

**SHREWSBURY ELECTRIC  
&  
CABLE OPERATIONS  
COMMISSION MEETING**

**March 25, 2019  
7:00 PM**

**MINUTES**

**PRESENT: R. HOLLAND – Chairman  
M. LEMIEUX  
K. MARSHALL  
M. REFOLO  
A. TRIPPI**

**ABSENT: NONE**

**OTHERS  
PRESENT: M. HALE  
R. IACCARINO  
J. MALAVER  
M. SEAVEY, PLM – Part-time  
P. COLMAN - Part-time**

- 1. Meeting Called to Order – 7:02 PM**
- 2. Review and Consider Approval – Bill Schedules**

The bill schedules were reviewed and approved.

### **3. Review and Consider Approval – Meeting Minutes – February 28, 2019**

*A motion:*

*Accept the February 28, 2019 minutes as presented.*

*Motion made by A. Trippi and seconded by M. Refolo.*

*Without further discussion, the motion was approved unanimously.*

### **4. Rate Analysis - PLM**

M. Hale stated that when the 2019 Electric Budget was completed, he became concerned that the cash position of the Electric Department was diminishing. He stated that recent capital projects, the solar farm, Centech substation, and the new 2.5MW peaking generator, were attributing to the change. He also stated that with the \$3.4M meter replacement project planned, a better plan is needed to ensure proper funding while maintaining healthy reserves.

M. Hale introduced Mayhew Seavey from PLM Consulting, hired to review SELCO's current electric rate structure.

In order to replenish the cash position, Mr. Seavey was tasked with looking at SELCO's Distribution Revenue and Customer Charge (presently \$2.90 per customer) areas in order to build revenue sources.

Mr. Seavey presented and reviewed the study entitled "2019 Proforma Test Year Cost of Service Study: Results and Scenario Analysis." The service study's main objectives are:

- Review the fairness and appropriateness of relative class rates of return.
- Determine adequacy of the present rates to recover expenses of the system and provide cash to fund expected capital additions and restore cash reserves to industry-standard levels.
- Review the appropriateness of SLECO's present rate design.

A Cost of Service model was constructed based on the last PLM rate study conducted in 2012, updated with current data taken from the most recently completed 2019 Electric Budget, including customer counts, total kWh and demand billing units for General Service customers.

M. Seavey reviewed three cases for the Commission to consider:

Case 1 - Increase all class distribution rates by \$0.0025/kWh.

Case 2 – Increase the residential customer charge to \$5.00; all other class Distribution rates increased by \$0.0025/kWh.

Case 3 – Additional \$0.001/kWh added to all customer classes in 2020.

Following further discussion, the Commission agreed to review the options further and table a vote until the next Commission meeting.

**5. Review and Consider Approval – February 2019 Electric Cash Statements**

M. Hale reported that Electric cash was decreasing while Cable cash was increasing.

Without any discussion, the February 2019 Electric Cash Statements were accepted as presented.

**6. Review and Consider Approval – February 2019 Cable Cash Statements**

M. Hale presented the February 2019 Cable Cash Statements.

Without any discussion, the February 2019 Electric Cash Statements were accepted as presented.

**7. Review and Consider Approval – 2018 Electric Outage Report**

R. Iaccarino presented and reviewed the 2018 Electric Outage Report including,

- Squirrels continue to be the major cause of outages.
- Number of outages in 2018 were 84.
- Number of customers interrupted were 13,131
- Average outage lasted 18 minutes.
- There were no major storm outages.

**8. Review and Consider Approval – Operating Brief**

M. Hale presented and reviewed the Operating Brief:

- Last month's internet customers was incorrect due to an incorrect transposition of a number. The customer count was level with a slight increase this month.

- WiFi customers continue to increase generating revenues of \$10 per month, per subscriber.
- SMC, Inc. update: Discussions ongoing. SMC and counsel are leaning towards a proposal to the Retirement Board and PERAC. They are considering offering a 401K plan to the two SMC employees to make up for some of their losses by not taking their pension right away and/or defer the termination benefit until they leave SMC or retire. Additional clarification is needed from PERAC regarding the termination benefit and health insurance.
- The MLB contract has been negotiated for two more years.

## 9. Correspondence

There was no correspondence.

## 10. SELCO/NESN 2019 Scholarship Awards

Each Commissioner announced their top three selections, out of a total of thirty-two (32) scholarship applications, and briefly discussed their reasons for making their selections.

The Commission agreed to award three (3) One Thousand Dollar (\$1,000) scholarships.

Following further discussion, three applicants with the most nominations were selected to receive a SELCO/NESN scholarship:

- Nicole Erickson
- Mackenzie E. Farrell
- Maehir Sharma

## 11. Adjourned – 8:51 PM

*A motion:*

*Adjourn the meeting.*

*Motion made by A. Trippi and seconded by M. Refolo.*

*Without any further discussion, the motion was approved unanimously.*

The next SELCO Commission meeting is scheduled for Monday, April 22, 2019 at 7:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,



Anthony Trippi, Clerk  
SELCO Commission

**Referenced Documents and Authors**

Commission Meeting Minutes – February 28, 2019 – A. Trippi  
Electric February 2019 Cash Statements - M. Quitadamo  
Cable February 2019 Cash Statements - M. Quitadamo  
Electric 2018 Outage Report – R. Iaccarino  
Operating Brief – M. Hale, R. Iaccarino, J. Lavery, J. Covey, J. Pratt, M. Quitadamo,  
G. Onorato, J. Malaver  
Rate Analysis – M. Seavey, PLM