

**Efficiency Maine Trust
Board Meeting Minutes
December 16, 2015**

Trust Board Members:

- David Barber, Chair
- Kenneth Fletcher, Vice-Chair
- Donald Lewis, Secretary
- Al Hodsdon
- Patrick Woodcock
- Margaret Bean for John Gallagher

Efficiency Maine Trust (EMT) Staff:

- Ian Burnes
- Emily Cushman
- Peter Eglinton
- Dana Fischer
- Greg Leclair
- Anne Stephenson
- Michael Stoddard

Other Attendees:

- Will Beck, MEMA
- Bill Bell, MPFA

1.0 Welcome and Introductions

Mr. Barber called the meeting to order at 9:31 a.m.

2.0 Approve Agenda and Minutes

ACTION: Upon a motion duly made (Mr. Lewis) and seconded (Mr. Hodsdon), the Board voted unanimously to approve the draft agenda and approve the November Board Meeting Minutes.

3.0 Public Comment on Agenda Items

Mr. Bell shared that he recently installed two heat pumps in his new home.

4.0 Executive Director's Report

Mr. Stoddard summarized and distributed copies of the Executive Director's Report. Following are items that he highlighted during his presentation:

- Welcoming Emily Cushman to Efficiency Maine. Ms. Cushman worked most recently at the Office of Management and Budget for the City of New York.
- Outreach for the Home Energy Savings Program and natural gas incentives for homeowners and businesses.

- Mr. Woodcock asked a clarification on the available budget for natural gas utility customers. Mr. Woodcock suggested that program activity should be monitored closely in case the current low cost of heating fuels impacts participation levels.
- The Business Incentive program has added a number of heating and heating control measures and is on track to invest its share of the RGGI budget by year-end.
- The Large Customer Program has increased outreach efforts.
- The Consumer Products program continues to expand its LED offerings (including specialty bulbs) relative to CFL bulbs.
- Innovation pilot RFPs will be launched soon.
 - Mr. Woodcock asked for an update about the Forward Capacity Market. Mr. Stoddard suggested given the complexity of the topic, it would be good to address this in a future Program Committee meeting. Mr. Fletcher noted that the Trust has been taking a conservative approach in making FCM bids.

5.0 Committee Report

(a) Finance Committee

i. UPDATE on Revenues and Expenditures Year-to-Date

Mr. Stoddard provided an overview of the revenues and expenditures. Mr. Stoddard added that the Staff is watching the budget closely and is evaluating if program design changes might be indicated in order to invest fully the remaining budget.

ii. APPROVE FY2016 Budget Adjustments

Mr. Stoddard and Mr. Woodcock provided an overview of the budget adjustments and the recommendation of the Finance Committee.

ACTION: Upon a motion duly made (Mr. Lewis) and seconded (Mr. Hodsdon), the Board voted unanimously to approve the transfer of \$603,276 from Multifamily Retrofits to the Business Incentive Program, and the transfer of \$556,508 from RGGI Unallocated Fund Balance to the Business Incentive Program.

(b) Program Committee

i. UPDATE on Natural Gas Study

Mr. Stoddard provided an update on the Trust's "Study to Evaluate Cost-Effective Natural Gas Conservation and Efficiency Improvements for Large Volume Consumers." LD 946 Resolve established a 1-year moratorium on

assessing the conservation charge on large volume consumers of natural gas; it also asked the Trust to study alternatives for promoting and securing natural gas conservation and efficiency improvements for these large volume users. The Resolve further directed the Trust to submit a report with recommendations to the Legislature.

Mr. Stoddard briefed the Board on the study. He reported that Staff had met with key users as well as with the natural gas utilities to seek their input. He also summarized the findings of the natural gas efficiency study. That study found potential cost-effective energy efficiency in excess of the amount achievable at current funding levels.

Mr. Stoddard presented options for the Board's consideration:

1. Make no recommendation;
2. Recommend that Legislature consider options for assessment; or
3. Recommend one or more of the following options:
 - a. Extend moratorium as is for 2 years
 - b. Exempt only power plans and extend moratorium on others.

Mr. Barber said that exempting power plants was logical and suggested that the moratorium be extended while the Trust works with the large consumers to plan efficiency projects. Mr. Woodcock asked if other Large Customer Program funds would be available to these customers. Mr. Fletcher suggested that the Legislature or the Trust convene a working group of the large volume users in order to continue to identify energy efficiency opportunities and best practices.

ACTION: Upon a motion duly made (Mr. Lewis) and seconded (Mr. Hodsdon), the Board voted unanimously to present a recommendation in the Natural Gas Study to extend the moratorium for two years.

ii. UPDATE on Demand Response Study

Mr. Stoddard provided a brief overview of the Demand Response Study requested by the Legislature as part of LD 357, "Resolve, To Study Options for a State Demand Response Program." The Trust has convened a working group to explore the current ISO-managed demand response program and options for creating a state or regional demand response program. The ISO-managed program is the subject of a current U.S. Supreme Court challenge. Mr. Burnes added that the working group has found that little definitive action is possible in advance of that decision; the study will focus instead on why participation in the current program has dropped and how demand response programs should be working. Mr. Stoddard added that the group has also been discussing aggregating smaller demand response resources. Mr. Burnes suggested that a regional program would be the best fit for potential

participants in Maine since there is a larger demand for demand response at the regional level.

6.0 New Business

Mr. Stoddard mentioned that a discussion about amending the bylaws -- to clarify that notice of Board meetings can be made on the Trust's website and also to allow for remote participation by Board members in Board meetings -- will be on the agenda for the next Board meeting.

Mr. Woodcock requested that the complete Triennial Plan III filing be sent to the Board.

7.0 Next Meeting Agenda and Scheduling

The next Board meeting will be scheduled over email.

ACTION: Upon a motion duly made (Mr. Lewis) and seconded (Mr. Hodsdon), the Board voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 12:15 p.m.