

**Town of La Pointe  
Energy Committee  
Friday, April 8, 2022  
8:15 a.m. at Town Hall/Zoom  
Minutes**

Members present: Larry Bean; Chair, Robin Trinko-Russell and Glenn Carlson  
Members absent: Zach Montagne  
Staff present: Michael Kuchta, Town Administrator  
Ben Schram, Public Works Director  
Public present: Amy Simpkins, muGrid Analytics  
Travis Simpkins, muGrid Analytics  
Mike Wood, muGrid Analytics  
Mike Bebeau, Xcel Energy  
Craig Buttke, Solar CBI

**1. Call to order/Roll Call**

The Energy Committee meeting was called to order by Larry Bean, Chair at 8:15 am.

**2. Public Comment**

None

**3. Minutes of the following Energy Committee meeting to be considered for approval:**

**A. January 19, 2022**

Motion by Robin to approve the January 19, 2022, Energy Committee minutes as presented, second by Glenn, all ayes. Motion carried.

**4. Discussion of progress on microgrid feasibility study with Solar CBI and muGrid Analytics**

- Amy stated that muGrid met with Xcel Energy to talk about the power distribution architecture of the island. The current configuration of the Xcel Energy feeders would not allow for multi building microgrids.
- Travis stated Xcel Energy has a new program that would allow use of their distribution lines but the cost is too expensive for small scale microgrids.
- Robin asked about overproduction at Town Hall and Library/Clinic locations. Craig estimated 10%-20% over net zero. Some suggestions were EV (electric vehicle) charging stations or HVAC heat pump/mini split installation.
- Amy summarized a new scope
  - Treat single buildings as micro-grids with the availability to scale up to mini grids in the future.
  - Look at ideas to use up excess generation at individual sites.
  - Create a qualitative path to what a larger microgrid would look like.
- Discussion on if this scope fits in with the grant terms, consensus that it does.

Motion by Glenn to modify the scope of this study to the outline above, seconded by Robin, all ayes. Motion Carried.

- Craig will move the e-gauge from the school to the Emergency Services Building to start collecting data.
- Solar CBI and muGrid will coordinate on how to share the data collection tasks.
- Building to be studied are the Town Hall, Emergency Services Building and the Library/Clinic site.

**5. Tour of Town Facilities**

Will be done after the meeting is adjourned.

**6. Set next meeting and agenda.**

Next meeting to be set in approx. 30 days.

Michael K suggested the committee make some recommendation to the Comprehensive Plan Steering on items they would like to be included in the updated comprehensive plan.

**7. Adjourn.**

Motion by Glenn to adjourn, seconded by Robin, all in favor, all ayes.

Meeting Adjourned.

**Larry Bean, Chair  
Energy Committee**

Minutes taken from recording and submitted by Dorgene Goetsch, Clerical Assistant.  
Minutes approved as presented June 8, 2022. Dorgene Goetsch, Clerical Assistant.