

**Efficiency Maine Trust
Board Meeting Minutes
March 27, 2019**

Trust Board Members:

- David Barber
- Brent Boyles, Treasurer (via phone)
- Dan Brennan, MaineHousing
- Herbert Crosby, Secretary (via phone)
- Ken Fletcher
- Al Hodsdon, Vice-Chair
- Lisa Smith, Governor's Energy Office (GEO)
- David Stapp, Chair

Efficiency Maine Trust (EMT) Staff:

- Nat Blackford
- Peter Eglinton
- Bridget Doxsee
- Monte Haynes
- Anastasia Hediger
- Greg Leclair
- Michael Stoddard

Other Attendees:

- Jay Allen, Landlord
- Todd Gandler, CLEAResult
- Melissa Landry, Maine Auto Dealers Association
- Michelle Marean, DNV GL

1. Welcome and Introductions

Mr. Stapp called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m.

2. Approve Agenda and Minutes

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

3. Public Comment on Agenda Items

None.

4. Executive Director's Report

Mr. Stoddard summarized the Executive Director's Report. Following are items highlighted during his presentation:

- The press has covered the next phase of Electric Vehicle Supply Equipment (EVSE) initiative, with a Request for Proposals (RFP) for level 2 charging stations going out soon. On a related note, the Governor formally announced that the Attorney General's (AG's) office transferred \$5.1 million of Volkswagen (VW)

settlement money to EMT to promote the purchase of electric vehicles (EV) by means of rebates.

- The Trust continues to develop relationships with radio call-in programs such as Maine Calling, which give staff a valuable channel to reach customers. A recent appearance focused on home weatherization.
- EMT was mentioned in coverage of the proposed Central Maine Power (CMP) transmission line settlement. Mr. Stapp asked for more context on EMT's role. Mr. Stoddard explained that the proposed settlement includes funding for EVs, heat pumps, and low income programs. EMT is mentioned as an entity that is supposed to be consulted as to the eventual use and delivery of those settlement funds, but otherwise EMT's role is not detailed. EMT is not a party to the case and has not taken a position on the settlement or the project.
- The Maine Public Utilities Commission (PUC) held a public hearing on the Triennial Plan. A settlement proposal was briefly discussed – and supported by all intervenors – but rejected by the PUC staff. Mr. Hodsdon questioned why the PUC staff would oppose the proposal. Mr. Stoddard said that the differences surround the avoided costs and discount rates that are used to calculate the Maximum Achievable Cost Effective (MACE) budgets for electric and natural gas programs. These assumptions impact the cost effectiveness of measures; using the PUC staff's assumptions, some measures (e.g., heat pump water heaters) would no longer be cost-effective.
- Including projects in the pipeline (i.e., approved but not yet completed or paid out), the Commercial and Industrial Prescriptive (CIP) Program, has committed 69% of the funds with 66% of the year passed. The program team is managing the project pipeline to reduce the program's outstanding obligations when transitioning into the next Triennial Plan period.
- The Commercial and Industrial Custom Program (Custom) review committee met and approved 3 projects. Mr. Stapp asked if EMT was concerned with the percentage of funds expended. Mr. Stoddard explained that including commitments and pipeline, the program is running at 76% of budget.
- The Small Business Initiative (SBI) has completed almost 300 projects so far this fiscal year, compared to 257 in all of FY2018. That said, the average size of each project is smaller, which means that the program needs to engage more businesses to expend a similar level of funding.
- Rebate volumes are up in the Home Energy Savings Program (HESP) due to a combination of right-sized incentives and higher oil prices. The wood stove measure has been particularly popular compared to prior years.
- The Consumer Products Program (CPP) forecasts ending the fiscal year having completed a total of 7,700 rebates for heat pump water heaters (HPWHs).
- The Low Income Initiatives (LII) continue to focus on investing electric and natural gas funds. The direct mail initiative is seeing strong activity compared to prior years; a partnership with the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) has allowed staff to reach more eligible customers. The HPWH direct install initiative is running behind pace for the year. The program team is running a time-limited promotion to motivate plumbers to install the units in the next couple of months.

- Several innovation pilots are underway and involve testing the effectiveness of load management based on price signals. This capability is relevant for demand response activities in areas suitable for Non-Wire Alternatives (NWAs).

5. Planned Business

(a) UPDATE on Monthly Financial Reports

Mr. Leclair noted that revenues are on track. He noted the new natural gas assessment for Summit, which was ordered by PUC, and the transfer of \$5.1 million in VW settlement funds.

(b) PRESENTATION on Low-Income Multifamily Project in Lewiston

Ms. Doxsee provided background on the multifamily low-income natural gas initiative in Lewiston. To be eligible, the building must use natural gas for heat and have at least 66% of the tenants qualifying as low income. Staff had made extensive outreach efforts to find eligible properties. These efforts led to a connection with parties in Lewiston who had already made some improvements to their properties through a recent lead abatement program.

Qualifying buildings were prescreened for eligible insulation measures, and contractor services were competitively bid. All projects will be completed by the end of April. The initiative is insulating the basements of 34 buildings and the attics of 20 buildings, resulting in 158 units being improved. In addition, 100% of the tenants were found to be low income.

Mr. Allen is one of the landlords participating in the initiative. He attended the meeting and gave his perspective as a landlord who participated in the lead abatement program as well as the EMT initiative. Through the initiative he has able to upgrade basement insulation in six of his buildings.

(c) PRESENTATION on Electric Vehicle Initiatives

Mr. Stoddard updated the Board on EMT's electric vehicle (EV) initiatives. The Trust cosponsored an event at E2Tech to announce several new projects. One new project is the second phase of the electric vehicle charging stations initiative, which will consist of smaller, level 2 chargers competitively bid through an RFP process. These chargers will increase EV visibility, promote workplace and public charging, and serve local travel, commuting, and destination charging. Importantly, they will not have the same demand charge impact on their host sites as the larger level 3 chargers.

The Trust also publicly announced that it has received money from the AGs office to promote the purchase of EVs. Half of the funds will go to fleet vehicles for state, local and county vehicles or non-profits serving elderly, low-income, or special needs populations. Staff anticipates supporting approximately 100 new EVs with those funds. The other half would be used in an EV rebate program. The details of that program are still being developed. Staff anticipate drawing on the experiences and materials of EV rebate programs in other states. If the funds were used only on battery electric vehicles, the funds

could support about 900 EVs if rebates were set similar to what is offered in Massachusetts.

(d) APPROVE Motion to move into Executive Session Pursuant to 1 MRS §405(6)(F) to Discuss Two Requests for Designation of Confidential Information

Mr. Eglinton provided a brief overview of two requests to treat public records as confidential, a process that requires an Executive Session. One request was related to an awarded Custom project and the other to two proposals received from a bidder in response to two delivery team RFPs.

ACTION: Upon a motion duly made (Mr. Barber) and seconded (Mr. Hodsdon), the Board voted unanimously to move into Executive Session Pursuant to 1 MRS §405(6)(F) to Discuss Two Requests for Designation of Confidential Information.

(e) DISCUSSION of Two Requests for Designation of Confidential Information [Executive Session]

(f) APPROVE Motion to Come Out of Executive Session

ACTION: Upon a motion duly made (Mr. Barber) and seconded (Ms. Smith), the Board voted unanimously to come out of Executive Session.

(g) DECIDE Designation of Confidential Information Related to Awarded Custom Project

ACTION: Upon a motion duly made (Mr. Fletcher) and seconded (Mr. Barber), the Board voted unanimously to approve the “confidential record” designation request set forth in Mr. Weyburn’s memo, dated February 26, 2019.

(h) DECIDE Designation of Confidential Information Related to a Bidder’s Request for Designation of Confidential Information Related to Certain Proposal Information

ACTION: Upon a motion duly made (Mr. Fletcher) and seconded (Mr. Hodsdon), the Board voted unanimously to reject the “confidential record” designation request for the categories of information set forth in Robin Seifried’s memos, dated February 1, 2019 and February 11, 2019.

6. New Business

None.

7. Next Meeting Agenda and Scheduling

The next Board meeting will be held on April 24, 2019.

8. Adjourn

ACTION: Upon a motion duly made (Mr. Hodsdon) and seconded (Mr. Barber), the Board voted unanimously to adjourn the Board Meeting at 11:59 a.m.