

# **EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE – APPROVED MINUTES**

Meeting Type: **Executive Committee** 

Meeting Location: Council Chambers, Lebanon City Hall, 51 N. Park St.,

Lebanon NH 03766

Meeting: Thursday, June 8, 2023
Meeting Time: Noticed for 10:00 AM

CPCNH Executive Committee, Elected 4/21/23			
<u>Member</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Office</u>	Present/Absent
Lebanon	Clifton Below	Chair	Present
Portsmouth	Kevin Charette	Vice Chair	Present (virtual)
Plainfield	Evan Oxenham	Secretary	Present
Enfield	Kimberly Quirk	Treasurer	Present
Rye	Lisa Sweet		Present (virtual)

Also Attending: Brian Callnan, CEO; Member Representative Bill Baber; Consultant Golding; Consultant Herndon; Attorney Postar; Ms. Bagchi, Calpine

## **MINUTES**

1. Call to Order, quorum check, agenda review

Chair Below called the meeting to order at 10:02am.

2. Approve Minutes of 4/3/23 Meeting

Treasurer Quirk moved to approve the minutes of the 4/3/23 meeting. Secretary Oxenham seconded. Hearing no objection, Chair Below declared the minutes approved by unanimous consent.

3. Consider Chair Recommendation to Intervene in NH PUC Docket No. 23- 039, Liberty Request for Change in Distribution Rates:

Petitions for Intervention are due on Friday 6/9/23. Aside from proposing an increase in distribution rates of 6.2% for residential customers and 28.6% for small businesses, there are numerous issues that are relevant to Coalition Members served by Liberty:

- A plan for performance-based distribution rate adjustments including proposed performance metrics (this could the first such plan approved)
- A plan for Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI) deployment
- An update and expansion of 3-part Time-of-Use Rates, including enabling whole house TOU rates
- Implementation of BYOB (Bring Your Own Battery) program

Treasurer Quirk moved to authorize CPCNH to intervene in NH PUC DE 23-039, Liberty Request for Change in Distribution Rates, and to authorize the Chair and CEO to represent CPCNH in the docket. Director Sweet seconded. Motion carried unanimously on a rollcall vote 5-0.

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### 4. Quick updates from CEO, Treasurer, and Committee & Regulatory work

CEO Callnan noted there is a variance between the forecasted load and the actual reported load and that he is working with Calpine, Ascend, and Consultant Golding to fully understand the cause of the variance. The Committee discussed possible explanations for the variance. CPCNH now has separate DUNS+4 numbers for all CPCNH CPAs, so settlements will be tracked by municipality.

Treasurer Quirk noted that all payments are being moved to the River City Bank from the Mascoma Bank. CEO Callnan and Treasurer Quirk are speaking with MCE about a chart of accounts. Payroll accounting is being added to Quickbooks in order to pay new CPCNH employees. The Finance Committee is still looking for an accounting firm. CPCNH is working with Primex compliance and tax matters. CPCNH is setting up its reserve account with River City Bank.

Chair Below noted that CPCNH has participated in Public Utilities Commission technical sessions for the Purchase of Receivables (POR) Dockets, one for each utility. The Committee discussed the various important regulatory proceedings which CPCNH is a party to which, in addition to the three POR Dockets, include DE 22-076 which relates to animating retail market competition and innovation for demand response and distributed energy resources, the "Jurisdictional Issue" with regard to development of community scale generation, storage, and virtual power plant projects, and others.

Director Sweet, Chair of Member Outreach and Engagement Committee, described the developing situation for resourcing Member Services and Community Engagement as it related to staffing, potential adjustments to the Clean Energy NH agreement, conversations with Resilient Buildings Group to supplement CPCNH Community Engagement requirements, work on an extension to the B-Fresh contract for public relations services, and the upcoming expiration of the Herndon Enterprises agreement.

#### 5. Amendments to the Ascend Analytics Contract

The Committee discussed amendments to Ascend Contract relating to appropriately adjusting the provisions regarding the Letter of Credit and an update to the notice provision in the contract. Attorney Postar noted that the Executive Committee could authorize the CEO to finalize and execute these amendments as they do not affect the budget.

Treasurer Quirk moved to authorize CEO Callnan to finalize and execute the amendments to the Ascend Analytics contract consistent with what has been described in this meeting. Seconded by Vice Chair Charette. The motion was carried unanimously on a rollcall vote 5-0.

## 6. Begin Discussion of Performance Metrics for Annual Evaluation of CEO:

The CPCNH employment contract provides that the evaluation of the CEO and his Annual bonus be "based on progress toward and realization of performance goals to be established by mutual agreement between Executive and the Executive Committee during the first three months of Executive's Employment Term."

By mid- to late-August, the Executive Committee should be prepared to present performance metrics to recommend to the Board for adoption.

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The Committee and CEO brainstormed potential performance metrics organized into categories with at least one item or metric in each, perhaps with both qualitative and quantitative metrics, and perhaps both with near-term, medium-term, and long-term metrics:

• Financial / cost-based

- Offering a basic default product that beats the utility default price
- Customer / communities
- Operational efficiency and effectiveness / vendor management
- Employees / Board / People
- Strategic / growth / policy / regulatory / external relations / market reform
  - Working with utilities to allow service for innovative rates and services, (e.g., net metering; net meter custom REC services)
- Policy Compliance (EPRM)
- Renewable energy / environmental / carbon emissions
- Projects

The Committee generally agreed with the wisdom of limiting the number of goals.

CEO Callnan noted the importance of putting in place strong structures and staff as immediate priorities, and suggested focusing short-term on those goals to set the organization up with a strong foundation for longer-term success for more transformational goals.

#### 7. Planning for June Board Meeting and July Membership & Board Meetings

With regard to the discussion of establishing a Projects Committee, the Executive Committee discussed the following. Chair Below noted that CPCNH prevailing on the "Jurisdictional Issue" with regard to developing intra-state sub 5 megawatt projects as load reducers was essentially a prerequisite for successful project development. Member Representative Jeffrey Quackenbush noted CPCNH was positioned to be an off-taker of power from projects and also to provide and enable demand response and battery storage, and the goal would be to maximize flexibility for CPCNH to take advantage all such opportunities. Consultant Golding suggested the Project Committee could coordinate across Finance, Regulatory and Legislative Affairs, and Risk Management Committees with regard to their various roles in Projects. Member Representative Quackenbush and Consultant Golding agreed to follow up offline to further the effort to establish a Projects Committee.

#### 8. Adjournment

Treasurer Quirk moved to adjourn. Secretary Oxenham seconded. Hearing no objection, Chair Below declared the meeting adjourned at 11:23pm.

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