

EEC Meeting Minutes March 12, 2014

Present: Charlie Case, Ben Brickett, Ed Henningsen. Monique Lillis

Guests: Jack Murphy, Grant Hirst

Call to order: 4:30 PM, Adjourned 5:30 PM



A. December, January and February Meeting minutes approved

B. Briefing on Proposed Billing Change for Net Metered Installations – Monique reported that Central Maine Power has proposed a rate change to the Maine Public Utilities Commission to base the distribution part of its bill on fixed costs rather than customers' usage. CMP claims they are losing revenue from alternate energy installations. (Note that CMP's financial reports show a 2013 profit margin of over 20% without the change). The issue for the Town of Eliot is a proposed surcharge, or standby rate, that would be charged to customers with on-site power generation who still need access to the grid, regardless of the size of an installation. The Maine Independent Colleges Association has prepared a paper that refutes CMP's financial claims. Monique attends Bowdoin College which is in the process of installing a large solar electric array on the site of the former Brunswick Naval Air Station. This rate change if approved by the PUC would significantly increase their generation cost. We agreed that several EEC members would attend State Rep Bobbi Beavers open discussion on Saturday to get her support. Bobbi is a member of the committee that oversees the PUC. There are two PUC public hearings on the subject on April 2 and 3. Monique expects to attend one of those with a large group from Bowdoin.

C. Review of BOS/Budget Committee Presentation and Develop Follow Up Plans – We discussed follow up to the Feb 25 presentation and agreed that Ed would prepare an updated priority list of energy savings initiatives for buildings that we could discuss and report back to Dana Lee.

D. Review of Draft EEC 2013 Report – Charlie reviewed the draft 2013 draft report. Suggestions will be incorporated and the report will be submitted.

*Approved Aug 13, 2014*

*C.A. Case*