

**APPROVED**

**VERMONT PUBLIC POWER SUPPLY AUTHORITY  
MINUTES OF LEGISLATIVE AND REGULATORY AFFAIRS BOARD COMMITTEE**  
(numbers in bold type correspond with agenda item numbers)

September 20, 2017

(1) The meeting was called to order at 12:00 p.m.

Committee Directors present (X indicates present):

X	John Morley III, Orleans	X	Meredith Birkett, Johnson
X	Reginald Beliveau, Swanton	X	Jonathan Elwell, Enosburg
X	Bill Humphrey, Lyndonville		

Other Directors present:

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Alternates present:

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Others present:

Ken Nolan, VPPSA	Melissa Bailey, VPPSA	Jamie Feehan, Primmer
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(2) Melissa Bailey called the meeting to order and asked whether there were any changes to the agenda or public comment. There were not. Director Elwell moved the approval of minutes from the July 19, 2017 meetings. The motion was seconded by Director Beliveau and approved unanimously.

(5) There was discussion of VPPSA’s Renewable Energy Standard Pilot program development. Staff continue to work on an electric vehicle (EV) pilot program for implementation in 2018. To date, Lamoille Valley Ford and McMahon Chevrolet have indicated interest in partnering with VPPSA to offer rebates on electric vehicles and plug-in hybrid electric vehicles. Director Elwell pointed out that Enosburg customers would want the option of purchasing an EV from a local dealer, and asked that Champlain Chevrolet be included in the pilot program. Director Beliveau asked that VPPSA also include Barrette Ford. Staff agreed to reach out to these dealers and also contact the remaining VPPSA members to identify other potential dealers and contact dealers to see if they are interested in participating. VPPSA members will need to indicate whether they wish to participate in the EV pilot program prior to the December Board Meeting.

Ms. Bailey briefed the Committee on VTRANS’ EV charging corridor study. VTRANS has asked a consultant to identify gaps in the state’s fast charging infrastructure with the intention of issuing a request for interest from entities wishing to install fast chargers. VPPSA has reached out to VTRANS to indicate that the member utilities are interested in partnering with VTRANS to bring charging infrastructure to their service territories.

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However, Director Humphrey pointed out that fast charging stations can add significant load to the distribution system.

Ms. Bailey briefed the Committee on a recent meeting among utilities regarding potential improvements to Tier 3 implementation. The utilities meet with the Department of Public Service this week and the Executive Director of Efficiency Vermont next week to discuss Tier 3 implementation.

- (6) The Committee engaged in a discussion regarding legislative priorities for the upcoming session. Staff and the VPPSA lobbyist believe that there will be legislative attention on Tier 3 of the RES this session. In addition, VPPSA is exploring potential changes to Section 108 that would clarify when VPPSA and the members are required to file for 108 approval from the PUC. There continues to be interest among the VPPSA members that own hydroelectric resources in aligning the Agency of Natural Resources' implementation of water quality standards with the state's energy, climate, and greenhouse gas reduction goals.

Staff are also exploring technical fixes to the Bond Bank statute to clarify that VPPSA is an entity that is eligible to borrow from the Bond Bank. Director Birkett mentioned that her county had just drafted its Regional Energy Plan and asked staff and the lobbyist to monitor efforts to give more responsibilities for energy planning to the Regional Planning Committees.

The committee reviewed the new lobbying contract with Primmer, Piper, Eggleston, and Cramer that will be voted on at the upcoming VPPSA Board Meeting.

- (7) Ms. Bailey provided an update of relevant Public Utility Commission (PUC) proceedings. The PUC has opened an investigation into Alternative Utility Regulation in Vermont and held workshops on August 8 and September 12. To date, topics covered have been largely applicable only to investor-owned utilities such as GMP and VGS.

Ms. Bailey noted that Act 77, passed last legislative session, required the Public Service Department to produce a report on efficiency services for commercial and industrial customers. They are looking at expanding current programs that allow these customers to self-manage their efficiency contributions and/or creating a pilot program that would allow an efficiency utility to use EEC funds to deliver efficiency services across all energy sectors. Director Morley indicated that Ethan Allen has expressed concerns about the significant EEC charges they are paying but is also concerned about the reporting and verification requirements that would come with self-managing their efficiency programs. This concern was also raised by other customers at the Act 77 meeting. There will be an opportunity for written comments before the PSD submits its report to the legislature.

Docket 8316, related to data transfers from utilities to Efficiency Vermont, continues to move slowly towards resolution. VELCO has become involved in this proceeding after

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they were approached by GMP as a potential data warehouse for all of the utilities customer data, which could then be provided to EVT. VPPSA has concerns with this approach that it has shared with the parties.

Ms. Bailey reminded the Committee of the Net Metering Request from the Public Utilities Commission, which is due on October 5<sup>th</sup>. Director Morley suggested that Net Metering installations could be added to the annual reports filed by distribution utilities.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:47 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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Melissa Bailey, Acting Secretary  
Legislative & Regulatory Committee