

**UTILITY CONSUMER PARTICIPATION BOARD**  
**August 12, 2023 || 10:00 a.m.**  
**CRA Building (previously MRA) – Sun Conference Room**  
**Please use South Entrance (Door Will Have a Sign)**  
**2407 N. Grand River Avenue**  
**Lansing Michigan 48906**  
Call-In option: 888.278.0296 (US Toll Free)  
Conference Code: 4803352

In Attendance:

Paul Isely (Board Chair), Anne Polakowski (Board Member), Mike Troupos (Board Member), Laura Kwiecien (LARA), Abigail Bies (Assistant to the Board), Jamie Cutler (LARA), Chris Bzdok (MEC), Don Keskey (GLREA), John Richter (GLREA), Suzy Westmoreland (MEGA), Michael Moody (AG), Megan LeMarbe (LARA), John Freeman (GLREA), Brenda Davis (LARA)

Attending by Phone:

Shawn Worden (LARA), Colleen Mulligan (MEC), Amy Bandyk (CUB), John Liskey (CUB), Tanya Paslawski (Elevated Engagement), Douglas Jester

- I. Call to Order and Roll Call
  - Paul Isely established a quorum and called the meeting to order.
- II. Approval of Minutes from the meeting of April 15, 2024
  - Moved by Mike Troupos Seconded by Anne Polakowski
  - Roll Call Vote: Mike Troupos, yes; Anne Polakowski, abstain; Paul Isely, yes;
  - **Motion to Approve Carried**
- III. Approval of Minutes from the meeting of June 10, 2024
  - Tabled until October 21, 2024, Meeting
- IV. Approval of Agenda
  - Moved by Anne Polakowski, Seconded by MT
  - **Majority Consent**
- V. Updates from Chair Isley
  - Continuing the ongoing plan to make good on the legislature's request to broaden requests from the Board
  - Annual Report Discussion Later
    - Developed a template for future Annual Reports
- VI. State Administration Updates
  - LARA Updates
    - LARA has just hired a new Grant Specialist, Megan LeMarbe
    - LARA is looking to hire a specific UCPB Grant Specialist
    - Reminder to submit any grant extension requests by Friday, August 16<sup>th</sup>, in a memo to LARA (one memo per grant)
    - There is a workplan request to roll over remaining funds to FY25, which begins October 1st
  - Budget Update
    - MONEY REQUESTED **\$355,740**
    - MONEY AVAILABLE **\$872,749**
    - IF GRANTED, **\$521,098** REMAINING

- Attorney General Updates
  - Aaron Waldon left the Attorney General office
  - Grant requests look good, no statutory problems
  - AG office will consider the timeline for updates in upcoming meetings

VII. Public comment (Three (3) minute limit – Grantee request summary)

- Chris Bzdok (MEC)
  - There is a small reduction request
  - The Reconciliation case was filed in March- MEC is digging into the discrepancies between rate increases and usage decreases
- GLREA
  - The Consumers case is to support the ability to do a community solar project
  - This will support low and moderate-income residents and increase transparency
- Amy Bandyk (CUB)
  - EWR case
    - From 2008-2016, utilities have had the option to go an alternative route for energy optimization compliance, in 2023 standards were raised' this led to a contested case
    - At most, 20% of the state population could be covered, realistically 10-12% will be covered
  - METC cases
    - These grant will apply to transmission lines
    - These cases may be combined later, they are separate since they cover different segments of the lines
  - MISO/FERC
    - More long-range transmission funding
    - Funding for FY24 and FY25 oversight

**FY24**

VIII. Grant Requests- Reductions

- U-21291 DTE Gas 2024 Rate - Amendment
  - Michigan Environmental Council (MEC) for U-21291 (\$4,089.25)
  - Reduce to \$116,910.75
  - Motion to approve Michigan Environmental Council's REQUEST TO AMEND the DTE Gas 2024 Rate U-21291 FOR A REDUCTION OF \$4,089.25 by MT, Seconded by Anne Polakowski.
  - Roll Call Vote: Mike Troupos, yes; Anne Polakowski, yes; Paul Isely, yes;
  - **Motion to Approve Carried**

IX. Grant Amendment Requests

- FY24 MISO/FERC - Amendment
  - Citizens Utility Board of Michigan (CUB) for MISO/FERC \$16,500
  - Paul Isely: This money is for CUB to go and participate at the MISO/FERC meetings in place of the Attorney General's Office
  - Motion to approve Citizens Utility Board's request to amend the FY24 MISO/FERC case for \$16,500 by MT, Seconded by Anne Polakowski.
  - Roll Call Vote: Mike Troupos, yes; Anne Polakowski, yes; Paul Isely, yes;
  - **Motion to Approve Carried**

X. Grant Amendment Requests-Extensions

- Grant UCRF 24-03 – DTE Electric Rate Case U-21534
  - Great Lakes Renewable Energy Association (GLREA)
  - Extension request through Fiscal Year 25 for U-21534
- Grant UCRF U-21585 – Consumers Energy Rate Case U-21585
  - Great Lakes Renewable Energy Association (GLREA)
  - Extension request through Fiscal Year 25 for U-21585

XI. Grant Requests

- U-21654 – EWR Program Framework
  - Citizens Utility Board of Michigan (CUB) for U-21654 \$68,750
  - Mike Troupos: is this the first intervention under the new rules established in February? Has CUB intervened in these types of cases before but not with funding from the UCPB?
  - Amy Bandyk: Yes, CUB has intervened before without funding from the UCPB
  - Motion to approve CUB's request for \$68,750 for the EWR Program Framework Case for U-21654 by Mike Troupos, Seconded by Anne Polakowski
  - Roll Call Vote: Mike Troupos, yes; Anne Polakowski, yes; Paul Isely, yes;
  - **Motion to Approve Carried**
- U-21471/U-21472 – METC
  - Citizens Utility Board of Michigan (CUB) for U-21471/U-21472 \$165,000
  - Mike Troupos: Has UCPB participated in transmission construction prior to now?
  - Amy Bandyk: This is the first construction in 50 years
  - Paul Isely: Is CUB capable of handling all these cases at the same time?
  - Amy Bandyk: We contract them out, CUB is capable of handling these cases
  - Mike Troupos: Are these new or old contractors CUB is using?
  - Amy Bandyk: CUB uses a mix of new and old contractors
  - Motion to approve Citizens Utility Board's request for the METC Cases U-21471 & U-21472 for \$165,000 by Mike Troupos, Seconded by Anne Polakowski.
  - Roll Call Vote: Mike Troupos, yes; Anne Polakowski, yes; Paul Isely, yes;
  - **Motion to Approve Carried**
- U-21260 DTE PSCR Reconciliation
  - Michigan Environmental Council (MEC) for U-21260 \$88,000
  - Paul Isely: This is a tried and true case for UCPB, capacity issues again are of interest
  - Mike Troupos: Has MEC intervened in the former rate case?
  - Chris Bzdok: No, MEC did not and the case settled with explicit stipulations and was a general ruling

- Motion to approve Michigan Environmental Council's request for \$88,000 for the DTE PSCR Reconciliation Case U-21260 by Mike Troupos, Seconded by Anne Polakowski.
  - Roll Call Vote: Mike Troupos, yes; Anne Polakowski, yes; Paul Isely, yes;
  - **Motion to Approve Carried**
- U-21585 Consumers Energy Company
    - Great Lakes Renewable Energy Association (GLREA) for U-21260 \$17,490
  - Paul Isely: appreciates the direction the case is going in, wants to further the request for GLREA to submit paperwork on time, not a specific issue but something to reemphasize
  - GLREA: There were a number of issues in the past leading to these paperwork shortcomings, not all to the fault of GLREA but they will be very careful to abide by the UBCP's guidelines moving forward
  - Laura Kwecien: reminder to submit a case close out when the intervention is complete – a reminder for all grantees. This grant will have a 9/30/25 end date
  - Motion to approve Great Lakes Renewable Energy Association's request for \$17,490 for the Consumers Energy Company Case U-21585 by Mike Troupos Seconded by Anne Polakowski.
  - Roll Call Vote: Mike Troupos, yes; Anne Polakowski, yes; Paul Isely, yes;
  - **Motion to Approve Carried**

## FY25

### XII. Grant Requests

- FY25 MISO/FERC
  - Citizens Utility Board of Michigan (CUB) for MISO/FERC \$ 110,000
- Paul Isely: Is this a conditional budget or is the budget approved
- Laura Kwecien: This budget is approved
- Paul Isely: Increases in funding increases to an increase in effort
- John Liskey: Transmission processes have required so much time, this is a critical effort to promote renewable energy
- Michael Moody: attests to the difficulty of overseeing this work, speaks to how an entire executive director position had to be filled just to oversee the meetings and updates
- Motion to approve Citizens utility board's request for \$110,000 for the Fiscal Year 2025 MISO/FERC case by Mike Troupos Seconded by Anne Polakowski.
- Roll Call Vote: Mike Troupos, yes; Anne Polakowski, yes; Paul Isely, yes;
- **Motion to Approve Carried**

### XIII. Public Comment (Three (3) minute limit)

- Laura Kwecien: Reminders for grantees with new fiscal year, necessary to do a yearly ten minute informative presentation for new grant requests, following the meeting - file the application summary doc

- Chris Bzdok: presentation showing data visualization for the increase in rate and decrease in usage
- Amy Bandyk: Thanks to the Board the the time and granting requests
- GLREA- last November. There was a new statute for utilities to be renewable by 2030, there was also another new law from local govts to fund wind and solar, GLREA will assist in these transitions, they need to get the correct zoning in place to get these communities transitioned especially because low-income and moderate-income communities face longer outages

XIV. UCPB Annual Report

- Paul Isely: We are hoping to reach the legislature by the end of the week, we almost doubled the amount given last year this year, had five major groups we funded MEC, CUB, Soulardarity, MMA, and the City of Ann Arbor. The resident is getting their money worth out of their tax dollars. The Board appreciate the effort and work of the grantees. Paul will send out the Report to the other board members for two days to revise, if nothing is heard, it will be sent to the legislature. Laura Kwiecien will be notified from the Board for when it is available to send. It is posted on the UCPB website.

XV. Next Meeting **October 21, 2024**

XVI. Adjournment

- **Majority Consensus**