**MEUA Semi Annual Meeting- Minutes**

Embassy Suites East Syracuse, NY

April 11 & 12, 2018

**Present:**

Village of Angelica Village of Holley Salamanca Bd. Of Public Util.

Village of Arcade Ilion Board of Light Village of Silver Springs

Bath Elec., Gas and Water Village of Lake Placid Skaneateles Elec. Light Dept.

Village of Bergen Village of Little Valley Village of Solvay

Muni. Commission of Boonville Village of Marathon Village of Spencerport

Village of Churchville Massena Electric Dept. Springville Elec. System

Village of Endicott Village of Mayville Village of Wellsville

Fairport Municipal Commission Penn Yan Muni. Util. Bd. Village of Westfield

Village of Greene Plattsburgh Muni. Light Dept.

Village of Groton Village of Richmondville

Village of Hamilton

**Absent:**

Village of Akron Mohawk Muni. Comm.

Village of Andover Village of Philadelphia- Proxy by Exec. Comm.

Village of Brocton- Proxy-Exec. Comm. Village of Rouses Point – Proxy Exec. Comm.

Village of Castile-Proxy- Joseph Chimino Village of Theresa-Proxy-Exec. Comm.

Frankfort Power & Light Tupper Lake Muni. Elec. System-Proxy by E.C.

Village of Watkins Glen

**Executive Committee Present:**

Pres. Larry Kilburn Trustee Nancy Steedman

Pres. Elect Owen McIntee Trustee Brent Bodine

Vice Pres. -Treasurer Andrew Thompson Trustee Jeffrey Dobbins

Vice Pres. -Secretary William Whitfield Executive Director Tony Modafferi

**Wednesday April 11th, 2018**

**President Larry Kilburn, Presiding**

**Meeting called to order at 9:03 am by President Larry Kilburn**

**Roll Call, VP Secretary William Whitfield**

**Presidents Report:**

President Kilburn welcomed everyone and thanked them for their attendance. He thanked Executive Director Modafferi and staff for their hard work in preparation of Semi-Annual and hoped everyone had a good meeting.

**Executive Directors Report:**

Executive Director Modafferi introduced all the new member system employees and board members. He went on to explain some of the recent challenges facing the public power arena. He went on to inform everyone that there will additional charges from the NYPA due to ice blockage in the Niagara River causing unforeseen curtailment charges to each system.

Director Modafferi went on to introduce Chris Wentlent who is the new MEUA consultant to the NYISO. Mr. Wentlent was asked to sit on a new energy efficiency committee tasked with new initiatives for the Governor’s office which gives the MEUA a voice at the table as this project moves forward.

Director Modafferi also gave a summary of the status of the LTA discussions with the NYPA.

He also talked about the Western NY Transmission Contract that NextEra has with National Grid which will result in additional costs once finalized.

Director Modafferi also gave an update on RECS and ZECS, the recent onset of Bitcoin across New York and its effect on some of our system members.

Director Modafferi also gave a summary of a recent development involving a lawsuit filed with the NYPA regarding rates, and assured the membership that he and the consultants will make sure this matter is monitored regularly.

Director Modafferi gave praises to all system members that responded to the winter storms that have plagued New York and stated that the present system in place is working very well.

**Consultants Reports-**

**Mike Green, Evans and Bennett CPAs, 2017 Financial Review**

Mike gave an overview of the 2017 MEUA financials and summarized the difference between a financial review vs. an audit. The financial position of the organization remains strong, and the accounting procedures and controls in place are adequate. Mike also commented on how good a job Narin is doing and suggested the MEUA develops an operation manual should future succession be needed under similar circumstances. He pointed out that we had a good year which is directly related to legal and consultant costs which can offset based on the revenues generated from training which can change each year.

**Jeff Dobbins, 2018 Financial Update**

Jeff provided a quick update on the MEUA’s financials for the first two months of 2018 and summary of the budget comparisons. He commented on the current attendance in the apprentice program which reflects good revenues due to good consistency in attendance numbers.

**Chris Wentlent, NYISO Issues**

Chris gave a brief review of his background in the industry, his experience with power plant management, environmental compliance, and regulatory issues provides a solid background to compliment the MEUA. Chris reviewed issues that could impact the MEUA on the NYISO level with reference to energy pricing, capacity pricing, transmission, ancillary services, and environmental.

**Chuck Rankin & Mike Lyons, IEEP Update**

Bill Barry was not able to attend this year’s semi-annual so Chuck Rankin and Mike Lyons gave a broad summary of what’s going on in the IEEP currently as well as last year’s success in the program. Mike noted that the program saved approximately 7.1 million Kwh over 2017 and gave a breakdown of how the savings disseminated throughout the program.

**Jay Brew, Stone, Mattheis, Xenopoulos, & Brew, FERC Issues**

Jay gave the membership a breakdown of current and potential issues that FERC is dealing with. He gave a review of the current state of the commission and how they are dealing with current matters. He reviewed FERC involvement with the NG Transmission Project, the AC Transmission Project, NYPA Formula Rates, NYPA Transmission Upgrades, and FERC Order to show cause with Transmission Tariffs. He also talked about FERC’s focus on the new Clean Energy Standard which is being implemented in more

**John Jennings, Harter Secrest & Emery, Governmental Update**

John gave the membership a broad view of issues going on with NYS Government. He also went over potential legislation that could impact the MEUA.

**Kevin Brocks, Tyler Wolcott, Ken Podolny, Read and Laniado LLP, Legal Update**

Kevin gave the membership a review of the current legal issue involving the filing against the NYPA regarding rates. Tyler gave an update on the PSC energy efficiency initiative, energy storage regarding new renewable projects, Clean Energy Standard current position and potential future impacts, and community choice aggregation which is out there but not applicable to MEUA members.

**New Business Resolutions, Sean Graham**

**Resolution 01-2018**

Whereas, President Larry Kilburn and all the Officers and Trustees of the Municipal Electric Utilities Association of New York State have faithfully and diligently worked to advance the goals and objectives of this Association.

Now therefore be it resolved, that this Association hereby expresses its sincere thanks and appreciation for the faithful and untiring efforts of all of its Officers and Trustees.

**Resolution 02-2018**

Whereas, the Embassy Suites Hotel, Syracuse, New York, by its courtesies and arrangements has aided in a most successful Semi-Annual meeting and has made our stay in these surroundings a most enjoyable one,

Now therefore be it resolved, that this Association, here assembled, extends our sincere thanks to the Management of the Embassy Suites Hotel, East Syracuse, New York, for the courtesies and warm hospitalities extended to our members.

**Resolution 03-2018**

Whereas, the following have paid their dues and been accepted by the Executive Committee pending approval by the full membership,

Now therefore be it resolved, that the following be accepted as corporate members, **Advanced Power Products & Solutions, Labella Associates, Nussbaumer & Clark, Inc., R J Lang Sales, Inc., Thayer Power & Communications, The Roberts Consulting Group, and Troy & Banks, Inc.**

**A motion to accept new corporate members and Resolutions 01-2018, 02-2018 and 03-2018 was made by Mike Trivisondoli - Angelica, seconded by Greg Day - Solvay, and carried unanimously.**

**MEUA/NYMPA Executive Committee Joint Meeting**

A joint meeting was held at the MEUA Office.

**NPCC/NERC Compliance Meeting**

The seven systems impacted by this will meet at the MEUA Office.

**Thursday April 13th, 2017**

**President Larry Kilburn first recognized new municipal officials that were not present at April 11th session and then presented Village of Hamilton Administrator, Sean Graham a plaque from the MEUA recognizing Shaun for his years of service and support to the MEUA.**

**President Elect Owen McIntee Presiding-**

**APPA Update, APPA Board of Directors Member Andy McMahon, Town of Massena Electric General Manager**

Andy thanked the membership for their support in helping him to achieve the APPA Board position. Andy first noted that all system members of NYMPA are now members of the APPA due to NYMPA covering its member’s dues for this year.

He then gave a thorough review of benefits the APPA has to offer the membership.

**Committee Reports**

**Accounting and Finance:**

Chair Sylvia Boice reported on the Accounting and Finance Workshop held in November, 2017.

She went on to thank the committee members and gave a brief review of this year’s planning.

**Audit and Budget:**

Earl Johnson reported that the committee met to conduct the annual audit recently and noted no discrepancies. He noted with the size of the organization, the committee reviewed every voucher and bank statement and found no major recommendations. Earl thanked the committee members for their commitment and explained their role in this committee. The committee meets typically in March of each year to perform the audit and again in July to develop the budget for the following year.

**By-Laws:**

Chair Larry Kilburn, no report

**Economic Development:**

Chair Larry Kilburn, no report

**Energy Conservation:**

Chair Kimball Daby, noted Executive Modafferi’s presentation during April 11th session.

**Engineering:**

Chair Matt Hegarty thanked fellow members of the committee for their contributions and reported on the workshops held in the past year. He noted the great attendance at the fall and spring workshops 119 and 115 respectively. He noted each event is setup with class sessions in the morning and corporate member networking in the afternoon which works very well for

**Media and Communications:**

Chair Nancy Steedman, no report, however noted that anyone who would like to have an article published should contact either Narin Ly or Nancy.

**NYISO:**

Chair Bill Treacy, Noted Chris Wentlent’s April 11th report

**Safety and Training:**

Chair Owen McIntee reported on Safety and Training programs and how the apprentice class sizes are sustaining well with this year’s numbers at 17 1st year, 15 2nd year, 12 3rd year, and 12 senior year attendees. Owen commented on how the Safety and Training classes are mostly run by Bill Hesson of NEPPA with Owen helping when he can. Owen also commented on how he has been trying to encourage working groups with line workers from different regions to help communicate issues and help each other with problems that may exist.

**Governmental**

Chair Nancy Steedman noted no changes now.

**Regional Liaisons:**

Joe Chimino reported that the Western Regional meeting will be held in Fairport in June with date to be announced later. Joe went on to thank everyone in his region that responded to the mutual aid calls including all line workers and superintendents. Owen announced that Matt Campbell of Holley will be the new Western Regional Liaison with Joe Chimino retirement scheduled in late May.

Jeff Livingston reported that the Central Regional Meeting will be held in Hamilton in June with date to be announced later. Jeff went on to thank everyone that responded to the mutual aid calls, it made his job much easier.

Kimball Daby reported that the Northern Regional Meeting has not been scheduled yet but will be hosted by Lake Placid.

**Nick Parotta, PLM, NERC/NPCC Update**

Nick gave an overview of the 8th year NERC compliance efforts for the seven-member systems currently subject to NERC Regulations and new changes in the regulations. Nick also explained the forming of NPCC in 1966 following the Northeast blackout of 1965 and the forming of NERC back in 1968. He also noted the NYC blackout of 1977 and the 2003 Northeast blackout which led to the present compliance requirements.

**NYPA Report & Update, Keith Hayes & Associates**

Keith gave an update on the recent curtailment of hydro power in January due to unexpected ice jams and gave a report on the contract negotiations on the Long-Term Agreement from NYPA’s perspective. John Markowitz also reported on the current MAP Program and where the program is headed with current and projected clean energy goals.

**Update of Hydro Contract Negotiations**

Committee member Bill Whitfield and ED Tony Modafferi along with Keith Hayes of NYPA gave a broad overview of current Hydro Contract negotiations. Talks will continue with expectations of possible completion of agreed language between NYPA team and MEUA/NYAPP committees by yearend.

**MEUA Mutual Aid Playbook, Owen McIntee**

Owen reviewed this past year’s storm response that the MEUA systems participated with and reviewed the policies in place and potential changes in the future. Own’s biggest message to the membership was to follow what policies, procedures, and plan that are in place at current time. He also reiterated the importance of making sure your own system is covered before releasing crews.

**Cryptocurrency/High Density Load Update, Ken Podolny-Read & Laniado, Mark Cordeiro-PLM, and Bill Freitag-BST**

Ken, Mark, and Bill gave the membership a thorough review of the new Tariff for High Density Loads along with procedures for handling documentation of HDL customers.

**Closing- President Kilburn**

President Kilburn closed the conference at 11:55 am after thanking everyone for their attendance and wishing them all well. He also noted that the annual meeting will be held September 11, 2018 through September 14, 2018 at the Adam’s Mark in Buffalo, NY.

Respectfully Submitted by: William Whitfield- VP/ Secretary