric Code (NEC) which is verified by the town inspection/permitting process.

2. Correspondence from a Concerned BIUD Member and Chris Warfel

- A letter from a concerned member was shared pertaining to the wind farm curtailments during the summer. The letter is on file in the December 18, 2021 board materials.
- Chris Warfel asked the BIDU Board of Commissioners to perform an inventory of available BIUD land/property to determine if there were any public housing opportunities. His request is on file and will be addressed in a future BOD meeting.

3. Commissioner's Report

- Board Chair Barbara MacMullan had nothing to report.

4. Approve Meeting Minutes: November 20, 2021

- Board Chair Barbara MacMullan made a motion to approve the minutes from the November 20, 2021 meeting as presented. John Warfel seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

5. President's Report

- President Jeffery Wright presented his report starting with the news that

National Grid was modifying its FERC tariff pertaining to the BITS charge. He explained the potential changes and would provide future updates as National Grid filed its new tariffs.

- Mr. Wright explained that PASCOAG has recently had its net metering tariff approved by the PUC and explained the similarities to BIUD's new proposed tariff.
- Mr. Wright provided updates on the level three charger that may be housed at the power company.
- Mr. Wright also presented a potential utility-scale battery storage system that had been provided by a New England vendor. He asked the BOD to support engaging ENE to help with evaluating this proposal and helping to facilitate a formal bid process. The BOD supported engaging ENE.
- Mr. Wright presented an update to the voltage conversion project. He introduced Ken Tripp who had been retained as the on-island project manager.

6. Approve \$1.5M CFC Loan for the Voltage Conversion Project

- Mr. Wright explained that this loan also included the \$300K contingency payment associated with the McGinness lawsuit and that he had not warned this item correctly. He asked the BOD to hold a special meeting to approve the CFC resolution. The BOD agreed to meet on December 27th. Mr. Wright committed to scheduling the meeting accordingly.

7. Review and Act Upon the 2022 Capital Budget

- Mr. Wright presented a capital budget for 2022 (on file) and asked for approval.
- Commissioner Elliot Taubman made a motion to approve the 2022 Capital Budget as presented. Tom Risom seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

8. Strategic Planning Discussion

- After a short discussion it was agreed that Mr. Wright would discuss an on-site strategic planning session with CFC sometime before summer.

Board Chair Barbara MacMullan moved to adjourn the meeting at 12:35 PM. John Warfel seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously, and the meeting was adjourned.

APPROVED: January 27, 2022

POSTED: March 21, 2022