

Ashburnham Municipal Light Board

Wednesday, June 18, 2025

Ashburnham Municipal Light Plant
24 Williams Rd, Ashburnham, MA 01430

Meeting Minutes

Commissioners: Richard Ahlin, Chairman
Mark Carlisle, Vice Chairman
Candace Wright, Secretary
General Manager: Brooke Czasnowski
AMLP Staff: Aili Ruuska
Other Attendees:

Ahlin called the meeting to order at 9:01 a.m. with a roll call. Carlisle present, Wright present, Ahlin present.

Ahlin announced all Board meetings are subject to audio and video recording.

Approval of Agenda: Wright made a motion to accept the agenda as written. Carlisle seconded. All in favor. Wright aye, Carlisle aye, Ahlin aye.

Approval of Minutes: Wright made a motion to approve the May 21, 2025, open session meeting minutes. Carlisle seconded. All in favor. Wright aye, Carlisle aye, Ahlin aye.

Citizen Speak: No citizen comments.

General Manager Items:

Residential Distributed Generation Policy Discussion: Czasnowski discussed the Residential Distributed Generation Policy with the Board. The current policy requires the use of the 24-month billing history for a service location to determine the maximum system size of the PV array. She also mentioned that a check meter is optional with the current policy. The Board agreed that some changes were needed to the policy and Czasnowski will provide a draft at an upcoming meeting.

Tree Bid Update: Czasnowski updated the Board with the status of the tree bid. Four bids were received, and Mayer Tree was selected. Czasnowski received excellent recommendations from other General Managers on Mayer Tree. AMLP has also contracted an arborist to survey the territory, and they will provide recommendations for additional tree work. Customer outreach for tree trimming and removals will begin when starting dates have been finalized with Mayer Tree.

Monthly Dashboard: Czasnowski provided the Board with a monthly snapshot of customer service and operational performance metrics. The Board discussed the EV charging station usage and agreed to renew the subscription for one year.

Battery Storage Update: The current battery continues to be used to reduce peak loads. Czasnowski continues to move forward on finalizing the contract agreements for the shared savings battery with Lightshift Energy. She will meet with the Town to discuss further planning.

Budget and Power Bill Review: Czasnowski presented the Board with the Power Bill Analysis. April sales and power costs were higher than forecast. All other operational budget items are within expected ranges.

Legislative Updates: Czasnowski provided the Board with updates on proposed legislation including Clean Heat Standards, Large Building Energy Reporting, Advanced Clean Trucks, and the Building Decarbonization Clearing House.

General Manager Goals: Czasnowski discussed her goals and objectives. She has currently been working on the battery energy storage system, Cost of Service Study with MMWEC, and implementing the IT Capital Plan. She will also begin working on going out to bid for a new digger derrick truck.

Other Updates:

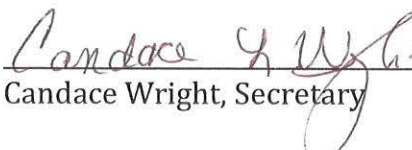
- J.R. Briggs Presentation: Czasnowski and two AMLP employees gave a presentation for fifth-grade classes at J.R. Briggs Elementary. The presentation covered topics such as AMLP history, the lineworker profession, science and math skills needed for public power careers and electric safety. The students and teachers enjoyed the presentation and AMLP was invited to give a presentation again next year.
- Recreation Committee: The Recreation Committee has consulted with AMLP regarding the installation of a playground near Stevens Memorial Library. Czasnowski will continue to collaborate with the Recreation Committee and Town Administrator on this project.
- Interconnection Study for Solar: Czasnowski met with representatives of a current customer interested in a large solar interconnection. Czasnowski informed the representatives that in addition to their own engineering study, AMLP will require a system impact study. Czasnowski will reach out to PLM to begin a scope of service study.
- Large System Interconnection: The company has been working on extending agreements with the Town. There is no timeline for AMLP involvement in the project.

New Business:

- MMWEC CEO: MMWEC is in the process of succession planning for the position of CEO. They have selected an internal candidate, to be announced pending negotiations.

The next meeting for the Board was scheduled for August 13, 2025, at 9:00 a.m. at the Ashburnham Municipal Light Plant.

Carlisle made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Wright seconded. The vote was taken at 10:42 am. All in favor. Carlisle aye, Wright aye Ahlin aye.


Candace Wright, Secretary