

**Minutes for the  
Board of Lowell Light & Power's  
Regular Meeting – April 14, 2026**

**I. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL:**

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Beachum at 6:01 p.m., and General Manager West called the roll.

**Present:** Perry Beachum, Craig Fonger, Daniel Crawford, Tina Cadwallader (arrived at 6:17 p.m.) and Andrew Schrauben (arrived at 6:17 p.m.)

**Absent:** None

**Also Present:** General Manager Charlie West, City Council Liaison Jim Salzwedel, Generation Superintendent Casey Mier, Office Manager Julie Stewart, Distribution Manager Zac Walker (arrived at 6:38 p.m.)

It was MOVED BY FONGER, SUPPORTED BY CRAWFORD, to excuse Tina Cadwallader and Andrew Schrauben's absence.

Yea: 3          Nay: 0          Absent: 2          Motion Carried

**II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA:**

West proposed changes to the agenda: item (E) Special Recognition was added to action items.

It was MOVED BY CRAWFORD, SUPPORTED BY FONGER, to approve the agenda as amended.

Yea: 3          Nay: 0          Absent: 2          Motion Carried

**III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

It was MOVED BY CRAWFORD, SUPPORTED BY FONGER, to approve the March 10, 2026 Regular Board Meeting Minutes.

Yea: 3          Nay: 0          Absent: 2          Motion Carried

**IV. SAFETY MOMENT:**

West presented a safety moment regarding spring cleaning fire safety.

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

There was no public comment.

**VI. ACTION ITEMS:**

**A. Lowell Art – Mural Discussion:**

General Manager West introduced the Director of Lowell Arts, Janet Teunis who was present to discuss the mural that is planned to be displayed on the south end of the LL&P office building. Janet described the mural process with the board and the timeline of choosing the artist, planning the design, and execution.

No action was taken.

**B. Introduction to The Pool:**

General Manager West discussed the change in moving the employee benefits package to Gallagher Benefit Services and moving the employee health insurance to The Pool Western Michigan Health Insurance. West described the advantages to the switch. West introduced Chris Glass from Gallagher Benefit Services brokerage firm to discuss the change. Following a presentation on the Pool, West requested consensus support to update LL&P's Agent of Record to Gallagher. West indicated that updating the Agent of Record did not require board approval, but the specific benefit plans would need to be approved during the May board meeting.

No action was taken.

**C. Social Media Policy:**

General Manager West presented the board with the current LL&P social media Policy as well as the new Policy drafted by LL&P's legal counsel. The new Policy was proposed by West and staff to be a stand-alone policy.

It was MOVED BY FONGER, SUPPORTED BY CADWALLADER, to approve Policy Chapter 7: Social Media Policy as presented and direct staff to update the employee handbook to reflect the new policy.

Yea: 5                  Nay: 0                  Absent: 0                  Motion Carried

**D. Customer Survey Update:**

General Manager West provided the board with information on the focus of this year's customer survey on affordability and customer experience. No action was taken.

**E. Special Recognition:**

The board recognized and congratulated Beachum for 20 years of service on the LL&P board. West and Stewart presented a special metal photo of the City of Lowell.

**VII. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS:**

- A. Performance Data:** West reported on the March 2026 data.
- B. 2025 MPPA Business and Credit Risk Assessment:** West presented a summary of the report.
- C. Monthly Outage Report:** Walker reported on two outages and a pole replacement with mutual aid assistance in March 2026.
- D. Income Statement:** West reported on the March 2026 Income Statement.
- E. Capital Projects Report:** West reported on the March 2026 Capital Projects Report.
- F. Distribution Report:** Walker provided written updates to the board on Distribution department progress.
- G. Generation & Engineering Report:** Mier provided written updates to the board on Generation department progress.
- H. Office Report:** Stewart provided written updates to the board on Office department progress.
- I. Manager's Report:** West provided written updates to the Board on the following items:
  - MPPA/MMEA/APPA Update
  - Open Position Filled
  - Safety Update
  - MPPA Stakeholder Meeting
  - NISC
  - Lineman Appreciation Dinner
  - Adopt-A-Road
  - Free Tree Giveaway
  - Loss-Prevention Visit
  - Solar Interconnection Review
  - Work Anniversaries
- J. Monthly Pictures:** Staff provided photos to the board of events over the last month.
- K. Schedule of Meetings:** April/May was presented.
- L. 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
  - March Payables

**VIII. CLOSED SESSION – MCL 15.268 (1)(c) – Labor Negotiations:**

It was MOVED BY CRAWFORD, SUPPORTED BY FONGER, to go into closed session, pursuant to MCL 15.268 (1)(c), to discuss Labor Negotiations at 8:29 p.m.

Roll Call Vote:

Yea: Beachum, Fonger, Schrauben, Crawford, and Cadwallader

Nay: 0                  Absent: 0                  Motion Carried

It was MOVED BY FONGER, SUPPORTED BY CRAWFORD, to come out of closed session at 9:28 p.m.

Yea: 5                  Nay: 0                  Absent: 0                  Motion Carried

**IX. NEXT REGULAR LL&P BOARD MEETING:** Scheduled for Tuesday, May 12, 2026, at the Energy Center.

**X. BOARD COMMENT:**

Salzwedel mentioned the city is working on their budget and there is a touch-a-truck event coming up. Schrauben apologized for being late and congratulated Beachum on his 20 years of service. Cadwallader apologized for being late and expressed appreciation for the LL&P staff. Crawford congratulated Lisa on her new baby and Charlie for his position at MPPA. Fonger congratulated Lisa on her new baby and Perry on his 20 years of service. Beachum thanked everyone for the recognition of his service and mentioned a road clean up on April 25<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 am.

**XI. ADJOURNMENT**

It was MOVED BY CRAWFORD, SUPPORTED BY SCHRAUBEN to adjourn the Regular Board Meeting at 9:29 p.m.

Yea: 5                  Nay: 0                  Absent: 0                  Motion Carried

*Perry Beachum*  
Perry Beachum (May 12, 2026 20:51:02 EDT)  
Chairperson Beachum

05/12/26  
Date