Executive Director Report

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Greetings Everyone,

It has been a busy month. In addition to our monthly Board meetings, the NYMPA annual membership meeting held in Syracuse on May 26th. We condensed a significant amount of information into a short program format. Hopefully those of you that were able to attend found it informative and useful. Thanks to Margo, Narin, Kevin Brocks, Ken Podolny, Mark Cordeiro, Dylan Marsland, Chris Wentlent, Bill Freitag and Will Reynolds and everyone else that worked hard to make the meeting a success.

I want to thank the members of the MEUA and NYMPA Boards for their assistance in preparing the membership survey that was sent to all MEUA and NYMPA members last week. If you did not receive the survey, please contact Narin here at the office and she can email it to you. If you haven’t already, please take a few minutes to complete and return the survey. Your input is important as we work to serve you more effectively in the future.

The MEUA annual meeting will be held from September 6th through 9th at the historic Marriott Syracuse Hotel. This is a very historic and immaculately restored facility (the former Hotel Syracuse) which I think will be an excellent site for us to convene. The conference theme is “Charging Into the New Normal” and we are developing a program geared toward helping you all plan and adjust for coming regulatory and market changes. As usual, there will be a silent charity auction to bid on gift baskets provided by members and sponsors. Look for your registration forms toward the end of this month.



Thank you to Ken Podolny of Read and Laniado for all of his work on the COVID Arrears Program. If you missed both of the webinars Ken presented last week, email Ken at: [kp@readlaniado.com](mailto:kp@readlaniado.com) with any questions you may have.

It was a busy month in Albany as the State Legislature wound up its session. Please read John Jennings’ column for an update on some of the relevant legislation we have been following.

Tony Modafferi attended the CLCPA public hearing on May 10th and presented a comment statement. If you haven’t seen an invitation, please know that everyone that would like to wish Tony well in his retirement is invited to a gathering in his honor on Friday, June 24th at 6:00 p.m. at the Destiny Embassy Suites in Syracuse. Please contact Narin here at the MEUA office with any questions or to make a reservation to attend.

June is my favorite month of the year. The vegetation is bright green and lush, and (usually) the temperatures are pleasant. I hope you can all get out and maximize your enjoyment of the natural beauty that is upstate New York. And for all of you fathers – Happy Father’s Day.

A person wearing a suit and tie

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**Chris Wentlent: MEUA Advisor**

**June 2022**

**NYISO Update – June 2022**

Happy Summer to Everyone – I hope your summer period is filled with great weather, and fun outdoor family gatherings. Be safe and be healthy. My column follows:

**NYISO Summer 2022 Capacity Assessment**

At the May 25 Management Committee meeting; Aaron Markham, Vice President of Operations at the NYISO provided the Summer 2022 Capacity Assessment. The NYISO conducted three scenarios including a capacity analysis for 50/50% peak forecast conditions, 90/10% peak forecast conditions, and 99/1% peak forecast conditions. They have added the 99/1% scenario due to potential impacts due to extreme climate/weather potentials.

The analysis indicates that the NYISO will have adequate capacity under all three scenarios with the ability to utilize emergency operating actions. Without the emergency operating actions, both the 90/10% and 99/1% peak forecast conditions have a megawatt capacity deficit. In the 50/50% baseline scenario; the NYISO is expected to have a 1,918 MW surplus margin.

Emergency operating procedures include emergency demand response, voltage reductions, voluntary industrial curtailment, public appeals, emergency purchases from neighboring power systems, and reducing available 30-minute reserves to zero.

As part of the summer preparation, the NYISO monitors energy supplies, conducts weekly fuel surveys of generation facilities, performs on-site visits, and coordinates transmission and generation outages.

More specifically, Generation Deactivations total 159 megawatts; while new resources total 143 megawatts. All new resources are solar (intermittent) generating facilities and deactivated facilities are either natural gas or combined natural gas/fuel oil. This is important to note as we move forward the NYISO grid will continue to replace traditional generation resources with intermittent resources such as wind, solar or energy storage. Managing the operations and reliability of the electric grid will have different challenges.

The Western New York Public Policy Transmission upgrade was energized on May 27. In addition, the St. Lawrence-Moses L33 PAR is expected back in service after July 25. Both transmission assets will improve upstate transmission capabilities. Downstate, the Hudson-Farragut B3402, Marion-Farragut C3403 and New Bridge Road Transformer are expected out of service until the end of July 2022 timeframe.

The combination of the above-mentioned circuits being out of service and continued outage work involving the planned AC Transmission and Moses – Adirondack MA1 and MA2 upgrades is likely to continue to create system congestion in the capital and downstate regions.

**Climate Action Council Update –**

New York State’s 22-member Climate Action Council, established under the Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act (CLCPA), has completed their public hearings across the State. Written comments are due on July 1.

In addition, the Climate Action Council at its recent April 2022 meeting outlined they will create smaller sub-groups to evaluate the role of natural gas, role of alternative fuels such as hydrogen/renewable natural gas and how to pay for the entire draft scoping plan. At the May 26 meeting; they announced the smaller subgroups were formed. The role of the subgroups is to attempt to arrive at a consensus however, the recommendation would not be binding. The final Scoping Plan is currently scheduled to be completed by the end of 2022.

**Lobbying Update: John Jennings**

**Harter, Secrest & Emery**

Last week, both houses of the legislature adjourned to bring the 2022 legislative session to a close. It was the busiest sessions in decades, based on the number of bills that both houses passed. As expected, legislators spent a significant amount of time considering various bills related to energy policy and climate change. In the final days of the session, they passed a moratorium on some cryptocurrency mining at fossil fuel plants, a bill to enable utility ownership of thermal heating systems, and the “Advanced Building Codes, Appliance and Equipment Efficiency Standards Act of 2022.” Other bills that received significant attention did not end up getting across the finish line, including the so called all electric buildings act, the Climate and Community Investment Act, and others.

We expressed significant concerns regarding the “New York State Build Public Renewables Act” (S.6453-C/A1466-D), which would require NYPA to provide only renewable energy to customers and requires NYPA to be the sole provider of energy to all state and municipal properties. Based on our feedback, the sponsors amended the legislation to remove a provision that could have caused our members significant problems. The bill passed the Senate, but in the end, failed in the Assembly. However, members in the Assembly expressed significant interest in the legislation, and they are holding a hearing on July 28th. We expect to see continued interest in passing this bill in both houses when the legislature reconvenes.

Another bill that we are working on relates to billing transparency - S1979-A/A.7256-A. One of its provisions could be a challenge for some of our members to comply with based upon the type of billing software used. The legislation passed both houses, but we had extensive conversations with both bill sponsors regarding passing a chapter amendment to address our concerns. Both seem willing to assist with that effort, and we also looped in policy folks from the governor’s office, who also seem amenable to our proposal. We will keep you apprised as the situation develops.

**MEUA Municipal Member EMPLOYMENT ADVERTISEMENTS:**

Full descriptions listed on our website —[**www.meua.org**](http://www.meua.org)

**Skaneateles: Electric Line Leader**

The Village of Skaneateles is seeking a full-time line leader for our electric department. This is a non-competitive civil service position involving overhead and underground work on our distribution system. Work will also involve other Village duties as necessary.

Qualifications include 4 years of Journeyman level work, with all certifications. Knowledge of distribution electric systems and substations. Ability to plan, develop strategies and implement ideas for crew leadership while performing line construction duties. Must have the ability to direct subordinate employees.

This is a Union position with the benefits commensurate with negotiated contracts. Salary commensurate with contract. Mail resume to Laurie Walter, Village Clerk, 26 Fennell St., Skaneateles, NY 13152.

**Village of Churchville: Electric Dept. Bookkeeper**

The Village of Churchville is hiring a full-time Electric Bookkeeper to undertake a wide variety of electric booking duties, general ledger reconciliation, monthly utility billing, and various office duties.

An Electric bookkeeper is well organized and professional with excellent communication skills. The successful candidate will be a self-starter who is highly motivated and exhibits a demonstrated ability to learn. Two years’ experience in a fast-paced office environment using Microsoft Office (Word, Excel, Access, and Outlook) is required, along with a background in accounting. The ability to multi-task and prioritize work is a must. The candidate will also have a strong attention to detail, possess excellent time management and problem-solving skills, and be reliable and patient. Experience in a municipal office environment is preferred.

The Village of Churchville offers a comprehensive benefits package including health, dental, and vision coverage, paid vacation and sick time, and New York State Retirement. Starting pay will be based on experience.

Applications are being accepted until June 18, 2022 or until the position is filled. Applications and resumes may be brought to the Village Office or mailed to:

Mayor John Hartman

Village of Churchville

23 E Buffalo St

PO Box 613

Churchville, NY 14428

**Village of Penn Yan Applicants; Employment Ads listed below:**

Interested applicants should apply by submitting an application to the Yates County Personnel Office at 417 Liberty St, Penn Yan, NY 14527 or online at https://mycivilservice.yatescounty.org/jobopps.

The Village of Penn Yan is an equal opportunity employer and a drug free workplace.

**Village of Penn Yan: Electric Lineworker**

The Village of Penn Yan Municipal Electric Department is seeking candidates for the full-time position of an experienced Electric Lineworker.

Primary Responsibilities:

-Engaged in any type of construction, operation or maintenance on distribution lines and associated equipment.

-Apply safety rules and regulations as they apply to line substation and service work.

-Installs, inspect and repair poles, conductor, transformers, meters, hardware and other equipment on or near energized and de-energized lines in keeping with the appropriate specifications.

-Respond to outages to investigate, locate, analyze, correct faults and restore service on distribution equipment.

-Perform line switching, including switching at a transformer or automatic air-switch station.

-Reviews plans and specifications.

-Inform supervisors of equipment and materials required to complete jobs.

-Trains other crew members in construction of electrical distribution systems.

-Performs basic maintenance on equipment.

-Other responsibilities as assigned.

Benefits:

Compensation rate is $39.87 to $43.97 hourly rate, dependent on years of experience, Penn Yan also offers a competitive benefits package. (Details shown below)

Competitive insurance that includes health and dental

•Vacation Time: After 1 year of continuous employment earn 2 weeks (80 hours) paid vacation

•Earn 8 hours of sick time each month to accumulate to 240 days that may be used for a retirement cash benefit or health insurance premiums

•Receive 40 hours personal time June 1st of each year. Unused personal hours will rollover to sick hours annually on June 1st.

•New York State Disability Insurance

•12.5 paid holidays on top of time earned

•NYS Employees Retirement System

•Flexible shifts Monday-Friday with on-call availability

Keys to success include working effectively with a team, following safety protocol, being respectful to others, and having integrity and pride in your work.

Minimum qualifications include graduation from high school or possession of a high school equivalency diploma; AND four (4) years of full-time or equivalent part-time paid work experience as an Apprentice Lineworker on electric distribution systems; OR one (1) year of full-time or equivalent part-time paid work experience as an Electric Utility Lineworker. (Must possess Qualified Electric Person (QEP)). This is a competitive NYS Civil Service position that is full time, 40 hours per week and subject to Civil Service rules for eligibility.

**Village of Penn Yan: Line Crew Chief**

The Village of Penn Yan has an opening for one (1) Deputy Line Crew Chief. This is a competitive NYS Civil Service position that is full time, 40 hours per week and subject to Civil Service rules for eligibility.

Primary Responsibilities:

-Deputy Line Crew Chief will supervise the crew in the absence of the Crew Chief, assuming full

responsibility for the safe and efficient performance of their assigned work

-Assists in design, planning and coordination of line projects

-Engaged in any type of construction, operation or maintenance on distribution lines and associated equipment.

-Apply safety rules and regulations as they apply to line substation and service work.

-Installs, inspect and repair poles, conductor, transformers, meters, hardware and other equipment on or near energized and de-energized lines in keeping with the appropriate specifications.

-Respond to outages to investigate, locate, analyze, correct faults and restore service on distribution equipment.

-Perform line switching, including switching at a transformer or automatic air-switch station.

-Reviews plans and specifications.

-Inform supervisors of equipment and materials required to complete jobs.

-Trains other crew members in construction of electrical distribution systems.

-Performs basic maintenance on equipment.

-Other responsibilities as assigned.

Benefits:

Compensation rate is $44.63 to $49.59 hourly rate, dependent on years of experience, Penn Yan also offers a competitive benefits package. (Details shown below)

Competitive insurance that includes health and dental

•Vacation Time: After 1 year of continuous employment earn 2 weeks (80 hours) paid vacation

•Earn 8 hours of sick time each month to accumulate to 240 days that may be used for a retirement cash benefit or health insurance premiums

•Receive 40 hours personal time June 1st of each year. Unused personal hours will rollover to sick hours annually on June 1st.

•New York State Disability Insurance

•12.5 paid holidays on top of time earned

•NYS Employees Retirement System

•Flexible shifts Monday-Friday with on-call availability

Keys to success include working effectively with a team, following safety protocol, being respectful to others, and having integrity and pride in your work

Minimum qualifications

a) Graduation from a regionally accredited NYS college or university with an Associates degree or higher in Engineering Science, Engineering Technology, Construction Technology or closely related field; AND three (3) years of experience in construction, installation, maintenance and/or operation of an electrical utility distribution system as a Lineworker, one (1) year of which involved supervision; OR

b) Graduation from high school or possession of a high school equivalency diploma; AND five (5) years of the experience as described in (a), one (1) year of which involved supervision.

**Village of Penn Yan: Senior Lineworker**

The Village of Penn Yan has an opening for one (1) Senior Lineworker. This is a competitive NYS Civil Service position that is full time, 40 hours per week and subject to Civil Service rules for eligibility.

Primary Responsibilities

-Senior Lineworker will supervise the crew in the absence of the Crew Chief, assuming full

responsibility for the safe and efficient performance of their assigned work

-Engaged in any type of construction, operation or maintenance on distribution lines and associated equipment.

-Apply safety rules and regulations as they apply to line substation and service work.

-Installs, inspect and repair poles, conductor, transformers, meters, hardware and other equipment on or near energized and de-energized lines in keeping with the appropriate specifications.

-Respond to outages to investigate, locate, analyze, correct faults and restore service on distribution equipment.

-Perform line switching, including switching at a transformer or automatic air-switch station.

-Reviews plans and specifications.

-Inform supervisors of equipment and materials required to complete jobs.

-Trains other crew members in construction of electrical distribution systems.

-Performs basic maintenance on equipment.

-Other responsibilities as assigned.

See “Benefits” listed for this position at [www.meua.org](http://www.meua.org)