



## **Legislative and Regulatory Meeting Minutes**

September 11, 2019

### **Committee Directors:**

<b>X</b>	Reginald Beliveau, Swanton	<b>P</b>	Meredith Birkett
<b>X</b>	Jonathan Elwell, Enosburg		

### **Other Directors present:**

<b>X</b>	John Morley III, Orleans		
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*X indicates attendance in person, P indicates attendance by phone.*

### **Alternates present:**


### **Others present:**

Ken Nolan, VPPSA	Melissa Bailey, VPPSA	Julia Leopold, VPPSA
James Gibbons, BED		

### **Numbers in bold type correspond with agenda item numbers:**

- 1.** The meeting was called to order at 11:58 am at the office of the Authority, located at 5195 Waterbury-Stowe Road, Waterbury Ctr., Vermont.
- 2.** Melissa Bailey asked if there were requests for changes and/or modifications to the current agenda. There were not.
- 3.** There was no public presence and therefore no comments were made.
- 4.** Director Beliveau moved to approve the minutes from the July committee meeting and Director Elwell seconded the motion. The minutes were approved without objection.
- 5.** Ms. Bailey provided a Regulatory Update covering the current relevant PUC Proceedings. In the context of the PUC's "All Fuels Utility" proceeding, the committee discussed how we could ensure that more value from Efficiency Vermont services comes back to customers in VPPSA members' territories.

Ms. Bailey notified the committee that the PUC has opened a proceeding to explore the costs and benefits of net metering, including the effect of compensation on retail rates. Director Birkett inquired whether the VPPSA members should plan to respond to the PUC individually. Ms. Bailey indicated that VPPSA intended to respond on behalf of the VPPSA members.



## DRAFT

Ms. Bailey and Mr. Gibbons provided an update on the recent workshop held by the PUC related to implementing a per kWh fee on electric vehicle charging. Director Elwell inquired about communicating directly with the Administration regarding the rationale behind the state agencies' insistence that Transportation Fund revenue be generated through a per kWh charge rather than alternative means. Mr. Nolan clarified that this will be a major topic for discussion in the upcoming legislative session and the outcome will not be determined in this PUC proceeding.

Ms. Bailey notified the committee that VPPSA had led an effort among utilities to propose modifications to the state's residential Disconnect Rule (3.300) intended to lower the utility costs of administering disconnects. The next step in this proceeding will be for other parties to file comments on the utilities' proposal.

Ms. Bailey informed the committee that there had been a second round of solicitation for participants in the Energy Savings Account Pilot for commercial and industrial customers administered by Efficiency Vermont. Ethan Allen has applied to be included in this pilot program. Director Beliveau noted that there are customers in Swanton's service territory that could benefit from a program like this.

6. There was a short Legislative Update covering the legislatively mandated study of the feasibility of electric utilities providing broadband service to be completed by the Department of Public Service. The DPS has chosen Magellan as a consultant to assist with this effort and notified utilities that they should anticipate receiving a survey from Magellan in the coming weeks.
7. Julia Leopold provided an update on VPPSA's 2019 Tier 3 programs under the Renewable Energy Standard and the savings that have been generated to date from 2017 until now. Ms. Leopold also presented a proposed list of rebates to be offered by VPPSA in 2020. Mr. Nolan clarified that VPPSA's Tier 3 strategy includes both running rebate programs and purchasing low-cost Tier 2 RECs to meet VPPSA's overall obligation. The committee was supportive of the overall Tier 3 strategy described by staff. The Tier 3 Budget will be incorporated into VPPSA's overall 2020 operating budget, a draft of which will be provided to the VPPSA Board at the October board meeting.
8. There was no Other Business.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

***Melissa Bailey***

Melissa Bailey, Acting Secretary  
Legislative & Regulatory Committee