

**Efficiency Maine Trust  
Board Meeting Minutes  
June 23, 2021**

**Trustees:**

- Dan Burgess
- Kenneth Colburn
- Heather Furth
- Mark Isaacson
- Suzanne MacDonald, Chair
- Glenn Poole, Treasurer

**Efficiency Maine Trust (EMT) Staff:**

- Ian Burnes
- Peter Eglinton
- Monte Haynes
- Anastasia Hediger
- Greg Leclair
- Laura Martel
- Kate Rankin
- Tim Reed
- Michael Stoddard
- Satchel Toole
- Lauren Trapani

**Other Attendees:**

- Al Hodsdon, former Board Chair

**1. Welcome and Introductions**

Ms. MacDonald called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m. Before the introductions, Mr. Stoddard recognized Mr. Hodsdon for his years of service on the Board.

**2. Approve Agenda and Minutes**

**ACTION:** Upon a motion duly made (Mr. Poole) and seconded (Mr. Colburn), the Board voted unanimously to approve the agenda and the May 26, 2021 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:

- EMT announced awards for Phase 3 electric vehicle (EV) fast chargers, which extend the EV charging network further east and north in the state.
- EMT received media attention for its role in providing contractor training on new building energy codes, which are being adopted by the state on July 1, 2021. Ms. MacDonald asked if EMT has worked directly with the contractor community in this way before. Ms. Stoddard responded that the Staff has worked closely with the certain trades in the contractor community in the past (e.g., electricians, plumbers, HVAC), but has less experience with contractors involved in new construction (e.g., home builders).

- EMT, in coordination with the Industrial Energy Consumer Group, Competitive Energy Services, and the Office of the Public Advocate, filed comments on a proposal to locate battery storage at Casco Bay Lines in Portland in connection with a diesel-electric hybrid ferry that was recently ordered. Mr. Stoddard described the basic elements of the proposal (including a \$1,000,000 1.3-megawatt battery intended to avoid demand charges) and commented on some pros and cons of the proposal.
- The Commercial and Industrial (C&I) Prescriptive Program continues to experience low levels of activity in the lighting and HVAC marketplace. Mr. Colburn and Mr. Isaacson commented on the fact that businesses are experiencing unprecedented difficulties in hiring, which could be a distraction from other business decisions such as energy upgrades.
- EV Initiatives has seen increasing EV rebate activity each month. Dealers have been growing inventory of eligible vehicles and are becoming more proactive in marketing the product and the EMT program. The New England Clean Energy Connect (NECEC) settlement funds will be essential in continuing to offer rebates on these vehicles.
- On June 1, EMT staff started returning to work from the office on a regular basis.
- EMT will begin its annual audit this summer.

## 5. **Planned Business**

### a) **UPDATE on Monthly Financial Reports**

Mr. LeClair reported that revenues are on track. FY2021 Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI) auction revenues came in \$3,000,000 over initial projections. The Forward Capacity Market (FCM) funds came in \$75,000 short of forecasted levels. The Dirigo funds from the NECEC settlement have not yet been remitted to EMT.

### b) **APPROVE FY2021 Budget Adjustment**

Mr. Eglinton explained that Staff would like to move \$300,000 of the Volkswagen settlement funds from the EV Supply Equipment (EVSE) budget to EV Rebates budget to help fund the significant success of the promotion for municipalities purchasing and leasing EVs this fiscal year.

**ACTION:** Upon a motion duly made (Mr. Isaacson) and seconded (Ms. Furth) the Board voted unanimously to adjust the FY2021 budget by shifting \$300,000 in Volkswagen settlement (Attorney General) funds from the EVSE budget line to EV Rebates line to support rebates for municipalities purchasing or leasing electric EVs this fiscal year.

### c) **UPDATE on the 130<sup>th</sup> Maine Legislature, First Special Session**

Mr. Stoddard provided an overview of bills from the first session of the 130<sup>th</sup> Maine

Legislature that are relevant to EMT's activities. The following were covered in Mr. Stoddard's presentation:

- LD 143 - An Act Regarding the Arrearage Management Program (AMP)
- LD 226 - An Act To Limit the Use of Hydrofluorocarbons To Fight Climate Change
- LD 340 - An Act To Allow for the Establishment of Commercial Property Assessed Clean Energy (C PACE) Programs
- LD 347 - An Act To Facilitate Maine's Climate Goals by Encouraging Use of Electric Vehicles
- LD 385 - An Act to Amend Conflicts in and Make Other Changes to the Laws Governing the Efficiency Maine Trust
- LD 528 - An Act to Advance Energy Storage in Maine
- LD 551 - An Act to Accelerate Weatherization Efforts in the State
- LD 597 - An Act to Establish the Thermal Energy Investment Program
- LD 815 - An Act to Support School Decarbonization
- LD 940 - An Act To Establish Appliance Energy and Water Standards
- LD 1554 - An Act to Provide Climate Change Transition Assistance for Maine's Energy-Intensive Businesses
- LD 1659 - An Act To Create the Maine Clean Energy and Sustainability Accelerator
- LD 1733 - An Act To Provide Allocations for the Distribution of State Fiscal Recovery Funds

#### **d) PRESENTATION on Triennial Plan V Topics**

##### **i. Commercial Lighting Baseline Study**

Ms. Martel presented an overview of the Commercial Lighting Baseline Study, conducted by Ridgeline Energy Analytics (Ridgeline). The study used program information, stakeholder input, and anecdotal insight to calculate the estimated remaining potential of upgradable lighting in the commercial sector in Maine. The results can be used to inform program decisions moving into the Trust's Triennial Plan V.

##### **ii. Residential New Construction Baseline Study**

Ms. Martel presented an overview of the Residential New Construction Baseline Study, conducted by Ridgeline. The study assessed code compliance and energy use of residential homes built between 2017 and 2020. Through site visits, Ridgeline conducted detailed measurement and verification of building envelope, HVAC systems, domestic hot water (DHW) systems, leakage, duct leakage, DHW temperature, and air temperature. The results of this study will inform EMT's residential activity moving forward.

Due to time limitations, the Board agreed to postpone agenda item 5(d)(iii) – RGGI Funding Priorities – to a future meeting.

**6. New Business**

None.

**7. Next Meeting Agenda and Scheduling**

The next Board meeting is scheduled for July 28, 2021 at 9:00 a.m.

**8. Adjourn**

**ACTION:** Upon a motion duly made (Mr. Isaacson) and seconded (Mr. Poole), the Board voted unanimously to adjourn the Board Meeting at 12:06 p.m.