

SPECIAL MEETING

The HBPW Board of Directors met
March 23, 2026
at 4:00 p.m.
49 W Third St.- East Conference Room
Holland, Michigan

Chair Thompson called the meeting to order at 4:01 p.m.

Members Present: PJ Thompson, Carolyn Maalouf, Paul Lilly, Kyle Engbers, City Council Liaison Scott Corbin, and Ex Officio Member Keith Van Beek

Members Absent: Brian Lynn, Dave Couch

Staff Present: Dave Koster, Janet Lemson, Becky Lehman, Ted Siler, Jenessa Carter, Joel Davenport, Steve Bruinsma, Alex Craigmile, Joe Sikma, Grant Koster, Julie DeCook, Fred Heiser, Andrew Reynolds, Amy Yost, Tracy York, Vince Duckworth, City Attorney

26.172 **Approval of Agenda**

Board Member Lilly made a motion to approve the agenda. The motion was seconded by Board Member Maalouf.

26.173 **Communications From the Audience**

None

SPECIAL ACTION ITEMS

26.174 **Unit 9 Main Isolation Gas Valve Replacement**

Unit 9 is one of three simple cycle gas turbines located at the 48th Street Generating Station. The main isolation valve on the 8-inch gas pipeline supplying fuel to the unit is located near the main entrance gate at the site and is currently inoperative/broken in the open position. Failure of the valve creates challenges operationally and for maintenance on Unit 9 and its gas supply system. This is because the monitor and working control valves must be used for isolation in absence of the main isolation valve, which is not the best practice for high pressure gas lines.

The existing valve is 28 years old and is located 5 feet underground. Staff began experiencing issues with the valve's operation in 2024 and had planned for its replacement in FY27 as part of the five-year capital improvement plan. The valve has since failed, and staff is now looking to expedite the work and get it replaced ahead of the upcoming summer season. Moving this work into FY26 requires a capital budget amendment.

Holland BPW requested bids for turnkey replacement services from three contractors, Miller Pipeline, R.L. Morris, and FCX Performance. Responses are summarized in the table below:

Bidder Name	Business Location	Quote EST Amount	Meets Specifications	Previous Contracts
Miller Pipeline	Wyoming - MI	\$138,441.64	Yes	Yes
R.L. Morris	Kalkaska - MI	\$183,500.00	Yes	Yes
FCX Performance	Carleton - MI	Declined	Yes	Yes

** Red italics indicate information or discussion added during the meeting and/or action taken.*

Staff recommends awarding the work to Miller Pipeline based on review of the quotes received. Other expenses included in the requested budget are for third party support services, rental equipment, and purging of the gas pipeline as necessary to perform the work.

Recommendation: The Board of Directors approved a contract with Miller Pipeline in the amount of \$138,441.64 with a 10% contingency of \$14,000.00 for a total of \$152,441.64. Also approve a budget amendment to the FY26 Electric Production capital budget in the amount of \$165,000.00

<i>Motion to approve recommendation</i>	<i>Maalouf</i>
<i>Second</i>	<i>Engbers</i>
<i>Favor</i>	<i>4</i>
<i>Oppose</i>	<i>0</i>

26.175 **Contract Amendment with Southwest Electric**

Holland BPW entered into a contract with Southwest Electric to repair the Greenly Substation ABB transformers in September 2025. Southwest Electric was able to diagnose and make timely repairs to both units.

Over this winter, industrial substation transformers T1 and T2 have developed oil leaks between the load tap changer (LTC) tank and the main transformer tank causing the oil to migrate from the main tank into the LTC. The challenge to maintain proper oil levels in these units is time consuming and costly.

HBPW staff solicited proposals from Southwest Electric and the OEM for the repair of these units, and Southwest is the lowest responsible bidder for this work. A contract amendment will make additional approved funds available to complete the work this spring before higher summer loads make it more difficult. As a maintenance item, this project would be part of the FY 2026 Electric Distribution expense budget.

Recommendation: The Board of Directors approved a contract amendment with Southwest Electric, in the amount of \$191,800 with a 10% contingency of \$19,000, for a total of \$210,800. The new total approved contract amount will be \$356,060.

<i>Motion to approve recommendation</i>	<i>Lilly</i>
<i>Second</i>	<i>Maalouf</i>
<i>Favor</i>	<i>4</i>
<i>Oppose</i>	<i>0</i>

STUDY ITEM

26.176 **Local Generation Market Evaluation Update**

PA 295, as recently amended by PA 235, requires electric providers to comply with new renewable energy standard requirements, which will mean substantial investment in new resources. Local resources would help meet these requirements and also provide benefits relative to avoidance of transmission expenses. Initial estimates performed, as part of an Integrated Resource Plan (IRP), implied that these resources may be economically viable today; but actual bids need to be sought to confirm and potentially implement.

A tactical action was created this fiscal year to investigate the economics by preparing and issuing a Request for Proposal(s) for the installation of utility owned solar generation and battery storage.

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HBPW staff reached out to several firms to assist with the development of an RFP. nFront was selected to complete the RFP, and work has been ongoing since entering into a contract in August 2025. The RFP was issued in January 2026, and we received proposals on March 6, 2026.

As a part of the Study Agenda, staff will give a presentation on the current status of the RFP results. This includes work performed to date, current status, and the expected process moving forward.

Recommendation: Study item. No Board action required.

26.177 **Closed Door Session – Legal Opinions (2)**

Motion to enter Closed Session @ 4:56 p.m.	<Name>
Made by Lilly	<Name>
Second: Maalouf	
Favor 4	
Oppose 0	
<i>ROLL CALL: Thompson, Maalouf, Engbers, Lilly</i>	
Motion to re-enter Open Session @ 6:22 p.m.	<Name>
Made by Lilly	<Name>
Second Maalouf	
Favor 4	<#>
Oppose 0	<#>

26.178 **Low Income Energy Assistance Fund (LIEAF) Participation for Program Year 2026/2027**

Recommendation: The Board approved HBPW staff to notify the MPSC that HBPW will be opting out of the state run LIEAF program and will administer its own program for program year 2026/2027 in accordance with PA 169 of 2024.

<i>Motion to approve recommendation</i>	<i>Lilly</i>
<i>Second</i>	<i>Maalouf</i>
<i>Favor</i>	<i>4</i>
<i>Oppose</i>	<i>0</i>

26.179 **General Manager Comments**

- Our next meeting, a Regular BOD meeting is April 6. Our GM will be out of state, so Utility Services Director Siler will lead the meeting on behalf of staff.

26.181 **Board Comments**

- VanBeek thanked Julie DeCook for her information and research he was able to share that the HBPW's electric rates are among the lowest of any utility in Michigan! He plans to share this information further every opportunity he has.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion to adjourn the meeting of *March 23, 2026*, was made by *Maalouf* supported by *Lilly* and agreed upon by the Board of Directors present.

The Board Meeting of March 23, 2026, adjourned at *6:26 p.m.*

Minutes respectfully submitted by,

Janet Lemson, Secretary to the Board

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