

Chairman Thomas Reynolds called the meeting to order at 5:08 p.m. in the BELD Board Room. Those present at the meeting included Chairman Reynolds, Vice Chairman Anthony Agnitti, Secretary James Regan, General Manager William G. Bottiggi, Ken Stone, Chuck Coyne all of BELD and Susan Clawson, of American Cancer Society's Relay for Life.

**I. Minutes of Prior Meetings**

**i. February 13, 2018 Open Meeting**

Voted: on motion of Mr. Regan, seconded by Mr. Agnitti, to accept the minutes of February 13, 2018 Open Meeting as written.

**ii. February 13, 2018 Executive Session**

Voted: on motion of Mr. Regan, seconded by Mr. Agnitti, to table the minutes of the February 13, 2018 Executive Session. So voted.

**II. Items for Action**

**i. Relay for Life Request**

Chairman Reynolds recognized Ms. Clawson. Ms. Clawson thanked BELD for their advertising at the Relay for Life last year. She said they raised \$70,000 in the Braintree Relay for Life. The goal this year is \$90,000. She asked the Board if they would like BELD to be a part of this again this year. They will do signage along the route, on the T-shirts, advertising on all the social media pages, recognition at the event and BELD could put a table at the event as well. Ms. Clawson continued this year the Relay for Life will be held on Saturday, June 9<sup>th</sup> from 11:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m. and will be a one day event as it was last year.

Voted: on motion of Mr. Regan, seconded by Mr. Agnitti, to match the amount from last year - \$1500 advertising at the Relay for Life event. So voted.

**III. Items for Discussion**

**i. Energy Storage Project at Station 9**

Mr. Bottiggi stated he would give a quick update to the Board. He continued the project is on schedule with contracts in place and procurement of the major equipment. The goal is to have the unit in and running by June 1, 2018. We will probably be mobilizing and breaking ground by the end of this month, if Borrego has the final civil drawings and the weather allows. Mr. Regan asked about wetlands. Mr. Bottiggi said we have to stay 100 feet away so when you go into the station the wetlands are off to the left and this will be off to the right. There was further discussion.

This is a 2 MW/4MWh battery that will be used for peak shaving capacity and transmission. We should be getting our first payment toward the grant at the end of the month according to Borrego. We get \$700,000; we get the bulk of that between now and the summer and then they watch performance over 18 month and the rest will come in little by little.

In response to Mr. Regan's question Mr. Bottiggi said these are lithium ION batteries so they are not liquid and we do not have to worry about a containment area. It will go on a foundation but nothing will leak.

**ii. Winter Storms Riley, Quinn, Skylar**

Mr. Bottiggi reported to the Board on the latest storms. He said for Riley we spent \$113,000 and we had 480 people out total, about 300 customers at the peak. We had everybody back by late the night of the storm. BELD spent \$38,000 for Quinn and we had 268 people out total and for Skylar we spent \$26,000 and we had 13 people out. We did very well. The field guys were out all night and we had to pull them in for rest. This was great marketing for us: Braintree residents are sitting at home watching the news about how many outages. Mr. Agnitti said that he saw Mr. Kokoros at Town Hall today and he said that BELD did a fantastic job and congratulated us. Mr. Stone said there is a chance we could get reimbursed for the first storm but the other two will not count. We sent some of our personnel out on Mutual Aid to Reading and Hull.

**iii. Legislative Rally**

Mr. Bottiggi reported to the Board that he and Mr. Stone went to Washington, DC for the APPA Legislative Rally and met with congressmen and staff. We did speak with Representative Kennedy for a while about fuel diversity. We discussed the January cold spell as the recent storms did not happen until later.

**iv. U12 East Braintree Elite Baseball Request**

Mr. Bottiggi explained that an email came in asking for sponsorship to this team. There was discussion. We do not sponsor teams and if we do for one then we would have to do for all.

**IV. Personnel Update**

None.

**V. Old Business (As Determined/Needed)**

**i. RP3 Award**

Mr. Bottiggi explained at the last meeting he had announced that BELD had been recognized as a diamond level RP3 (Reliable Public Power Provider) and our score was 99 out of 100. He continued Mr. Stone asked them to review a question that we inadvertently had left blank and he got us the 100 out of 100.

**VI. New Business (As Determined/Needed)**

**i. BELD Certificate of Excellence and Reliability**

Mr. Bottiggi reported that Mr. Stone also submitted our reliability statistics to APPA and we received a certificate of excellence and reliability because we were "significantly outperforming the electric industry national average".

**ii. Small Cell Antenna Proposal**

Mr. Bottiggi reported to the Board that we have been approached a company called ExteNet and they want to put a couple of small cell antennas in Braintree. The specific areas are up near Pan Asia on Quincy Avenue and by Five Corners. This is a new trend: instead of the big towers they put what they call an antenna on top of the utility pole. The antenna has a shroud around it so it looks like an extension of the pole. BELD will do all the work up in the power space: drop the coax down to them and they put their cabinet with a radio in it on the pole. That equipment can handle up to 4 carriers. AT&T is working with them currently but others can be on the pole. The fiber goes from there to the Light Tower fiber throughout Town. He explained Light Tower was sold to Crown Castle.

Mr. Bottiggi explained we have a pretty extensive network running throughout the town that we own and we lease the fibers to Crown Castle. It is a good money generator. We are going to propose to the company that is going to put the fiber up that we will put it up, own it and lease it to you – just like we do with Crown Castle. There could be a hundred of these small cell antennas in town which will really fortify cellular and data service. Mr. Regan asked how long a contract would we have with them. Mr. Bottiggi said it would be more of an agreement and we can terminate it with proper notice to them. We will be paid \$350 per year per location for one provider and then every additional provider is an additional \$250.00.

Mr. Bottiggi said it might be best to look at this in electrical terms: the backbone of the transmission of the data is Crown Castle and then there is a lateral that goes from there to ExteNet and that is like the distribution piece. We have an agreement in place with Crown Castle and we are going to have an agreement in place with ExteNet, the small cell tower owner. ExteNet is going to sell their business to AT&T first – but you have to get from the pole to Crown Castle's fiber and we prefer to own that fiber. In response to Mr. Regan's question, Mr. Bottiggi said we do not have to allow them to install their own fiber because they are not a utility. He continued part of the concern is we want to control these fibers because it's a cable and if ExteNet goes to one location for AT&T and then another for Sprint now we have two cables – before you know it we could have four cables running off of every small cell antenna so instead of having one hundred cables we could end up with four hundred cables. We want to be able to control this. Mr. Reynolds asked how many fibers are in a cable – Mr. Bottiggi said there are a lot of different options. He continued we typically put in only 128 fibers but it comes in units of 6 and you could put up to 512 fibers in a cable. If we did not own this – AT&T only needs 6 fibers – they would run a cable with 6 fibers and we don't want that. We want to run the cable with 128 fibers. Since we own them we can use them too. There was further discussion.

**VII. Public Participation (As Determined/Needed)**

None.

**VIII. Tabled Items**

None.

**IX. Next Regular Meeting – Upcoming Meetings**

**i. Tuesday, April 10, 2018**

Voted: on motion of Mr. Regan, seconded by Mr. Agnitti, to recess the Electric Open Session to go into the Broadband Open Session at 5:41 p.m.

Chairman Reynolds reopened the Electric Open Session at 5:50 pm in BELD Board Room. He announced that the Board would be going into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing collective bargaining strategy regarding negotiations with Utility Workers Union of America, Local 379. He continued having this discussion in open session could be detrimental to BELD's bargaining position and any decisions that we vote on will be announced when we come back into Open Session; if no votes are taken we will be adjourning.

Voted: on motion of Mr. Regan, seconded by Mr. Agnitti to go into Executive Session at 5:51 p.m.

Roll Call Vote at 5:51 p.m.:

Mr. Agnitti – yes. Mr. Regan – yes. Mr. Reynolds – yes.

Executive Session commenced at 5:51 pm.

**X. Executive Session (As Determined/Needed)**

**i. Collective Bargaining Strategy**

Motion and roll call vote to adjourn from the Executive Session at 5:59 pm.

Mr. Agnitti – yes                      Mr. Regan – yes                      Mr. Reynolds – yes

Chairman Reynolds reopened the Electric Open Session at 6:00 p.m. He announced that the Board voted to accept the Union Contract as presented by the General Manager.

**XI. Adjournment**

Voted: on motion of Mr. Agnitti, seconded by Mr. Regan, to adjourn the Electric Division meeting at 6:01 p.m. So voted.

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**March 20, 2018**

Attendees: Chairman Thomas Reynolds, Vice-Chairman Anthony Agnitti, Secretary James Regan, General Manager William Bottiggi, all of BELD.

Chairman Reynolds reopened the Electric Open Session at 5:50 pm in BELD Board Room. He announced that the Board would be going into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing collective bargaining strategy regarding negotiations with Utility Workers Union of America, Local 379. He continued having this discussion in open session could be detrimental to BELD's bargaining position and any decisions that we vote on will be announced when we come back into Open Session; if no votes are taken we will be adjourning.

A Roll Call Vote was taken to enter into Executive Session at 5:51 pm.

Mr. Agnitti – yes

Mr. Regan – yes

Mr. Reynolds - yes

Executive Session commenced at 5:51 pm.

**I. Executive Session (As Determined/Needed)**

**i. Collective Bargaining Strategy**

Mr. Bottiggi reported to the Board that the Union voted against the contract as discussed at the last Executive Session. He met with the Union officials again last week. The Union has a meeting tonight to see if they will pass it.

Mr. Bottiggi passed out the same pages (attached) as before with the items marked up that he agreed to take out. The first article was concerning the Engineer and Relief Fireman and the Fireman's vacation. This does not give us all the flexibility that we want but that is okay. There is one Relief Fireman and two Relief Engineers right now.

The other item was the Maintenance Technician position that we have been upgrading. It is written in the agreement that the Lab Technician, two days per week for fifty two weeks per year, be upgraded. Mr. Bottiggi wanted to make that only on the times that he works. The Union pushed back hard on this. Mr. Bottiggi did agree although he is unsure how much longer that job will exist anyways. If we close Potter there would be nothing for him to do. There will be further discussion.

Mr. Bottiggi announced that he had just received a text from the Union that they voted for the contract.

The other article the Union did not want was 21 where you did not need the license to get the job. You would get paid less if you did not have the license. Mr. Bottiggi said he would not back down on that article. Now you need the license to get the job in the maintenance department. There was discussion.

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**March 20, 2018**

Voted: On motion of Mr. Regan, seconded by Mr. Agnitti, to accept the General Manager's recommendation to approve the Union contract. So voted.

Motion and roll call vote to adjourn from the Executive Session at 5:59 pm.

Mr. Agnitti – yes

Mr. Regan – yes

Mr. Reynolds – yes

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James P. Regan, Secretary

Chairman Thomas Reynolds called the meeting to order at 5:41 p.m. in the BELD Board Room. Those present at the meeting included Chairman Reynolds, Vice Chairman Anthony Agnitti, Secretary James Regan, General Manager William G. Bottiggi, and Chuck Coyne, all of BELD.

**I. Minutes of Prior Meetings**

**i. February 13, 2018 Open Meeting**

Voted: on motion of Mr. Regan, seconded by Mr. Agnitti, to accept the minutes of February 13, 2018 Open Meeting as written. So voted.

**II. Items for Action**

**i. East Braintree Little League Request**

Mr. Bottiggi said this is something that we did last year. There are no signs there now but our signs were made last year. One sign on the fence is \$200. There was discussion. We would like to have two signs – one on each field. This would be the bronze level. There was further discussion.

Voted: on motion of Mr. Regan, seconded by Mr. Agnitti, to do the bronze level of advertising and get two signs for \$200 each. So voted.

**III. Items for Discussion**

None.

**IV. Personnel Update**

None.

**V. Old Business**

Mr. Bottiggi reported that the new Tivo boxes are being tested. Mr. Reynolds and Mr. Regan are testers. We are hoping to roll these out to residents in April. There was discussion – it is a very informative device with many options.

**VI. New Business**

None.

**VII. Public Participation**

None.

**VIII. Tabled Items**

None.

**IX. Next Regular Meeting – Upcoming Meetings**

- i. Tuesday, April 10, 2018 at 5:00 p.m.**

**X. Executive Session**

None.

**IX. Adjournment**

Voted: on motion of Mr. Regan, seconded by Mr. Agnitti, to adjourn the Broadband Division meeting at 5:49 p.m. So voted.

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James P. Regan  
Secretary