

# **Board of Light Commissioners**

## **Public-Zoom Meeting**

### **January 13, 2026**

**168 Worcester Rd, Princeton, MA**

#### **Action Items:**

- Mr. McKeon will review the wind farm's generation and wind credit line on the light bills.
- Mr. McKeon will look into the finances of the Holden Interconnection.
- Commissioner Gott will discuss the new format for agendas and minutes with Ms. Cruise.

#### **Present:**

Rick Rys, Phil Gott, Sean McKeon, Jack Austin, Ashley Reddy, Roger Brooks, and Karen Mammone

#### **Zoom:**

Mark Dunbar

#### **Absent:**

Richard Chase

#### **Meeting Called to Order at 3:06 PM**

Commissioner Rys made a motion to call the meeting to order.

Commissioner Gott- 2<sup>nd</sup>

(2-0)

#### **Review and Approve Agenda for Public Meeting**

### **January 13, 2026**

The agenda was approved (2-0) as written.

## Review and Approve Public Minutes December 10, 2025

Minutes approved (2-0) as amended.

Under section- *Discuss and Approve 2026 Budget*, Commissioner Gott would like to add a sentence to reflect what Mr. McKeon stated during the meeting:

*“Commissioner Chase would like to ensure that PMLD is prepared when the NextEra contract ends with the Rate Stabilization Fund, along with a plan regarding the OPEB debt. **Mr. McKeon reiterated that the Rate Stabilization Fund should be approximately 3 million dollars.**”*

### General Manager’s Report:

- **Current Bank Balances**

The Board reviewed the bank account balance report dated January 13, 2026. A copy will be placed in the file. All bills are paid in a timely manner.

- **2025 Cashflow Budget Review**

Mr. McKeon presented the board with a copy of the 2025 budget details dated January 12, 2026. A copy will be placed on file. The cash flow figures for January through November 2025, with a target of 91.67%. Mr. McKeon stated that revenues were 91.59% and expenses were 86.27%.

### Update on Operations:

- **Recent Activities/Maintenance/Planned Outages**

Please refer to the attached sheet for highlights of completed and scheduled work from December 10, 2025, to January 13, 2026.

- **MMWEC/Lightshift Battery Storage Project**

No updates are currently available on this project. MMWEC is still awaiting a new cluster group to join so that the project can progress.

- **Holden Interconnect**

Mr. McKeon recently spoke with Mr. Tupper from Holden. The study has now been completed, and everything looks promising. The next step will be to ensure that this project is financially viable for both towns.

Commissioner Gott inquired if PMLD had received the cost estimate from National Grid for its share of the new substation. Mr. McKeon replied that he did not, but he would be meeting with the National Grid representative on Tuesday.

Commissioner Rys reiterated his support for the Holden interconnection, as it will provide PMLD with more opportunities in the future.

- **Review State Energy Bills and MEAM Letters**

Many utilities have expressed concerns to Massachusetts legislators about the State Energy Bill. Many communities believe their cities and towns should maintain local control over utilities through their elected boards, instead of state intervention.

## **Discuss the Format of Agenda and Minutes on the Town Website**

The Town of Princeton has implemented a new format for committees to submit their agendas and minutes. Since the Princeton Municipal Light Department (PMLD) has its own website, our Auditor has advised that PMLD should submit minutes only as PDFs, rather than in Word format, to avoid any risk of modifications. After thorough discussions, the Board and the Manager have agreed that both the agenda and minutes will be posted exclusively on the PMLD website, which is ADA-compliant. Commissioner Gott will speak with Ms. Cruise tomorrow regarding this matter.

## **Updates on Facebook & Website**

Recent updates on Facebook and the website have focused on power outages and information regarding NextZero.

## **New Business/Parking Lot Items**

The commissioners welcomed PMLD's two new linemen.

## Public Comments

Mr. Brooks mentioned he has no problems seeing the agendas and minutes online.

Mr. Brooks inquired about the National Grid rate changes occurring in November and May, and whether our rates are also affected. Mr. McKeon responded that they are not. PMLD's rates have remained unchanged for the past eight years. We have a contract with NextEra for power supply that lasts until 2028, which allows PMLD to predict supply costs. These costs increase by a set amount each year.

Commissioner Rys made a motion to adjourn the public session at 4 PM.

Commissioner Gott- 2<sup>nd</sup>

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Mammone  
Recording Secretary