

**Efficiency Maine Trust
Board Meeting Minutes
August 25, 2022**

The August meeting of the Board was conducted in person at the Trust's office at 168 Capitol Street in Augusta, Maine. The option to participate by phone and online video conferencing was also available.

Trustees

- Dan Burgess
- Dan Brennan
- Kenneth Colburn, Secretary
- Heather Furth (excused absence)
- Mark Isaacson
- Suzanne MacDonald, Chair
- Glenn Poole, Treasurer
- Chris Rauscher
- Joan Welsh, Vice Chair

Efficiency Maine Trust (EMT) Staff:

- Ian Burnes
- Peter Eglinton
- Nat Haslett
- Monte Haynes
- Hope Kohtala
- Laura Martel
- Lily McVetty
- Sheldon Perkins
- Kate Rankin
- Jesse Remillard
- Lauren Scott
- Michael Stoddard
- Joanna Vollrath

Other Attendees:

- Steve Bright
- David Korn
- Rebecca Schultz
- Jack Shapiro
- Ethan Tremblay
- Christie Whitcomb

1. Welcome and Introductions

Ms. MacDonald called the meeting to order at 9:07 a.m.

2. APPROVE Agenda and Minutes

ACTION: Upon a motion duly made (Mr. Burgess) and seconded (Mr. Isaacson), the Board voted unanimously to approve the agenda and the July 27, 2022, Board Meeting Minutes.

3. Public Comment on Agenda Items

None

4. Planned Business

a) APPROVE Large Battery Pilot Expanded Eligibility

Mr. Stoddard reviewed a memorandum dated August 19, 2022. The memo reviewed Maine statutes' authorization of the Trust to fund energy storage projects, and specific directives for the trust to both "explore and evaluate options for expand(ing) ... opportunities to support energy storage" and to "expand[] energy storage pilot projects."

The memo reviewed the Trust's history of developing and funding a pilot project to develop large batteries at critical care facilities, and also the Trust's plans for adding more energy storage initiatives in the future under the recently approved Fifth Triennial Plan.

Mr. Stoddard reported that the original focus of the Trust's current battery pilot project, launched in early 2022, was to develop and deploy cost-effective applications of large batteries in "critical care facilities" (e.g., hospitals, health care facilities, emergency facilities), consistent with the directive of LD 528 "An Act to Advance Energy Storage in Maine." He noted that subsequently, in March 2022, Central Maine Power (CMP) introduced proposals for new rates that would make batteries more economical to a broader range of customers. Seeing this as an opportunity to expand the pilot and increase the dataset that could be used to demonstrate cost-effectiveness across multiple applications and customer types, Staff now seeks authorization from the Board to extend eligibility for the pilot to all Commercial or Industrial consumers that have a demand meter.

Mr. Stoddard reminded the Board that the Triennial Plan now in effect had secured both approval and sufficient budget to run a "bring-your-own-device" (BYOD) programs, generally used to promote smaller batteries, in Year 2 and 3 of the Plan.

Mr. Isaacson shared that he was prepared to support the pilot's expansion, notwithstanding some skepticism.

Mr. Poole asked for clarification on CMP's changes to the electric peak rate. Mr. Burnes explained CMP increased the charge, narrowed the window, and increased the overall demand charges.

Mr. Colburn expressed his support and encouraged Staff to move towards small batteries, specifically BYOD programs.

Mr. Rauscher shared that he is comfortable supporting this pilot's expansion but noted that he continues to have concerns about its details.

Mr. Burgess suggested developing an Innovation Initiative work group and noted he is happy to support this pilot's expansion.

Mr. Stoddard thanked the Board for their comments and emphasized Staff would welcome those discussions.

ACTION: Upon a motion duly made (Mr. Poole) and seconded (Mr. Rauscher) the Board voted unanimously to make and approve a motion to authorize the Staff to expand eligibility for the Large Battery Pilot project to all medium and large commercial and

industrial customers where the measure is likely to be cost-effective for the reasons presented in the August 19, 2022 memorandum.

6. New Business

None

7. Next Meeting Agenda and Scheduling

The next Board Meeting is scheduled for September 28 from 9:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

8. Adjourn

ACTION: Upon a motion duly made (Mr. Colburn) and seconded (Mr. Isaacson), the Board voted unanimously to adjourn the Board Meeting at 9:42 a.m.