

**Efficiency Maine Trust**  
**Board Meeting Minutes**  
**April 25, 2012**  
**DRAFT**

**Trust Board Members**

+ Naomi Mermin, Chair	+ Ken Fletcher
+ James Atwell, Vice Chair	+ Doug Smith
+ Glenn Poole, Treasurer	+ Adam Lee
+ Al Hodsdon, Secretary	+ John Rohman

**Efficiency Maine Trust Staff:**

- Michael Stoddard
- Peter Roehrig
- Karen Bickerman
- Rick Meinking
- Andy Meyer
- Elizabeth Crabtree
- Dana Fischer
- Ian Burnes

**Partial List of Other Attendees:**

- Dylan Voorhees
- Doug Baston
- Nick Adams
- Scott Hambric
- Beth Nagusky
- Matt Holden

**1.0 Approve Draft Agenda and Minutes**

Naomi Mermin called the meeting to order at 9:40A.M.

**ACTION:** Upon a motion duly made (Mr. Rohman) and seconded (Mr. Hodsdon) the Board voted unanimously to approve the agenda for this meeting.

**ACTION:** Upon a motion duly made (Mr. Atwell) and seconded (Mr. Lee) the Board voted unanimously to approve the minutes from the March 28, 2012 meetings, with an amendment recognizing that John Rohman attended the meeting.

**2.0 Public Comment**

Beth Nagusky from Environment Northeast spoke to how much she's enjoyed working with the EMT staff at the PUC on non-transmission alternatives to avoid the need for the installation of a transmission line in the Boothbay area. Ms Nagusky also spoke to

ongoing discussions at the PUC surrounding the potential to incorporate efficiency considerations into transmission rate cases and avoid additional costs to ratepayers.

Mr Hodsdon asked for clarification as to whether this is to replace existing lines or upgrade with new lines. Ms. Nagusky clarified that this may work to avoid upgrades and Mr Stoddard confirmed that you may have some reduction in use of a substation which would allow the utility company to lengthen life of their infrastructure. Mr Baston added that a number of utilities in southern New England have had success at extending the life of transmission resources through energy efficiency investments.

### **3.0 Executive Director Report**

Michael Stoddard, Efficiency Maine's Executive Director, recognized Karen Bickerman, Administrative Assistant for the Trust, for her consistent dedication on behalf of the Trust.

Mr. Stoddard reviewed the final status of multiple legislative bills that had been discussed at the prior board meeting and, in particular, noted that LD1864 (directly impacting the Trust) had been enacted into law.

Mr. Stoddard discussed the launch of the new residential loan program (PowerSaver) that enables EMT to expand financing for homeowners statewide and to provide insurance on the loans. It is a complement to the existing Maine PACE Loans program and provides customers with more options. The launch enjoyed good press coverage including print, TV and radio. Mr. Stoddard recognized EMT Staff Peter Roehrig and Paul Badeau for organizing a successful launch event.

Mr. Stoddard reported on the Trust's work on the development of a non-transmission alternative (NTA) pilot with the Maine PUC and other stakeholders. Mr. Atwell asked if CMP is supportive of this program. Mr Stoddard confirmed that they have generally been supportive of the pilot itself. Mr. Stoddard indicated that a similar pilot is likely to emerge in the near future in the greater Portland region, where there could be some interesting opportunities for the Trust to further promote energy efficiency and customer-sited renewable energy.

Mr. Stoddard noted that the Trust is on pace to hit or come very close to our program targets, with the exception of our refrigerator recycling program. Staff is projecting a budget carry forward due to the fact that it is a 2-year program and the first year was slow in getting launched. Mr. Stoddard also reported that loan demand has picked up and the aggregate residential loan activity for weatherization is approaching \$4.5 million in value. Mr. Lee asked if we know why loans have been declined and added that the declined loan applicants are a significant pool of potential targets for the Trust to go back to and target. Mr. Rohman continues to be favorably impressed with success of this program and asked how we are doing in relation to other states. Mr. Stoddard reported that national energy officials continue to be impressed with our results and that we have the potential to become the national leader in the number of PowerSaver Loans closed.

Mr. Stoddard discussed the business incentive program and reported that the Trust had made an award resulting from a competitive RFP to TRC Energy to implement and manage our multifamily program.

Referencing the year-to-date results of the Business Program's initiative to promote variable frequency drives (VFD) contained in the Executive Director's Report, Mr. Hodsdon reported that he is now more supportive of technology given his understanding of the advances in efficiency gains.

#### **4.0 Working Reports**

##### **1. Finance Committee Meeting**

Mr. Fletcher reported the recommendation of the Finance Committee to award a contract to Macdonald Page to provide audit services to the Trust as the result of a competitive RFP process.

ACTION: Upon a motion duly made (Mr. Fletcher) and seconded (Mr. Rohman), the Board voted unanimously to award the contract to Macdonald Page to conduct the Trust's independent audit for FY 2011.

Mr. Stoddard reported out that the Staff is seeking to update the signature card listing authorized signers for the Trust's accounts at Camden National Bank.

ACTION: Upon a motion duly made (Mr. Atwell) and seconded (Mr. Smith) to approve, the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion, with John Rohman abstaining.

Mr. Stoddard also gave notice that Staff intends to present a FY 2013 budget for approval at the next board meeting.

##### **2. Strategic Planning Committee Meeting**

Mr. Atwell reported that the Committee had a productive meeting and continues making progress on framing for the development of a new Triennial Plan proposal. He also reported the Committee recommendation to renew the Trust's annual membership dues Consortium for Energy Efficiency's (CEE).

ACTION: Upon a motion duly made (Ms. Mermin) and seconded (Mr. Hodsdon), the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion to authorize the Executive Director to approve payment of annual membership dues for CEE.

Mr. Stoddard pointed out that EMT has limited itself to seeking membership status where it sees a good return on investment based on a direct nexus to the Trust's mission and deliverables. Mr. Fletcher asked whether we are looking fully at whether we are paying for membership with other organizations in which there is overlap and potential savings opportunities. Mr. Stoddard confirmed that we have looked at this.

Mr. Smith wants us to do a quantitative analysis to confirm whether we are getting our value out of our memberships. Ms. Mermin agreed and asked Staff to develop a specific screen by which to project the potential value of any proposed membership (or sponsorship) prior to approving the Trust's participation.

Mr. Stoddard also noted Trust memberships to regional chambers of commerce, which the Board had earlier approved, and recommended to the Board that we should also hold them to the same standard. Ms. Mermin commented that the Chambers are a valuable channel to get the word out for our programs and recommended that Staff come back to Board with analysis of value from memberships.

## **5.0 Presentation**

### **1. Independent Evaluations for Residential Lighting Program and the Large Project Grant Program**

Andy Meyer, Efficiency Maine's Program Manager for Residential Programs, delivered the results of the independent evaluation conducted by Cadmus on the Residential Lighting Program. Ian Burnes presented the results of the independent evaluation, conducted by Navigant, on the Large Project Grant's Program. Both showed excellent cost-effectiveness results and recommended continuing the programs. Discussion covered the limitations of the methodology for assessing free ridership, ways in which free ridership might be reduced, and methods for accurately determining hours of operation.

## **6.0 New Business**

No new business.

## **7.0 Next Meeting Agenda**

**ACTION:** The Board set the date to meet on May 23, 2012 at 9:30 a.m.

## **8.0 Adjournment**

**ACTION:** Upon a motion duly made (Mr. Fletcher) and seconded (Mr. Hodsdon) the Board voted unanimously to adjourn at 12:30 p.m.