

**Efficiency Maine Trust
Executive Committee of the Board – Meeting Minutes
February 13, 2020
168 Capitol Street, Augusta ME**

Trust Board Members:

- Dan Brennan
- Dan Burgess
- Al Hodsdon
- Suzanne MacDonald (via phone)

Efficiency Maine Trust (EMT) Staff:

- Peter Eglinton
- Greg Leclair
- Michael Stoddard

1.0 Welcome

Mr. Hodsdon called the meeting to order at 12:08 p.m. and Mr. Eglinton explained the purpose of the meeting.

2.0 APPROVE Budget Adjustments

Mr. Eglinton provided an overview of the Staff request to shift \$1,200,000 in Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI) funds to the Distributor Initiatives Program from the Retail Initiative Program, Commercial and Industrial (C&I) Prescriptive Program, and C&I Custom Program. The funding is to be used to continue instant discounts for high-efficiency oil boilers sold through distributors. Because the programs from which the budget shift would be drawn are running behind forecasted pace, or are “leftovers” from an initiative that has already run its course, Staff anticipates no negative impact on those programs or the customers they serve.

Triennial Plan IV, which started July 1, 2019, is the first time EMT has offered instant discounts on high-efficiency oil boilers through distributors. In the past, EMT required mail-in rebates and activity was modest. Because instant discounts through distributors require no paperwork on the part of installers and reduce the up-front cost of the systems as compared to mail-in rebates, Staff anticipated and budgeted for higher activity with the new program design. Nonetheless, sales of high-efficiency oil boilers have been approximately double what was expected. Without a budget amendment, EMT would need to suspend the incentive within weeks to avoid exceeding the budget.

Mr. Burgess asked whether the RGGI funding coming from Custom might be better used for C&I Prescriptive and Custom incentives. Mr. Eglinton explained that Staff typically have ample time to determine if large projects are likely to require budget allocation for Custom projects and moreover that the programs from which budget is to be shifted will retain sufficient funding to cover anticipated activity for the remainder of this fiscal year. Mr. Stoddard also mentioned that Staff will be proposing at the next Board meeting a different allocation of RGGI funding for FY2021 that takes into consideration options for

funding future transmission and subtransmission (T&ST) projects since those customers are precluded from eligibility for electric utility Procurement funding.

Mr. Brennan asked if EMT anticipates maintaining a similar level of funding for high-efficiency oil boilers in FY2021. Mr. Stoddard said the EMT does not expect to budget this measure at the same level next year. Mr. Eglinton said that Staff will be analyzing the data from this year and exploring changes to the design of the program, such as the criteria for boiler eligibility.

ACTION: Upon a motion duly made (Mr. Brennan) and seconded (Mr. Burgess), the Executive Committee of the Board voted unanimously to transfer \$800,000 from C&I Custom, \$200,000 from Retail, and \$200,000 from C&I Prescriptive to the Distributors Initiatives. This budget adjustment will result in no net change to the total FY2020 source of funding (revenue) and expenditure budgets.

3.0 Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 12:30 p.m.