

**Minutes for the
Board of Lowell Light & Power's
Regular Meeting – June 18, 2025**

I. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL:

The meeting was called to order by Vice Chairperson Fonger at 6:02 p.m., and General Manager West called the roll.

Present: Perry Beachum, Craig Fonger, Daniel Crawford, and Andrew Schrauben

Absent: Tina Cadwallader

Also Present: General Manager Charlie West, Distribution Manager Zac Walker, Generation Superintendent Casey Mier, and Office Manager Julie Stewart

It was MOVED BY CRAWFORD, SUPPORTED BY SCHRAUBEN, to excuse Tina Cadwallader's absence.

Yea: 4 Nay: 0 Absent: 1 Motion Carried

II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

It was MOVED BY CRAWFORD, SUPPORTED BY SCHRAUBEN, to approve the agenda as presented.

Yea: 4 Nay: 0 Absent: 1 Motion Carried

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

It was MOVED BY CRAWFORD, SUPPORTED BY FONGER, to approve the May 13, 2025 Regular Board Meeting Minutes as presented.

Yea: 4 Nay: 0 Absent: 1 Motion Carried

It was MOVED BY CRAWFORD, SUPPORTED BY FONGER, to approve the May 27, 2025 Special Called Board Meeting Minutes as presented.

Yea: 4 Nay: 0 Absent: 1 Motion Carried

IV. SAFETY MOMENT:

Office Manager Stewart gave a safety moment on ways to save energy in the summer.

V. PUBLIC COMMENTS (for items not on the agenda):

There was no public comment.

VI. ACTION ITEMS:

A. Consideration of Additional Pension and Equipment Replacement Contributions:

Based on an internal staff review of financial metrics as the fiscal year comes to an end, staff identified a total of \$350,000 in flexible funds and identified the MERS Surplus Division and Equipment Replacement Fund as areas of need. Staff recommended making a one-time contribution of \$100,000 to the MERS Surplus Division and a one-time contribution to the Equipment Replacement Fund of \$100,000, allowing the remaining \$150,000 to be brought forward for FY 2026 capital spending.

It was MOVED BY CRAWFORD, SUPPORTED BY FONGER, to authorize a one-time contribution of \$100,000 to the MERS Surplus Division and a one-time contribution to the Equipment Replacement Fund of \$100,000.

Yea: 4 Nay: 0 Absent: 1 Motion Carried

B. FY 26 Capital Project Transformer Order Authorizations:

Staff evaluated transformer units required to support project execution as outlined in the approved capital budget. Walker supplied the board with quotes from Resco and T&R Electric Supply Company.

Staff recommended that the board approve the ERMCO transformers order from Resco in the amount of \$132,760. Staff also recommended that the board approve the T&R transformer order in the amount of \$63,420. These recommendations exceed the approved budget by \$16,180.00, bringing the total to \$196,180.

It was MOVED BY CRAWFORD, SUPPORTED BY FONGER, to authorize to proceed with the ERMCO transformer order from Resco in the amount of \$132,760.

Yea: 4 Nay: 0 Absent: 1 Motion Carried

It was MOVED BY CRAWFORD, SUPPORTED BY FONGER, to authorize to proceed with the T&R transformer order in the amount of \$63,420.

Yea: 4 Nay: 0 Absent: 1 Motion Carried

C. FY 26 Capital Project Material Order Authorizations:

To support the completion of previously approved projects and maintain adequate stock for emergencies and routine operations, staff is recommending the purchase of essential materials. In accordance with LL&P procurement procedures, bids were solicited from three qualified vendors and made

recommendations after evaluation of all received bids. Walker supplied the board with quotes from Irby and Power Line Supply.

Staff recommended approval of the Irby parts order for #2 underground primary wire, totaling \$40,500.00. In addition, staff recommended approval of the Power Line Supply order for multiple parts, totaling \$26,380.51.

It was MOVED BY CRAWFORD, SUPPORTED BY FONGER, to authorize to proceed with the Irby parts order for #2 underground primary wire, totaling \$40,500.00.

Yea: 4 Nay: 0 Absent: 1 Motion Carried

It was MOVED BY CRAWFORD, SUPPORTED BY FONGER, to authorize to proceed with the Power Line Supply order for multiple parts, totaling \$26,380.51.

Yea: 4 Nay: 0 Absent: 1 Motion Carried

D. Verdantes Engineering Services Proposal – Electric System Study and 5-Year Capital Plan:

Distribution Manager Walker and Generation Superintendent Mier supplied the board with a proposal from Verdantas (formerly GRP Engineering) for an Electric System Study and 5 Year Plan, to analyze the electric distribution system and its future load growth and aging infrastructure. Staff recommended to approve the Verdantas proposal from 5/28/25 totaling \$67,950.

It was MOVED BY CRAWFORD, SUPPORTED BY SCHRAUBEN, to approve the Verdantas proposal for an Electric System Study and 5 Year Plan, totaling \$67,950.

Yea: 4 Nay: 0 Absent: 1 Motion Carried

E. Public Act 229 – State Program Decision:

Regarding PA 229 Energy Waste Reduction law compliance, West provided the board a program comparison between the MPPA and State programs, reviewing the differences, benefits, and risks of both programs. If the board would like to participate in the state’s program, official notice would need to be provided by the end of June.

Based on the overall cost, the amount of funds returned to our customers, and the confidence in our ability to work with MPPA’s implementor, staff recommended participation in the MPPA EWR program. Since the board agreed following the presentation, no formal action was required at this time.

F. FY 2026 Board Meeting Dates:

West proposed the following Regular Board Meeting dates for Fiscal Year 2026, to follow the typical Tuesday after the second Monday of each month, with the exemption of September due to staff commitments:

- Tuesday, July 15, 2025
- Tuesday, August 12, 2025
- Tuesday, September 16, 2025*
- Tuesday, October 14, 2025
- Tuesday, November 11, 2025
- Tuesday, December 9, 2025
- Tuesday, January 13, 2026
- Tuesday, February 10, 2026
- Tuesday, March 10, 2026
- Tuesday, April 14, 2026
- Tuesday, May 12, 2026
- Tuesday, June 9, 2026

It was MOVED BY FONGER, SUPPORTED BY CRAWFORD, to approve the proposed FY 2026 Board of Lowell Light and Power Meeting dates.

Yea: 4 Nay: 0 Absent: 1 Motion Carried

G. General Manager Review – Closed Session:

It was MOVED BY SCHRAUBEN, SUPPORTED BY FONGER, to go into closed session, pursuant to MCL 15.268(a), for the General Manager’s evaluation at 7:32 p.m.

Roll Call Vote:

Yea: Beachum, Fonger, Crawford, and Schrauben

Nay: None Absent: Cadwallader Motion Carried

It was MOVED BY SCHRAUBEN, SUPPORTED BY FONGER, to come out of closed session at 10:00 p.m.

Roll Call Vote:

Yea: Beachum, Fonger, Crawford, and Schrauben

Nay: None Absent: Cadwallader Motion Carried

It was MOVED BY CRAWFORD, SUPPORTED BY FONGER, to increase the General Manager’s annual salary by 8% and increase the car allowance by \$25 a month.

Roll Call Vote:

Yea: Beachum, Fonger, Crawford, and Schrauben

Nay: None Absent: Cadwallader Motion Carried

VII. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS:

- A. **Performance Data:** West reported on the May 2025 data.
- B. **Monthly Outage Report:** Walker reported on the four outages in May 2025.
- C. **Income Statement:** West reported on the May 2025 Income Statement.
- D. **Capital Projects Report:** West reported on the May 2025 Capital Projects Report.
- E. **Distribution Report:** Walker provided written updates to the board on Distribution department progress.
- F. **Generation Report:** Mię provided written updates to the board on Generation department progress.
- G. **Office Report:** Stewart provided written updates to the board on Office department progress.
- H. **Manager's Report:** West provided written updates to the Board on the following items:
 - MPPA/MMEA/APPA Update
 - Safety Update
 - Low-Income Energy Assistance Program
 - Employee Insurance Update
 - MI Solar for All Grant
 - FROM Groundbreaking
 - Bushnell Visit
 - Cybersecurity Training
 - Work Anniversaries
- I. **Schedule of Meetings:** June/July was presented.
- J. **Supplemental Information:** West provided supplemental information to the Board on the following items:
 - Sales and Cash & Investments Performance Data Charts
 - Benevolence Report
 - Full Income Statement
 - May Payables

VIII. NEXT REGULAR LL&P BOARD MEETING: Scheduled for Tuesday, July 15, 2025 at the Energy Center.

IX. BOARD COMMENT:

Schrauben congratulated Steve on his 8th anniversary, thanked Julie for filling in for Megan, and thanked Zac for stepping into the role. Fonger thanked the team for being proactive. Crawford also congratulated Steve on his anniversary and expressed appreciation over the addition of department reports. Beachum thanked department heads for taking the time to write statements for the General Manager review. Schrauben also expressed his appreciation for Perry reaching outside the company for General Manager comments and thanked Charlie for all that he does. Fonger echoed his appreciation for comments outside the company, and expressed how honored he is to be a part of the LL&P board and to work with Charlie. Crawford thanked Tina for sending

her comments since she couldn't attend and stressed the importance of the General Manager review. Beachum thanked Charlie for everything he does, and thanked Tina for her comments.

X. ADJOURNMENT

It was MOVED BY CRAWFORD, SUPPORTED BY SCHRAUBEN to adjourn the Regular Board Meeting at 10:05 p.m.

Yea: 4 Nay: 0 Absent: 1 Motion Carried

PERRY BEACHUM
Chairperson Beachum

7/15/2025
Date