

**Efficiency Maine Trust
Board Meeting Minutes
June 25, 2014**

Trust Board Members:

- Al Hodsdon, Chair
- David Barber, Vice Chair
- Brent Boyles, Treasurer
- Kenneth Fletcher, Secretary
- Lennie Burke
- Lisa Smith for Patrick Woodcock

Efficiency Maine Trust (EMT) Staff:

- Paul Badeau
- Ian Burnes
- Elizabeth Crabtree
- Constance Packard
- Anne Stephenson
- Michael Stoddard

Other Attendees:

- Will Beck, MEMA
- Bill Bell, Maine Pellet Fuels Association
- Donald Bresnahan, Energy Systems Group
- Joel Harrington, CMP
- Jim Labrecque, Flexware Control Tech
- Calvin Luther, Consultant
- Chris Shorey, Governor's Energy Office
- Richard Silkman, Grid Solar
- Timothy Schneider, Public Advocate
- Tom Snyder, P-S Performance Group

1.0 Welcome and Introductions

Mr. Hodsdon called the meeting to order at 9:35 a.m. The Board and attendees introduced themselves.

2.0 Approve Draft Agenda and Minutes

Mr. Barber requested that the minutes be corrected to reflect that he was present at the April board meeting but Mr. Fletcher was not.

ACTION: Upon a motion duly made (Mr. Barber) and seconded (Ms. Burke), the Board voted unanimously to approve the draft agenda and the minutes with amendment provided by Mr. Barber.

3.0 Public Comment on Agenda Items

Mr. Labrecque commented that he was on the team that recently installed ductless heat pumps at the Blaine House. Mr. Labrecque added that he was disappointed that the heat pumps installed were ineligible for rebates because their HSPF rating was too low. Mr. Labrecque encouraged Efficiency Maine staff to reconsider eligibility criteria for ductless heat pumps because the current efficiency standards limit commercial applications with long piping and complex siting such as the Blaine House.

Mr. Bell commented that there is a new container shipping business located in Portland that is the direct result of increased activity in the pellet boiler industry. He hoped to pass along a concrete example of the economic development power of Efficiency Maine's incentives.

Mr. Beck commented that he was pleased to be invited to the HESP Stakeholder Meeting and hopes to work with the staff to explore alternative eligibility criteria to AFUE for central heating systems.

4.0 Executive Director Report

Mr. Stoddard began his Executive Director's Report with a report on Communications and Outreach. Mr. Stoddard reported that he was a panelist at the ISO-NE Consumer Liaison Conference in Ogunquit on May 29, and provided an overview of energy efficiency's role as a resource in meeting New England's capacity and energy needs. Mr. Stoddard mentioned that he will be updating the Board over the summer on some strategies the staff is implementing to more proactively engage business customers and homeowners as Efficiency Maine's programs expand.

Mr. Stoddard's report then turned to Regulatory Affairs. Mr. Stoddard mentioned that the PUC recently ordered the Trust to distribute just over \$1.6 million from the "15% of RGGI" funds to Maine's electric distribution utilities, pro rata, for rate relief as required by the provisions of the 2013 Omnibus Energy Bill.

Mr. Stoddard reported to the Board that the Business Incentive Program will be ramping up marketing and outreach efforts as the program team works to invest those funds carried over between FY 14 and 15. He reported that the final report to the DOE on the Multifamily Program was recently submitted; now that the federal funds for this program have been exhausted, the Multifamily Program will be continuing with RGGI funds. Mr. Stoddard closed the update on commercial programs by indicating that the Large Customer Program will also have a carryover between FY14 and 15 and Staff is focused on expanding customer participation in the program, and suggested that the Board may need to reassess whether the budget allocations are at the right level based on program participation in FY14 once those participation levels are determined through the analysis of year-end results.

Mr. Stoddard shared that there will be a half-day stakeholder meeting to solicit feedback on the first nine months of the Home Energy Saving Program; the meeting will also

present an opportunity for Staff to share program results to date. So far, the HESP program has loaned \$9 million for efficiency projects. The recently added unsecured loans have significantly increased participation in the loan program. Mr. Stoddard completed his report by sharing that the retail lighting program was very successful and added that the savings numbers reported do not reflect the added economic impact of efficient lighting's reduction of winter peak and the basis differential.

Mr. Stoddard's complete Executive Director's Report may be found [here](#).

5.0 Reports

a. Finance and Administration Committee

(i) APPROVE FY14 Budget Adjustments

Mr. Boyles briefed the Board on Staff's recommended budget adjustments. Ms. Smith asked for clarification about whether the transfers for the HESP program reflected incentives already paid or reflected funds in FY15. Mr. Stoddard clarified that the HESP incentives will all be bundled in one budget in FY15 but that they previously were separated for planning purposes; these budget transfers merely reflect that market uptake of the various measures offered under HESP in FY14 turned out slightly differently than the original projections. Ms. Smith added that she was concerned about the rate of uptake for pellet boiler incentives and that she hoped that the Staff and Board could discuss incentive amounts for the program moving forward.

ACTION: Upon a motion duly made (Mr. Boyles) and seconded (Mr. Barber) the Board voted unanimously to approve a budget transfer in the amount of \$650,000 from the RGGI Heating Appliance Rebate program to the RGGI Ultra-Low GHG System program, increase the Better Building RDI budget by \$800,000 and increase use of loan and fund balance by \$800,000, and approve a budget a reduction of \$500,000 for both Long Term Contract Revenues and Expenditures.

(ii) APPROVE Authority for Executive Director to Make Certain Budget Transfers, as Appropriate, in FY2015

Mr. Boyles briefed the Board on a Staff recommendation that the Executive Director's authority to transfer funds between programs be expanded in order to more quickly implement program changes and adjust program design.

Mr. Boyles offered the motion and was seconded by Mr. Barber. Ms. Smith offered an amendment that all transfers be limited to \$100,000; she

explained that larger budget transfers could be approved by the Board. Mr. Fletcher seconded the motion. Mr. Barber expressed his concern that too small a cap would handcuff the Staff.

Ms. Burke asked Mr. Stoddard for examples of when this authority might be used. Mr. Stoddard replied that there are occasions when program activity is greater in some programs than in others, and when forecasts for participation have missed the mark.

ACTION: Upon a motion duly made (Mr. Barber) and seconded (Ms. Burke) the Board voted unanimously to table the motion until further consideration at the Chair's discretion.

(iii) APPROVE Bank Authorization Change

ACTION: Upon a motion duly made (Mr. Boyles) and seconded (Mr. Fletcher) the Board voted unanimously to approve a resolution listing as agents of the Trust for purposes of completing Trust operations with Camden National Bank as indicated in a signed "Resolution of Lodge, Association or Other Similar Organization": Brent M. Boyles, Treasurer; Albert E. Hodsdon, Board Chair; Michael D. Stoddard, Executive Director; and Joy M. Adamson, Grant and Contract Administrator. And removing prior agents of the Trust: Glenn Poole, Naomi Mermin, and Elizabeth Crabtree, and further to Authorize the Secretary of the Board to complete and submit the Resolution.

(iv) UPDATE on Third-party Vendor Review and Disaster Recovery Plan

Mr. Boyles directed the Board to the copy of the Disaster Recovery Plan included in their packets.

(v) FY15 Budget Amendment

Mr. Stoddard briefed the Board on a further Staff recommendation to shift some of the funds in the Better Buildings loan fund budget from unused loan administration expenses to the HESP program.

ACTION: Upon a motion duly made (Mr. Boyles) and seconded (Mr. Barber) the Board voted unanimously to increase the FY 15 Better Building RDI budget by \$1,200,000 and increase the Use of Loan fund balance by \$1,200,000.

6.0 Other reports: The Role of Non-Transmission Alternatives in the Maine Grid: Panel Discussion

Mr. Stoddard introduced Mr. Silkman from Grid Solar, Mr. Schneider the Public Advocate, and Mr. Burnes from Efficiency Maine. Mr. Silkman, Mr. Schneider and Mr. Burnes provided overviews of grid operations and reliability challenges; results from the Boothbay Harbor Non-Transmission Alternatives pilot; and engaged in a Q&A format to answer questions from the Board and audience.

7.0 Committee Reports, continued

(b) Program Committee

i. Update on Marketing and Public Information Initiatives

Mr. Badeau presented video case studies recently produced by Efficiency Maine's Communications Division. Dr. Stephenson presented an update on website traffic and internet ad results.

8.0 New Business

Mr. Barber requested that the Staff provide an update on some of the questions and comments that have come up at recent Board meetings.

9.0 Next Meeting Agenda and Scheduling

The next meeting will be scheduled over email.

N.B.: After the Board Meeting the next Board Meeting date was set for Wednesday August 20.

10.0 Adjourn

ACTION: Upon a motion duly made (Mr. Barber) and seconded (Ms. Smith) the Board voted unanimously to adjourn the public meeting at 12:15 p.m.