



**COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING via WEBEX
LANSING BOARD OF WATER AND LIGHT BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

AGENDA

November 10, 2020

5:30 P.M. – 1201 S. Washington Ave., Lansing, MI 48910

The BWL full meeting packet and public notice/agenda is located on the official web site at <https://www.lbw.com/about-bwl/governance>.

Due to public safety concerns resulting from the COVID-19 Pandemic, this meeting will be conducted via WebEx Conferencing and all Board Members will participate virtually. Instructional options to be in attendance are as follows:

1. Event address:

<https://lbwlevents.webex.com/lbwlevents/onstage/g.php?MTID=ecf5a05123f095d6c15f9035f7910c130>

Event number: 132 548 8521 Event Password: B22NmgmSkd3

2. Audio conference: United States Toll +1-408-418-9388 Access code: 132 548 8521

Call to Order

Roll Call

Public Comment

Public Comment (PC) can be made by choice of:

- Raising your hand by clicking on the hand icon button  in the **Participants** panel
- Submitting written comments to mdenise.griffin@lbw.com (By the End of Public Comment)
- Submitting written comments to 1201 S. Washington Ave., Lansing, MI 48910

1. Committee of the Whole Meeting Minutes of October 29, 2020..... **TAB 1**

2. Regular Board Meeting Schedule 2021-Resolution **TAB 2**

3. Strategic Planning: Strategic Response..... **DISCUSSION**

Other

Adjourn

In compliance with the order from the Director of the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services and the order from the Ingham County Health Department, in an effort to protect the health and safety of the public, to mitigate the spread of COVID-19 and to provide essential protections to vulnerable Michiganders and this State’s health care system and other critical infrastructure,

it is crucial that all Michiganders take steps to limit in person contact, particularly in the context of large groups. Therefore, the above meeting will be conducted via audio/video conference in accordance with the Open Meetings Act, as amended by Public Act 228 of 2020 effective on October 16, 2020. Members of the public wishing to participate in the meeting may do so by logging into or calling into the meeting using the website or phone number and the meeting ID provided above.

Persons with disabilities who need an accommodation to fully participate in this meeting should contact the Office of the BWL Corporate Secretary at (517) 702-6033 or mdenise.griffin@lbwl.com, or utilize TTY by dialing 7-1-1. A 24-hour notice may be needed for certain accommodations. An attempt will be made to grant all reasonable accommodation requests.

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Meeting Minutes

October 29, 2020

Due to public safety concerns resulting from the COVID-19 Pandemic, the Committee of the Whole meeting for the Lansing Board of Water and Light (BWL) was conducted via WebEx Conferencing in Lansing, MI, on Thursday, October 29, 2020.

Event Address for Attendees:

<https://lbwlevents.webex.com/lbwlevents/onstage/g.php?MTID=e3f3f9071e512340673f503497ce5075d>

Event Number for Attendees: 132 320 0774 Event password: StV2CW7mEz7

Audio conference: United States Toll +1-408-418-9388 Access code: 132 320 0774

Committee of the Whole Chair Tracy Thomas called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. and asked the Corporate Secretary to call the roll.

The following Commissioners were present via audio/video:

Tracy Thomas remotely, Lansing, MI

Stuart Goodrich remotely, Holt, MI

Beth Graham remotely, Lansing, MI

Douglas Jester remotely, East Lansing, MI

Deshon Leek remotely, Lansing, MI

David Lenz remotely, Lansing, MI (arrived @5:41)

Larry Merrill remotely, Delta Township, MI

Tony Mullen remotely, Lansing, MI

David Price remotely, Lansing, MI

Ken Ross remotely, Lansing, MI

Sandra Zerkle remotely, Lansing, MI

Absent: None.

The Corporate Secretary declared a quorum.

Public Comments

None.

Approval of Minutes

Motion by Commissioner David Price, **Seconded** by Commissioner Beth Graham, to approve the Committee of the Whole meeting minutes of September 8, 2020.

A roll call vote was taken:

Yeas: Commissioners Thomas, Graham, Leek, Mullen, Price, Ross, Zerkle

Nays: None

Action: Motion Carried.

Strategic Foundation

COW Chair Thomas introduced Ms. Brandie Ekren, Executive Director of Strategic Planning and Development, who presented the Strategic Plan Foundation information. COW Chair Thomas stated that the presentation will include clarity on the Integrated Resource Plan (IRP) and how it interacts with the strategic planning activities. The strategic landscape report, questions and comments regarding the IRP from fellow commissioners, and responses by Ms. Ekren have been filed and are available. Ms. Ekren introduced Planning & Development Manager, Steve Brennan, and Strategic Plan & Development

Analyst, Rechelle Smith. Ms. Ekren highlighted the strategic planning process and framework; basic components for a strategic foundation and points of clarity for the Integrated Resource Plan (IRP). Much of the meeting was focused on discussing the BWL's current foundational statements: Mission, Vision and Values.

Questions for each are summarized as follows:

Mission Statement Discussion

The mission of the BWL is to provide safe, reliable, and affordable utility products and services to the Greater Lansing Region. Together, the BWL's Board, management, and employees will plan for sustainable growth, be responsible environmental stewards, and be active participants in the Lansing Community's economic and cultural initiatives.

1. Does this still represent the mission of the BWL?
2. Are the key components of the mission still relevant?
3. Should and can it be enhanced or revised?

Vision Statement Discussion

1. Does this still represent the vision of the BWL?
2. Does the vision statement paint a picture of accomplishments to celebrate in the future?
3. Is it realistic or accomplishable?
4. Is it inspiring?
5. Should and can it be enhanced or revised?

Value Statements Discussion

1. Do the value statements reflect BWL culture?
2. Do the value statements illustrate how the BWL conducts business?
3. Do the value statements illustrate how the BWL treats its employees and the community?
4. Do the value statements relate to the BWL's mission?

There was an abundant amount of discussion that resulted in a few key take ways for each:

Mission

- Key components of safety, reliability, affordability sustainable growth, responsible stewardship and active participation in economic and cultural initiatives are still relevant for the mission.
- Needs to capture municipal ownership
- Climate and environment remain relevant as well, however prefer to also capture in vision
- Should be brief and straight to point.

Vision

- Partnership journey with customers given anticipated industry changes
- Climate and carbon neutrality need to be captured
- Desires the vision to capture employees as well as customers.
- Prefer to be the utility of choice as opposed to circumstance

Values

- Values remain same, but requiring some updating
- Being environmentally focused needs to be emphasized

Ms. Ekren stated that the next steps would summarize this discussion; to send a summary feedback of previous discussions; and also, to update priorities and strategies, and continue the discussion.

Ms. Ekren provided some points of clarity on the Integrated Resource Plan (IRP) and carbon neutrality. The IRP is for further planning of the electric generating side of the business and it involves a 20-year outlook that is updated every four to 5 years with new technologies, resources and costs. Future planning includes current information on energy storage.

Integrated Resource Plan – Clarity

WHAT IT IS

- Primarily focused on the electric generating side of the business
- Operational tool for assessing customer energy needs based on a 20-year outlook
- A planning guide that is updated regularly to incorporate new technologies and resource costs
- Inclusive of both internal and external experts experienced in utility operations, energy forecast modeling and industry insights
- Recommends considerations for further planning

WHAT IT IS NOT

- It is NOT the corporate strategic plan
- It does NOT establish the strategic focus and priorities of the organization
- It does NOT have the same function as an IRP for investor owned utilities
- It is NOT a policy document to be approved by the governing body
- It is NOT approved by the Public Service Commission

Commissioner Jester commented that although, the IRP is not a policy document to be approved by the governing body but stated that they should have an expectation on the electricity supply side or in energy efficiency. Ms. Ekren responded that expectations are addressed in the corporate planning process in updating corporate strategies and goals. Beneficial electrification opportunities are addressed climate and revenue recovery interests. Commissioner Jester added that one of the conclusions from the IRP should be to the retiring of Erickson before 2025 and discontinuing Belle River before 2025. Ms. Ekren responded that the IRP does ask for those two items to be re-evaluated and it is something staff should consider. Board Chair Price suggested going to the BWL website and reviewing the strategic plan and IRP.

Ms. Ekren continued on and concluded the discussion with carbon neutrality and explaining that it doesn't mean carbon free but a net zero output. She highlighted the reasons for introducing carbon neutrality as technology allowing the balance of affordability and reliability, the expansion of BWL's clean energy planning, the setting of affordable goal that influence climate conscious behavior, and the incorporation of eco-strategy opportunities of additional utilities.

Other

There was no other business.

Adjourn

Commissioner Thomas adjourned the meeting at 7:02 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted
Tracy Thomas, Chair
Committee of the Whole

Proposed Resolution
2021 Regular Board Meeting Schedule

In accordance with the Lansing Board of Water & Light's Rules of Administrative Procedure, a schedule of dates, places, and times for each regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners for the calendar year shall be adopted in November.

RESOLVED, that regular meetings of the Lansing Board of Water & Light's Board of Commissioners are hereby set for calendar year 2021 as follows, unless otherwise notified or as a result of date conflicts with rescheduled City Council meetings:

2021

Lansing Board of Water & Light Board of Commissioners
Regular Board Meeting Schedule

Tuesday	January 26
Tuesday	March 23
Tuesday	May 25
Tuesday	July 27
Tuesday	September 28
Tuesday	November 16

Meetings will be held in the Lansing Board of Water & Light REO Town Depot located at 1201 S. Washington Ave., Lansing, MI at 5:30 p.m.

RESOLVED FURTHER, that a notice of the meeting schedule shall be published in a newspaper of general circulation in Ingham County the week of January 1, 2021.