

February 17, 2009  
Michigan Public Service Commission  
6545 Mercantile Way  
Lansing, MI 48911  
10:00 a.m.  
Minutes

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by the Board Chair, David Walters at 10:00 a.m.

Roll Call

Members Present: Julie Baldwin, Steve Brock, Robert Ianni, Trevor Lauer, Mary Templeton, Thomas Vitez, David Walters

Member Participating by Phone: John Miceli

Alternates Present: David Bertram, Joe DeVito, Cindy Norlin, Susan Harley

II. Adoption of the Agenda

The chair asked if there were changes, deletions or additions to the agenda. Trevor Lauer made a motion to accept the agenda. The motion was seconded by Joe DeVito. The Board adopted the Agenda.

III. Approval of the proposed minutes of the February 2, 2009 meeting.

Trevor Lauer made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. The motion was seconded by Joe DeVito. The Board approved the minutes.

IV. Wind Developer Presentation

Rich Vander Veen of Mackinaw Power gave a presentation to the Board titled *Wind Energy Resource Zones Board: Wind Powering the Triple Bottom Line*. The presentation is available at [http://www.dleg.state.mi.us/mpsc/renewables/windboard/mackinaw\\_power\\_presentation.pdf](http://www.dleg.state.mi.us/mpsc/renewables/windboard/mackinaw_power_presentation.pdf)

V. Discussion with MSU-Land Policy Institute

Chuck McKeown, the Board Wind Energy Consultant, told the Board that he would prepare a flowchart of the entire wind zone process with a timeline by Friday, February 20.

Mr. McKeown asked the Board what constitutes a zone. Is part of the goal to decide where transmission improvement is needed?

Joe DeVito asked if Mr. McKeown saw any big issues with the Board's project. Mr. McKeown said that siting turbines on State land is expected to be a big issue and that there are siting mandates for federal forest land but not State criteria for State forest lands yet.

Trevor Lauer reminded the board that we need help to get updated information on city, township and county ordinances. The Board will need to determine which wind dataset to use in its analysis and will investigate the quality of data available at 50 meter, 70 meter and 100 meter hub heights.

Mr. McKeown told the Board that Sally Talberg of Public Sector Consultants (part of the Board Wind Energy Consulting team) will be working on a MISO queue analysis for Michigan projects and identifying existing projects in the state. Ms. Talberg will also review distribution level interconnection information if it is available.

Public Sector Consultants will be starting some advance work with townships when zones start to emerge. The State Wind Outreach Team is a valuable asset to this effort and Mr. McKeown hoped to work with them on the project. David Bertram suggested the Board consider the work done by Farm Bureau also.

The Board discussed making decisions on data by email vs. public meeting. Bob Ianni explained that to be in compliance with the Open Meetings Act, the Board cannot make decisions using email.

VI. Planning Discussion

Mary Templeton initiated conversation about the Board recommending an RFP be written by the MPSC for a report writer. Julie Baldwin has drafted a request letter for the Chair's signature. Joe DeVito made a motion to support moving forward with the letter. The motion was seconded by Steve Brock. The motion was passed unanimously.

The Chair asked about the research on other state energy zone processes that the MPSC staff has been doing for the Board. Julie Baldwin reported that the MPSC Staff is planning to provide a summary of the research at the next meeting.

David Bertram commented that the Board's work product will likely be very influential in future policy decisions.

#### VII. Public Comment

Mike Serafin pointed out that the capacity factor the Board uses in its analysis will be critical. This plays a key role into how much transmission upgrade is needed. The Board may also want to consider how the zones fit in with the Michigan Renewable Portfolio Standard.

#### Next Meeting

The March 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting will be held at the MPSC.  
The March 16<sup>th</sup> meeting will be in Cadillac. John Miceli and Julie Baldwin will work together on the logistics.

Trevor Lauer motioned that the meeting be adjourned. The motion was seconded by Steve Brock. The meeting was adjourned at 11:46 pm.