# COMMUNITY POWER COALITION OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

# **BOARD OF DIRECTORS – APPROVED MINUTES**

Meeting Type: Meeting of the Board of Directors

Meeting Location: Nashua City Hall 3rd FL Auditorium, 229 Main ST, Nashua NH

Meeting Date: Thursday October 26, 2023

Meeting Time: Noticed for 10AM @ CPCNH.org & Nashua City Hall

## **AGENDA**

1. Welcome & Roll Call - agenda check

2. Approve Minutes of the 9/8/23 Board Meeting

3. Admit & Welcome the Towns of Bradford, Grantham, and Bethlehem, and as our 43rd to 45th Members

Bradford Member Rep.: Jenny Locke Howley, Alternate: Kathleen Bigford | Grantham Member Representative: TJ Alexander, Alternate: Robert Benson | Bethlehem Member Representative: Mary Lou Krambeer

4. Chair's Report (Action Item)

Approve CPCNH participation in Energy Data Governance Council GRIP grant proposal as a collaborating partner.

5. CEO's Report (Action Items)

Authorize CEO to modify (or not) & hire for vacant Director of Load and Power Resource Optimization position as one or two positions. | Authorize CEO to add staff or contractor for Member services in 2023.

6. Member Outreach & Engagement Com. Report (Action Item)

Authorize CEO to administer and execute the Public Engagement Strategy

- 7. Executive Committee Report
- 8. Governance Committee Report
- 9. Risk Management Committee Report
- 10. Audit Committee Report
- 11. Regulatory & Legislative Affairs Committee Report
- 12. Finance Committee Report
- 13. Treasurer's Report

Preview Draft 2024 budget for approval at next Board meeting | Member cost and reserve allocation report with estimated savings

14. Future Meeting Dates

Combine Nov. & Dec. regular Board meetings on Thursday 11/30 or 12/7 | Board meeting to approve Feb.-July 2024 rates: Wed. 12/20 or Thurs. 12/21?

- 15. Other business, questions & reflections
- 16. Adjournment

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## **MINUTES**

#### 1. Welcome & Roll Call - agenda check

Chair Below opened the meeting at 10:08am. Sixteen of twenty Directors were present with nine attending in person at the physical location exceeding the 25% quorum requirement of five.

<u>Member</u>	<u>Director</u>	Present/Absent
Walpole	Paul Looney	Present (virtual)
Hanover	April Salas	Present (virtual)
Durham	Steve Holmgren	Absent
Enfield	Kim Quirk	Absent
Exeter	Nicholas Devonshire	Present (virtual)
Peterborough	Bruce Tucker	Present
Webster	David Hemenway	Present
Portsmouth	Kevin Charette	Present
New London	Jamie Hess	Absent
Plainfield	Evan Oxenham	Present
Newmarket	Joseph Lamattina	Present
Warner	Clyde Carson	Absent
Cheshire County	Terry Clark	Present (virtual)
Pembroke	Matt Miller	Present (virtual)
Harrisville	Andrea Hodson	Present (virtual)
Randolph	Kathleen Kelly	Present
Dover	Jackson Kaspari	Present (virtual)
Lebanon	Clifton Below	Present
Nashua	Doria Brown	Present
Rye	Lisa Sweet	Present

### 2. Approve Minutes of the 9/28/23 Board Meeting

Secretary Oxenham moved to approve the minutes of the 9/28/23 Board Meeting. Seconded by Director Kelley. Hearing no objection, Chair Below declared the minutes approved by unanimous consent with the correction to the date in the header from 27th to 28th, and noting that Director Terry Clark joined the meeting ten minutes after it commenced.

# 3. Admit & Welcome the Towns of Bradford, Grantham, and Bethlehem, and as our 43rd to 45th Members

The Board discussed the formal withdrawal of the Town of Brentwood, and the upcoming withdrawal of the Town of Rollinsford. Staff has conducted cordial exit interviews, and the door is open for future returning of those towns to Coalition Membership and service. The Town of Brentwood expressed a preference for the brevity and simplicity of the broker contract of Community Power. The Town of Rollinsford expressed a

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preference for the perceived ease of the Community Power adoption and launch process through the broker-model.

Director Hemenway moved to admit and welcome the Towns of Bradford, Grantham, and Bethlehem. Director Sweet Seconded. Hearing no objection, Chair Below declared the motion passed by unanimous consent.

Bradford Member Representative: Jenny Locke Howley, Alternate: Kathleen Bigford

Grantham Member Representative: TJ Alexander, Alternate: Robert Benson

Bethlehem Member Representative: Mary Lou Krambeer

#### 4. Chair's Report (Action Item)

Chair Below congratulated Director Sweet and Mr. Herndon for their appearance on WMUR, and commended Peterborough and Harrisville for obtaining ~\$900,000 in funding for innovative community-wide energy efficiency projects, and the Town of Exeter for obtaining \$200,000 in funding for energy efficiency upgrades at 100 low-income households.

The meeting recessed for 20 minutes due to virtual meeting access technical difficulties and resumed at 10:43.

Chair Below noted that Director Salas has recused herself from the matter of the grant application related to the New Hampshire Energy Data Governance Council. The Energy Data Platform and the associated GRIP grant proposal will support CPCNH to make use of the ReCurve Platform provided through Calpine to enable load flexibility and active demand response. A consortium of utilities and other parties including Clean Energy NH are pursuing the grant.

Director Kelley moved that Board of Directors authorizes the Coalition to collaborate in the development and submission of a grant proposal to the US Department of Energy by the Energy Data Governance Council and participating utilities under the DOE Grid Resilience and Innovation Partnerships program. Director Hemenway seconded. Hearing no objection, Chair Below declared the motion approved by unanimous consent.

#### 5. CEO's Report (Action Items)

CEO Callnan noted he would hold the staffing update until the Membership meeting. Refresh mailers would be sent to ~5,000 new customers in early November. Dover Community Power enrollments are starting 10/30 and Cheshire Community Power towns of Nelson, Dublin, and Fitzwilliam are starting enrollments in mid-November. Wave 2 will commence service in March of 2024.

CEO Callnan described his consideration of expediting the hiring of a staff and/or contractor to ensure the organization's capacity needs are met. CEO Callnan reported that the open position of Director of Load and Power Resources has not been filled, and in filling that position, the organization may consider breaking the position into two roles. Director Brown asked if that would require more funds than envisioned for the one role, and CEO Callnan responded that it would. Chair Below noted that the draft proposed budget for 2024 includes funding for additional staff roles. It was clarified that the salary costs of staff positions would be approved in the 2024 budget.

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Member Paul Panish suggested, even though CPCNH is migrating to Microsoft Office 365, CPCNH continue to use Zoom if/when practical and efficient.

Director Kelley moved to authorize the CEO to develop, advertise and hire the same or new positions to meet the job description of the vacant Director of Load and to Authorize the CEO to add staff or contracted resources in 2023 to improve member services that is not expected to exceed the April 2023 approved budget for staffing. Director Hemenway seconded. Hearing no objection, Chair Below declared the motion approved by unanimous consent.

#### 6. Member Outreach & Engagement Com. Report (Action Item)

Director Sweet described the proposed 12-month Public Engagement Strategy and associated \$125,000 budget.

Director Hemenway moved to authorize CEO to administer and execute the Public Engagement Strategy as presented in the September Board Meeting Packet. Seconded by Director Kathleen Kelley. Hearing no objection, Chair Below declared the motion approved by unanimous consent.

- 7. Executive Committee Report
- 8. Governance Committee Report
- 9. Risk Management Committee Report
- 10. Audit Committee Report
- 11. Regulatory & Legislative Affairs Committee Report
- 12. Finance Committee Report
- 13. Treasurer's Report

CEO Callnan described the draft monthly report on costs, reserves, customers, savings, and product elections/enrollments. "Total Accounts" means the total number of accounts that have flowed through the Community Power Aggregation (CPA), relative to "Current Accounts," which are the accounts currently receiving service. "Community Benefit" is the combination of customer savings and reserve accrual. CEO Callnan clarified that this is close to final, and he does not expect significant changes, and that he was working with Ascend and ecoCFO to finalize the numbers and the report for final publication.

Director Hodson questioned whether or not at some point a strategic goal might be to increase the portion of customers in opt-up products. Director Tucker requested inclusion of a column for "Load" in the report. Director Holmgren asked whether it might be possible to make a default product be Clean 50, instead of just Granite Basic and Granite Plus, noting that in the last two rate cycles, Clean 50 was cheaper than the utility default, and CEO Callnan agreed that was a good question to explore further. Director Brown encouraged communities electing more expensive default products to consider equity and affordability for customers. Director Miller noted that the reporting table was very helpful and valuable for Member towns, and that while current language in agreements and policies only allows for Granite Basic and Plus as defaults, that could be changed, and finally, that the discussion of goals is important and should occur, and that his position is that CPCNH should be neutral on goals such as advocating for more customers to opt-up and that rather should be a decision left to individual CPAs. Vice Chair Charette seconded the position that CPCNH should remain neutral in that regard, and rather be a force to empower individual CPAs to meet their respective goals. Director Looney asked if there were statistics on why people were opting out, and it was noted that customers may opt

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out frictionlessly, and customers are not pressed on why they opt out nor discouraged from opting out. Director Hodson noted that competitors are sending mailers to Community Power customers. Director Brown, regarding strategy, expressed desire to expand opt-in products that increased reserves to be used for local clean energy projects, in addition to options for purchasing more Renewable Energy Certificates (RECs).

	CPCNH Member Monthly Report* (DRAFT)															
Inception to Date, August 2023																
Community	Total	Total	Joint	Discretionary	Customer	Community	Total	Current	Opt	Opt	Opt	Opt	Granite	Granite	Clean	Clean
Power	Revenue	Costs	Reserves	Reserves	Savings	Benefit	Accounts	Accounts	In	Up	Down	Out	Basic	Plus	50	100
Aggregation	(\$000)	(\$000)	(\$000)	(\$000)	(\$000)	(\$000)	#	#	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Canterbury	\$192	\$151	\$41	\$0	\$61	\$102	939	851	3.1%	1.3%	0.0%	2.2%	96.3%	0.1%	0.8%	0.6%
Enfield	\$514	\$430	\$84	\$0	\$161	\$245	2,482	2,302	0.8%	2.0%	0.0%	0.4%	97.5%	0.2%	0.9%	1.0%
Exeter	\$2,224	\$1,724	\$500	\$0	\$1,040	\$1,541	7,469	6,845	0.8%	1.3%	0.0%	0.6%	98.0%	0.2%	0.5%	0.8%
Hanover	\$882	\$754	\$128	\$0	\$252	\$380	3,139	2,681	1.1%	4.9%	2.1%	0.6%	2.5%	91.7%	1.9%	3.3%
Harrisville	\$112	\$90	\$22	\$0	\$23	\$45	723	668	2.9%	4.1%	0.0%	2.0%	93.0%	0.4%	1.5%	3.1%
Lebanon	\$2,361	\$2,120	\$241	\$0	\$836	\$1,077	8,827	7,300	4.1%	3.5%	0.0%	0.3%	95.9%	0.2%	0.8%	2.8%
Nashua	\$11,364	\$8,806	\$2,557	\$0	\$2,546	\$5,103	37,145	32,885	0.6%	0.5%	0.0%	0.4%	99.1%	0.1%	0.1%	0.3%
Peterborough	\$776	\$611	\$165	\$0	\$149	\$314	3,228	3,020	1.3%	1.5%	2.5%	1.2%	3.0%	93.9%	0.9%	1.1%
Plainfield	\$229	\$185	\$43	\$0	\$58	\$101	485	751	1.9%	1.6%	1.4%	0.8%	2.0%	95.3%	0.4%	1.4%
Portsmouth	\$2,907	\$2,289	\$618	\$0	\$545	\$1,163	12,727	11,281	1.0%	0.8%	0.0%	0.6%	98.3%	0.1%	0.3%	0.7%
Rye	\$857	\$665	\$192	\$0	\$181	\$373	2,900	2,627	2.2%	0.7%	0.0%	0.5%	98.7%	0.0%	0.5%	0.3%
Walpole	\$519	\$421	\$98	\$0	\$154	\$252	1,809	1,695	1.9%	0.9%	0.0%	0.5%	98.4%	0.1%	0.5%	0.5%
CPCNH	\$22,937	\$18,246	\$4,689	\$0	\$6,006	\$10,696	81,873	72,906	1.3%	1.2%	0.2%	0.5%	90.3%	7.9%	0.4%	0.9%

<sup>\*</sup>Article VI of the Cost Sharing Agreement

Note: Draft Report, values may change as ecoCFO and our contractors review. Please review for format and information level. Customer Savings estimate reported are based on residential rate savings, future reports will include rate variances accounting for rate class. Customer Accounts are Year To Date and include accounts that were once CPCNH customers and are no longer such as those that have Opted Out, moved away from the community, moved to a different location within the community or become incative. Pre-operational CPCNH costs referenced in Article VII of the CSA have yet to be reallocated but will be for future reports.

#### **Definitions:**

Total Revenue: Total Customer payments by Community Power Aggregation (CPA)

**Total Costs**: Total CPA costs to serve customers

Joint Reserves: CPA allocation of CPCNH Joint reserves (allocation of organization equity)

Discretionary Reserves: Reserves that a member has requested be collected to support a future energy project

Customer Savings: Estimated CPA customer savings over utility Default rates

Community Benefit: CPA Joint Reserves + Customer savings represents total CPA value created by being a member of CPCNH.

Total Accounts: CPA account value reported (YTD) will be higher than current customer level given move in and move out activity

RPS: New Hampshire's RPS statute, RSA 362-F, requires each electricity provider to meet customer load by purchasing or acquiring certificates representing

generation from renewable energy

Opt Out: Percentage of customers that Opted Out of the CPCNH Default rate likely to be served by a broker or the Distribution Utility

Opt In: Percentage of customers that Opted In to the CPCNH Default rate

Opt Up: Percentage of customers that moved to higher rate than the CPA's choice for the Default rate

Opt Down: Percentage of customers that moved to lower rate than the CPA's choice for the Default rate

Granite Basic: Percentage of customers the are taking the CPCNH default offering that meets the New Hampshire state mandated Renewable Portfolio Standard (24.3% renewable content)

Granite Plus: Percentage of customers the are taking the CPCNH default offering that has 33% renewable content

Clean 50: Percentage of customers the are taking the CPCNH Opt-up product offering that has 50% renewable content

Clean 100: Percentage of customers the are taking the CPCNH Opt-up product offering that has 100% renewable content



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#### 14. Future Meeting Dates

Chair Below noted that utility rates to beat for the period February through July 2024 will be known prior by 12/20. The Board agreed to combine Nov. & Dec. regular Board meetings on Thursday 11/30. The Board agreed to target Thursday 12/21 or Thursday 12/28 to approve Feb.-July 2024 rates.

#### 15. Other business, questions & reflections

Director Hodson requested the opportunity to timely preview the draft 2024 budget. Director Brown encouraged Members to attend Finance Committee meetings if they were interested in learning more about the budget and budgeting process.

CEO Callnan introduced Bobbi-Jo Michael, CPCNH's new Director of Administration. Bobbi-Jo Michael has been the Director of Administration and Governance at the National Education Association in New Hampshire. Bobbi-Jo Michael introduced herself and expressed her enthusiasm for joining CPCNH's staff.

CEO Callnan introduced Deana Dennis, CPCNH's new Director of Regulatory and Legislative Affairs. Deana Dennis previously led energy regulatory initiatives for Ceres and Electric Power Research Institute, and has been a leader in organizations working to empower women leaders in energy. Deana Dennis introduced herself and described her learning about Community Power from Doria Brown at a New England Women in Energy and Environment (NEWIEE) event. Deana Dennis grew up in New Hampshire, and has worked in energy nationally, and is very excited to invest the next chapter of her life and career in New Hampshire working at CPCNH.

#### 16. Adjournment

Secretary Oxenham moved to adjourn. Director Sweet Seconded. Hearing no objection, Chair Below declared the meeting adjourned at 11:54am.



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