

AGENDA
PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
March 4, 2020
3:00 P.M.

- A. Call to Order

- B. Roll Call

- C. Approve Consent Agenda
 - 1. Approve Agenda
 - 2. Approve Meeting Minutes
 - 3. Payments Report

- D. EICDA Resolution Update

- E. 2020 PUC Solar Project

- F. Utility Rate Study Update

- G. Carolyn Foundation Grant-CCLEP

- H. March 19 SMMPA Visit

- I. Adjourn

*Public Utilities Commission
Minutes
February 5, 2020*

Meeting was called to order by Chair George Wilkes at 3:03 p.m.

Members present: Tim Kennedy and George Wilkes

Absent:

Staff Present: Mike Roth, Tom Nelson, Shane Steele, and Haden Hinchman

Others Present:

Motion by Kennedy, seconded by Wilkes to approve the Agenda; January 8th, 2020 Minutes; and Payment of Bills. Approved unanimously.

Tom Nelson gave an update on water AMI installation. There are now enough electric AMI meters to start working on the water meter infrastructure. He would like to order the first 100 water nodes.

Motion by Kennedy, seconded by Wilkes to approve the purchase of 100 nodes from Eaton for \$9996. Approved unanimously.

Mike Roth presented a synopsis of the utility rate seminar he attended. Staff will be bringing rate study recommendations for the PUC to review at a future meeting.

The Commission discussed how agendas are created for the meetings.

The Commission discussed the progress of Energy Innovation and Carbon Dividend Act at the City level.

Motion by Wilkes, seconded by Kennedy to reaffirm the PUC resolution for EICDA and send letters to State and Local representatives. Approved unanimously.

Motion by Wilkes, seconded by Kennedy to bring EICDA to the City Council. Approved unanimously.

Mike Roth presented some background on a joint project in the business park between the City and the County. The Commission decided to wait on moving forward with a solar project until after the city and county acquired a lot.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 3:59 p.m.



CITY OF GRAND MARAIS

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Payments

City of Grand Marais

Current Period: February 2020

Batch Name	2-13-20 AP	User Dollar Amt	\$143,673.60	
	Payments	Computer Dollar Amt	\$143,673.60	
			\$0.00	In Balance
Refer	<u>79189 PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION1 Ck# 004831E 2/3/2020</u>			
Cash Payment	E 602-49451-380 Utility Services (GENER			\$1,146.42
Invoice	FEB 2020 2/1/2020			
Cash Payment	E 602-49480-380 Utility Services (GENER			\$3,793.86
Invoice	FEB 2020 2/1/2020			
Cash Payment	E 601-49420-380 Utility Services (GENER			\$2,412.44
Invoice	FEB 2020 2/1/2020			
Cash Payment	E 604-49551-380 Utility Services (GENER			\$33.90
Invoice	FEB 2020 2/1/2020			
Transaction Date	1/29/2020	MAIN CHECKING G	10100	Total \$7,386.62
Refer	<u>79241 MN DEPT OF HEALTH-DRINKING -</u>			
Cash Payment	E 601-49440-439 Licenses	GREG LYKINS		\$32.00
Invoice	SYS OPERATOR 2/1/2020			
Transaction Date	2/6/2020	MAIN CHECKING G	10100	Total \$32.00
Refer	<u>79244 GRAND MARAIS AUTO PARTS, INC -</u>			
Cash Payment	E 604-49570-210 Operating Supplies (GEN 2020			\$77.23
Invoice	2088 1/22/2020			
Transaction Date	2/6/2020	MAIN CHECKING G	10100	Total \$77.23
Refer	<u>79245 ARROWHEAD COOPERATIVE Ck# 004835E 2/20/2020</u>			
Cash Payment	E 602-49490-321 Telephone	2020		\$127.72
Invoice	2121 2/1/2020			
Cash Payment	E 604-49590-321 Telephone	2020		\$189.30
Invoice	2244 2/1/2020			
Transaction Date	2/6/2020	MAIN CHECKING G	10100	Total \$317.02
Refer	<u>79248 COOK COUNTY HOME CENTER -</u>			
Cash Payment	E 601-49420-210 Operating Supplies (GEN 2020			\$534.34
Invoice	1160 1/31/2020			
Cash Payment	E 604-49570-210 Operating Supplies (GEN 220			\$231.13
Invoice	2088 1/31/2020			
Transaction Date	2/6/2020	MAIN CHECKING G	10100	Total \$765.47
Refer	<u>79249 LOCATORS & SUPPLIES, INC -</u>			
Cash Payment	E 604-49570-210 Operating Supplies (GEN 2020			\$244.24
Invoice	0282164-IN 2/5/2020			
Cash Payment	E 604-49570-210 Operating Supplies (GEN 2020			\$30.45
Invoice	0282103-IN 1/31/2020			
Transaction Date	2/6/2020	MAIN CHECKING G	10100	Total \$274.69
Refer	<u>79250 GOPHER STATE ONE CALL -</u>			
Cash Payment	E 601-49430-430 Miscellaneous (GENERA 2020			\$1.35
Invoice	0010985 1/31/2020			
Transaction Date	2/6/2020	MAIN CHECKING G	10100	Total \$1.35
Refer	<u>79251 UTILITY CONSULTANTS, INC -</u>			
Cash Payment	E 602-49480-300 Professional Srvs (GENE 2020			\$551.85
Invoice	104123 1/28/2020			



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Payments

City of Grand Marais

Current Period: February 2020

Transaction Date	2/6/2020	MAIN CHECKING G	10100	Total	\$551.85
Refer	79253	QUALITY FLOW SYSTEMS, INC	-		
Cash Payment	E 601-49420-221	Equipment Parts/Building	2020		\$166.99
Invoice	38492	1/29/2020			
Transaction Date	2/6/2020	MAIN CHECKING G	10100	Total	\$166.99
Refer	79255	JAVA MOOSE	-		
Cash Payment	E 604-49590-200	Office Supplies (GENER	2020		\$55.00
Invoice	984	2/2/2020			
Transaction Date	2/6/2020	MAIN CHECKING G	10100	Total	\$55.00
Refer	79259	PSN	Ck# 004836E 2/3/2020		
Cash Payment	E 604-49590-432	Credit Card Charges	2020		\$431.18
Invoice	210763	2/3/2020			
Cash Payment	E 601-49440-432	Credit Card Charges	2020		\$121.27
Invoice	210763	2/3/2020			
Cash Payment	E 602-49490-432	Credit Card Charges	2020		\$121.27
Invoice	210763	2/3/2020			
Transaction Date	2/6/2020	MAIN CHECKING G	10100	Total	\$673.72
Refer	79260	STEVE S SPORTS AND AUTO	-		
Cash Payment	E 602-49480-210	Operating Supplies (GEN	2020		\$20.59
Invoice	284227	1/29/2020			
Transaction Date	2/6/2020	MAIN CHECKING G	10100	Total	\$20.59
Refer	79261	NORTH SHORE ANALYTICAL, INC	-		
Cash Payment	E 602-49480-300	Professional Srvs (GENE	2020		\$430.00
Invoice	12966	1/30/2020			
Transaction Date	2/6/2020	MAIN CHECKING G	10100	Total	\$430.00
Refer	79273	SUNSHINE FILTERS OF PINELLAS,	-		
Cash Payment	E 602-49480-210	Operating Supplies (GEN	2019		\$248.61
Invoice	137051	10/28/2019			
Transaction Date	2/6/2020	MAIN CHECKING G	10100	Total	\$248.61
Refer	79274	VESSCO, INC	-		
Cash Payment	E 601-49420-221	Equipment Parts/Building	2020		\$1,398.56
Invoice	78874	1/16/2020			
Transaction Date	2/6/2020	MAIN CHECKING G	10100	Total	\$1,398.56
Refer	79275	GEORGE WILKES	-		
Cash Payment	E 604-49590-330	Transportation/School	2019		\$292.41
Invoice	SMPA MEETIN	1/21/2020			
Transaction Date	2/6/2020	MAIN CHECKING G	10100	Total	\$292.41
Refer	79281	EATON	-		
Cash Payment	E 604-49570-227	Utility Maint Supplies	2020		\$2,198.69
Invoice	938803024	1/22/2020			
Cash Payment	E 604-49570-227	Utility Maint Supplies	2020		\$845.65
Invoice	938814456	1/23/2020			
Cash Payment	E 604-49570-227	Utility Maint Supplies	2020		\$2,863.05
Invoice	938814570	1/23/2020			
Cash Payment	E 604-49570-227	Utility Maint Supplies	2020		\$1,353.04
Invoice	938814450	1/23/2020			



CITY OF GRAND MARAIS

Payments

City of Grand Marais

Current Period: February 2020

Transaction Date	2/6/2020	MAIN CHECKING G 10100	Total	\$7,260.43
Refer	79282 MN DEPT OF REVENUE-EFTPS	Ck# 004837E 2/6/2020		
Cash Payment	G 601-20800 Taxes Due (State MN)	2020		\$750.00
Invoice	1-537-206-816 2/6/2020			
Cash Payment	G 604-20800 Taxes Due (State MN)	2020		\$13,140.00
Invoice	1-537-206-816 2/6/2020			
Transaction Date	2/6/2020	MAIN CHECKING G 10100	Total	\$13,890.00

Fund Summary

10100 MAIN CHECKING GMSB

101 GENERAL FUND	\$40,003.97
211 LIBRARY	\$3,293.67
215 LIBRARY RESTRICTED FUND	\$288.00
601 WATER	\$5,416.95
602 SEWER	\$6,440.32
604 ELECTRIC	\$21,985.27
609 MUNICIPAL LIQUOR FUND	\$66,245.42
	<u>\$143,673.60</u>

Pre-Written Checks	\$22,267.36
Checks to be Generated by the Computer	\$11,575.18
Total	<u>\$33,842.54</u>



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Payments

City of Grand Marais

Current Period: February 2020

Batch Name	2-27-20 AP	User Dollar Amt	\$212,652.25
	Payments	Computer Dollar Amt	\$212,652.25
			\$0.00 In Balance

Refer	79316	WEX BANK	Ck# 004838E 2/27/2020		
Cash Payment	E 604-49570-212	Motor Fuels	2020		\$106.81
Invoice	63924783	2/15/2020			
Cash Payment	E 601-49440-212	Motor Fuels	2020		\$30.51
Invoice	63924783	2/15/2020			
Cash Payment	E 602-49490-212	Motor Fuels	2020		\$30.51
Invoice	63924783	2/15/2020			
Cash Payment	E 604-49570-212	Motor Fuels	2020		\$402.95
Invoice	63901214	2/15/2020			
Cash Payment	E 601-49440-212	Motor Fuels	2020		\$63.94
Invoice	63901213	2/15/2020			
Cash Payment	E 602-49490-212	Motor Fuels	2020		\$63.94
Invoice	63901213	2/15/2020			
Transaction Date	2/18/2020	MAIN CHECKING G	10100	Total	\$698.66
Refer	79327	BUCK S HARDWARE HANK	-		
Cash Payment	E 604-49570-210	Operating Supplies (GEN	2020		\$83.16
Invoice	2088	1/31/2020			
Cash Payment	E 602-49480-300	Professional Svcs (GENE	2020		\$51.06
Invoice	1160	1/31/2020			
Cash Payment	E 601-49420-210	Operating Supplies (GEN	2020		\$189.56
Invoice	1160	1/31/2020			
Transaction Date	2/20/2020	MAIN CHECKING G	10100	Total	\$323.78
Refer	79335	TOSHIBA BUSINESS SOLUTIONS	-		
Cash Payment	E 604-49590-200	Office Supplies (GENER	2020		\$53.07
Invoice	5199703	2/10/2020			
Cash Payment	E 601-49440-200	Office Supplies (GENER	2020		\$14.92
Invoice	5199703	2/10/2020			
Cash Payment	E 602-49490-200	Office Supplies (GENER	2020		\$14.92
Invoice	5199703	2/10/2020			
Transaction Date	2/20/2020	MAIN CHECKING G	10100	Total	\$82.91
Refer	79336	MY BROTHERS PLACE AUTO REP	-		
Cash Payment	E 604-49570-210	Operating Supplies (GEN	2020		\$164.10
Invoice	6216	2/18/2020			
Transaction Date	2/20/2020	MAIN CHECKING G	10100	Total	\$164.10
Refer	79339	MN DEPT OF HEALTH-DRINKING	-		
Cash Payment	G 601-20803	State Water Connection Fee	2020		\$1,718.00
Invoice	QUARTERLY PA	2/11/2020			
Transaction Date	2/20/2020	MAIN CHECKING G	10100	Total	\$1,718.00
Refer	79343	CENTURYLINK	-		
Cash Payment	E 601-49440-321	Telephone	2020		\$56.96
Invoice	218 387-1788	2/1/2020			
Cash Payment	E 601-49440-321	Telephone	2020		\$69.36
Invoice	218 D24-1001	2/1/2020			



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Payments

City of Grand Marais

Current Period: February 2020

Cash Payment	E 601-49440-321 Telephone	2020			\$69.36
Invoice	218 D24-1002	2/1/2020			
Transaction Date	2/20/2020		MAIN CHECKING G	10100	Total \$195.68
Refer	79344 HACH COMPANY	-			
Cash Payment	E 601-49420-210 Operating Supplies (GEN	2020			\$354.23
Invoice	11814946	1/29/2020			
Transaction Date	2/20/2020		MAIN CHECKING G	10100	Total \$354.23
Refer	79349 HAWKINS, INC.	-			
Cash Payment	E 601-49420-218 Operating Supplies- Che	2020			\$2,632.61
Invoice	4959412	2/5/2020			
Transaction Date	2/20/2020		MAIN CHECKING G	10100	Total \$2,632.61
Refer	79351 NORDIC ELECTRIC	-			
Cash Payment	E 602-49480-300 Professional Svcs (GENE	2020			\$170.00
Invoice	16626	2/4/2020			
Transaction Date	2/20/2020		MAIN CHECKING G	10100	Total \$170.00
Refer	79352 SMMPA			<u>Ck# 004847E 2/25/2020</u>	
Cash Payment	E 604-49560-388 Purchase Power	2020			\$170,938.79
Invoice	JAN 2020	2/1/2020			
Transaction Date	2/20/2020		MAIN CHECKING G	10100	Total \$170,938.79

Fund Summary

	10100 MAIN CHECKING GMSB	
101 GENERAL FUND		\$9,241.83
211 LIBRARY		\$2,321.26
215 LIBRARY RESTRICTED FUND		\$2,859.00
601 WATER		\$5,199.45
602 SEWER		\$330.43
604 ELECTRIC		\$171,748.88
609 MUNICIPAL LIQUOR FUND		\$20,951.40
		<u>\$212,652.25</u>

Pre-Written Checks	\$171,637.45
Checks to be Generated by the Computer	\$5,641.31
Total	\$177,278.76



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Payments

City of Grand Marais

Current Period: February 2020

Batch Name	2-28-20 APP	User Dollar Amt	\$57,357.72
	Payments	Computer Dollar Amt	\$57,357.72

\$0.00 In Balance

Refer	79375 FURTHER	Ck# 004853E 2/27/2020	
Cash Payment	E 602-49480-131 Employer Paid Health		\$1,628.45
Invoice	39330075 2/25/2020		
Transaction Date	2/26/2020	MAIN CHECKING G 10100	Total \$1,628.45

Refer	79380 COMO OIL & PROPANE	-	
Cash Payment	E 602-49480-217 Heating Fuel	2020	\$587.57
Invoice	1500970083 2/10/2020		
Transaction Date	2/27/2020	MAIN CHECKING G 10100	Total \$587.57

Fund Summary

	10100 MAIN CHECKING GMSB	
101 GENERAL FUND		\$23,393.19
602 SEWER		\$2,216.02
609 MUNICIPAL LIQUOR FUND		\$31,748.51
		<u>\$57,357.72</u>

Pre-Written Checks	\$1,628.45
Checks to be Generated by the Computer	\$587.57
Total	<u>\$2,216.02</u>

2/27/20

Memo to Grand Marais PUC

From: George Wilkes

- 1) I would request an update from Tim on the PUC's request for the City Council to consider a resolution of support for the Energy Innovation Act. Such a resolution was considered and voted on at the February 12th City Council meeting. The vote was 2 to 2, so the resolution failed. Video of the meeting on the City website. Discussion as to whether the PUC can or should take any further steps (I think we need to send cookies).
- 2) I would request an update from Mike about the 2020 PUC solar project, and specifically where we are at in terms of acquiring a site for the project at the Cedar Grove Business Park.
- 3) Request a brief staff update on the planned rate study.
- 4) Request an update from Shane Steele, City Sustainability Coordinator, on the opportunities for collaboration with the Cook County Local Energy Project's Carolyn Grant Award for which the PUC sent a letter of support. (one page program description attached)
- 5) On Thursday, March 19th, at 3:00 - 4:30 p.m., the PUC will hold a special meeting to hear from senior SMMPA staff about SMMPA's plans to become 80% carbon free by 2030 and their associated rebranding effort called "SMMPA 2.0" I have attached a draft agenda for review and discussion. What would you like to ask of SMMPA?

PROGRAM INFORMATION

II. PURPOSE OF GRANT

A. What are you trying to do? **

Explain the climate related need or opportunity that you want to address with this work.

Addressing the threat of climate change and transitioning to a carbon-free energy future are major challenges for rural communities. One limiting factor is that rural communities typically lack the organizational resources to adequately assess the feasibility of rapidly emerging renewable energy opportunities. The proposed multi-faceted project will provide Cook County Minnesota with those much-needed organizational resources, empowering our communities to more effectively develop and utilize solar energy and energy storage technologies.

This project will also serve as a roadmap for other rural communities in the upper Midwest seeking to address the threat of climate change and develop their own solar energy potential.

The objective of the proposed multi-faceted project is to accelerate and sustain a transition to renewable energy in rural Cook County, MN. The project will be comprised of three separate objectives and initiatives:

- Development of large scale solar and storage project(s)
- Accelerated investment in distributed-generation solar for Cook County homes and businesses to achieve the goal of solar on at least 5% of Cook County homes by the end of the 3-year project term.
- Local professional training to support solar PV installations.

B. How are you going to do it? **

Provide a detailed outline of what will be done. Please answer who, what, when and where the program will take place. Describe what one would observe or experience. Please be as clear and succinct as possible.

As a trusted partner with a long track record of success, CCLEP is well positioned to serve as a catalyst for local renewable energy development within the various communities of Cook County. This grant funding will enable CCLEP to provide organizational and administrative support to key energy stakeholders including County and City governments, municipal and rural electric utilities; relevant community organizations; and homeowners and businesses. That support will enable our community to more effectively develop emerging solar energy and energy storage opportunities.

CCLEP will act as coordinator for this multi-faceted project and will collaborate closely with key local and state stakeholders including political leaders, energy and business leaders, environmental and educational non-profit organizations. CCLEP's Board President Chris O'Brien will act as overall project director (as a volunteer), supported by CCLEP staff and other Board members.

For the larger solar PV and storage projects, CCLEP will collaborate with one or both of the electricity providers in Cook County to organize and manage an RFP for third party developers and project finance firms to bid on the project opportunities. Financing for these projects and expenses related to project development (e.g. legal expenses) will be borne by third party investors, supported by a long-term energy supply agreement with the electricity suppliers.

CCLEP's approach for the second objective, accelerating distributed solar in Cook County, will be to organize a local marketing campaign and a series of educational workshops for interested homeowners and business owners. CCLEP's ability to convene and educate potential customers will be an effective draw for solar PV developers and installers to travel to Cook County.

For the third objective, solar workforce development, CCLEP will partner with the Cook County Higher Education (a non-profit based in Grand Marais), with the Cook County / Grand Marais Economic Development Authority and with Grand Portage Tribal Council to host training courses and educational workshops for solar electricians, installers and entrepreneurs.

DRAFT Agenda for March 19th special PUC meeting

Welcome:

Dave Geschwind, SMMPA CEO

Chris Schoenherr, Chief External Affairs Officer

1) History and context of SMMPA's engagement with climate change and decarbonization. How does SMMPA resource planning relate to the City's Climate Action Plan? (George and Mike)

2) SMMPA 2.0, SMMPA's rebranding and decarbonization planning. (Dave and Chris)

What is SMMPA's resource plan through 2035? How much of SMMPA's power will be generated by coal, gas, oil, wind, solar and other during this time period? What degree of certainty is attached to the various elements of this timeline?

What are SMMPA's thoughts on how important distributed, or decentralized, solar power will be in achieving grid decarbonization over the next 15 years? And how is the emergence of more affordable distributed solar power accommodated by the SMMPA business model and the Grand Marais PUC business model?

Will there be future opportunities for developing larger-scale (500 - 2,000 kW) solar projects on the Grand Marais PUC system?

How does SMMPA see emerging energy storage technologies affecting the SMMPA and Grand Marais business models?

What are SMMPA's plans to promote electrification of transportation, and home and business HVAC?

3) Questions from the public?