

MINUTES OF THE  
REGULAR MEETING OF THE  
LEGISLATIVE AND GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE  
OF THE  
BOARDS OF DIRECTORS OF  
CONNECTICUT MUNICIPAL ELECTRIC ENERGY COOPERATIVE  
AND  
CONNECTICUT TRANSMISSION MUNICIPAL ELECTRIC ENERGY COOPERATIVE

March 12, 2020

A Regular Meeting of the Joint Legislative and Governmental Affairs Committee of the Boards of Directors of Connecticut Municipal Electric Energy Cooperative (“CMEEC”) and Connecticut Transmission Municipal Electric Energy Cooperative (“CTMEEC” and “Transco”) met at the CMEEC offices located at 30 Stott Avenue, Norwich, CT on Thursday, March 12, 2020 at 1:00 p.m.

The meeting was legally noticed in compliance with Connecticut General Statutes and all proceedings and all actions hereunder recorded occurred during the publicly open portions of the meeting.

**The following Committee Members participated:**

Groton Utilities: Keith Hedrick (via telephone)  
Jewett City Department of Public Utilities: Louis Demicco (via telephone)  
Norwich Public Utilities: Robert Staley  
South Norwalk Electric & Water: David Westmoreland (via telephone)

**The following CMEEC Staff participated:**

Dave Meisinger, CMEEC CEO (via telephone)  
Robin Kipnis, Esquire, CMEEC General Counsel  
Scott Whittier, CMEEC Director of Enabling Services  
Margaret Job, CMEEC Executive Assistant / Paralegal

**Other participants:**

Timothy Shea, Brown Rudnick (via telephone)  
David Silverstone, Esquire, Municipal Electric Consumer Advocate (via telephone)

Ms. Job recorded.

Committee Chair Louis Demicco called the meeting to order at 1:03 p.m. He noted for the record that this meeting is being held at the CMEEC offices located at 30 Stott Avenue, Norwich, CT via telephone and in person. He asked those participating by telephone and those

sitting in the room to identify themselves for the benefit of all to know who was present at today's meeting. Chair Demicco confirmed a quorum was present.

**Specific Action Item:**

**A Public Comment**

No public comment was made.

**B Approve Minutes of the February 20, 2020 Regular Meeting of the Joint Legislative and Governmental Affairs Committee**

**A motion was made by Committee Member Robert Staley, seconded by Committee Member Keith Hedrick to approve the Minutes of the February 20, 2020 Regular Meeting of the Joint Legislative and Governmental Affairs Committee.**

**Motion passed unanimously.**

**C Discussion of Process for Joint Legislative and Governmental Affairs Committee Performance Review per Committee Charter**

Scott Whittier, CMEEC Director of Enabling Services, explained that each Charter of each Joint Committee of the Board of Directors is required to perform annual self-evaluation of its performance. He stated that both the Risk Management Committee and the Governance Committee discussed the development of a method to conduct the self-evaluation. He informed this Committee that Member Representative Ronald Gaudet, who is the Chair of the Governance Committee, explained to that Committee and to the Board that he planned to develop a checklist based on the responsibilities listed in its Charter. Mr. Whittier added that the Risk Management Committee agreed it would also create a checklist based on the responsibilities listed in its Charter.

Discussion followed in connection with the creation of a method to perform self-evaluation of the Legislative and Governmental Affairs Committee. Committee Member David Westmoreland suggested that, in addition to creating a checklist using the responsibilities in its Charter, the Committee include an item that evaluates its effectiveness in utilizing CMEEC's lobbyist. Ms. Kipnis added that an item to the checklist can be added that addressed mobilization of the Legislative and Governmental Committee members to encourage delegate involvement.

**D State and Federal Legislative and Governmental Affairs Update**

Timothy Shea, Brown Rudnick, provided a high-level overview of recent legislative activity. He highlighted the recent decisions by Governor Lamont in response to the Corona Virus pandemic. He stated that the legislative building is closed, and all public hearings have been canceled, however at this time Committee meetings are still taking place. He opined that Committees were most likely focusing on a few priority bills

including budget and bills necessary to effectuate the budget. He added that the Energy and Technology Committee met recently to hear testimony on the so-called “Pfizer bill” (SB 298) stating that the bill is not likely moving forward and explained that communication from Groton Utilities to Senator Needleman was helpful. He also added that the bill addressing natural gas has been pared back and the only bill that will most likely be reviewed is SB 110 addressing climate change. He added that the Governor is highly focused on Covid-19, that government buildings are closed to the public, and that he will re-evaluate the situation on Monday. Mr. Shea also explained that the Governor announced Civil Preparedness and Public Health Emergencies.

Ms. Kipnis added that she and Mr. Meisinger attended the public hearing on SB 298 and heard the testimony of Pfizer and Senator Somers. She stated that the testimony was really focused on retail utility customers receiving advance notice of rate increases. Mr. Shea added that Pfizer’s testimony was ultimately complimentary, and that the bill had nothing to do with CMEEC directly.

David Silverstone, Esquire, Municipal Electric Consumer Advocate, inquired if there was any legislation that is focused on state actions related to the Corona Virus that might affect utility members. Mr. Shea explained that Governor Lamont conducted discussions with town leaders encouraging them not to hold large gatherings and to allow non-essential employees stay home. He added that the Governor is waiting to see how many more confirmed cases are reported over the next couple of days. He stated no directive has been made that would affect towns and members. He added that the legislators approved a \$5 million bond package for Corona Virus, among other initiatives.

There being no further business to come before this Committee, Committee Chair Demicco entertained a motion to adjourn.

**A motion was made by Committee Member Staley, seconded by Committee Member Hedrick to adjourn.**

**Motion passed unanimously.**

The meeting was adjourned at 1:20 p.m.