Executive Director Report

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**SEMI - ANNUAL MEETING**

The MEUA Semi-Annual is scheduled for April 12th – 13th and will be held at the Embassy Suites, Destiny Mall location in Syracuse, N.Y. This will be an in-person meeting as covid numbers and regulations have continued to improve dramatically. Registration information will be sent out later this week with the agenda to follow once complete. Please get registered and participate in this event.



**AUDIT & BUDGET COMMITTEE**

The MEUA audit & Budget Committee will be meeting at the MEUA Office on March 10th to review the 2021 expenditures, revenues, and accounting procedures. Their report will be given during the Semi-Annual Meeting. The Committee currently consists of Pam Gilbert -Spencerport, Karen Carr – Spencerport, Mary Ann Henderson – Hamilton with Bryan White - Fairport the MEUA Executive Committee Representative.

**IMPLEMENTATION TASK FORCE COMMITTEE**

As you may recall when the Long-Term Agreement (LTA) was signed by all the municipals & Coops, an Implementation Task Force Committee was created to help all Municipals & Coops to achieve their energy efficiency goals that was a requirement of the LTA. The Task Force has met a few times via zoom and currently the MEUA is looking for someone to replace retired Bill Whitfield – Wellsville on the Committee.

If you are interested in this committee and would like to more information, please contact me at your convenience. The Executive Committee would like to fill the position during the Semi – Annual Meeting if possible. Currently, Larry Kilburn – Arcade and I serve on the committee. Jim Stokes as the incoming Executive Director will fulfill my position on the committee once he starts his Executive Director tenure.

CONED/STATE ATTORNEY GENERAL

ConEdison’s rising utility prices have gotten the attention of New York’s Attorney General and other Albany officials, who are demanding an explanation for the soaring cost of energy bills levied by the public utility giant.

Attorney General Letitia James wrote a letter to ConEd on Monday asking the firm to provide an explanation for the sharp increase in monthly rates and to commit to increasing transparency with consumers on future rate increases. James’ office reported consumers have received bills from ConEd in January and February that cost two or three times more than their previous bills.

STATE BUDGET

Not much new on the State budget at this point. The Assembly and Senate versions of their budgets are mid - March and then the serious negotiations will commence.

On the legislative front, we our monitoring and reviewing new bills presented and currently do not see anything that would cause our member’s concern.

Thank you.

**Update from the IEEP**

Spring is a busy time for the IEEP as we finalize our 2021 Environmental Sustainability Report, respond to NYSERDA’s RFP 4942 on Climate Action for New York Municipal Utilities, and plan for another successful year in providing energy efficiency services to your customers.



Spring also brings Earth Day which will fall on Friday, April 22, 2022. Earth Day can be a good opportunity to remind your customers on how they can participate in IEEP programs. The IEEP can provide content for newsletters or bill messages on the following offerings:

* LED bulb or energy efficiency kit distribution programs
* Electric Lawn and Snow Removal Equipment Rebate
* Appliance Advantage Program
* Heat Pump Program
* Lighting Incentives for Commercial and Industrial Customers
* Refrigerator Recycling
* Attic Insulation and Air Sealing Program

Please contact Sarah Beth Sallis at Sarah.Sallis@Honeywell.com or (833) 239-0164 for support. Thank you to each of our systems for your support in making the IEEP a success.



**Chris Wentlent: MEUA Advisor**

**March 2022**

**NYISO Update – March 2022**

**New York Independent System Operator (NYISO) Update**

* NYISO Buyer Side Mitigation (BSM) Filing – The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) issued a deficiency letter with questions. The NYISO has thirty days to respond to the letter and will collaborate with stakeholders on the expected submission. The FERC letter can be viewed at: <https://nyisoviewer.etariff.biz/ViewerDocLibrary/FercOrders/20220209%20Notice%20of%20Deficiency%20CMR%20Filing_28980.pdf>. This docket is important because it will impact how clean energy resources are transitioned into the NYISO Capacity Market, and how to properly quantify how the capacity value of those resources are determined to ensure system reliability is maintained.
* Transmission Owner Local Transmission Plans (LTPs) are important to consider as we make Transmission Congestion Contracts (TCC) each year. Depending on the projects involved; the information can provide vital details about areas where congestion could be relieved. Con Edison, Orange & Rockland, Central Hudson, NGRID, NYSEG, Rochester Gas & Electric, NYPA and LIPA – PSEG reviewed their most recent plans including Phase 1 CLCPA “no regrets” upgrades at the February 2022 NYISO Electric System & Planning Working Group (ESPWG) meeting. We continue to monitor the planned distribution and transmission projects to understand the market impacts for our municipal systems.
* Internal Controllable Lines – the NYISO began working group discussions about this market topic. An Internal Controllable Line is being considered to move clean energy from upstate to New York City to support the Tier 4 New York City renewable energy program. This type of line does not exist within the New York State Energy System. Accordingly, rules regarding treatment in the energy, capacity and ancillary market impacts need to be developed so the market can operate smoothly. The working group is tasked with creating that rule set.

**Transmission Update**

* Long Island Offshore Wind Submittals - the NYISO is in the process of evaluating submittals for viability and sufficiency per the Request for Proposal solicitation requirements. NYISO reported at the recent New York State Reliability Council meeting that they will come back with additional project details at the upcoming February/March 2022 NYISO TPAS meeting. Timing of the Offshore Wind transmission and allocation of the costs associated are key areas for our member systems. The project submittal summary is available at the following link:

<https://www.nyiso.com/documents/20142/22968753/LI-PPTN-Project-Summary-Public-20211018.pdf/1b36c8b6-6df5-510e-44bc-a2c970d04390>

**Climate Action Council Update –**

In late January 2022 and early February 2022, the Independent Energy Efficiency Program (IEEP) and MEUA conducted two webinars to provide an overview of the Draft Scoping Plan released by the Climate Action Council. Both webinars were well attended.

The MEUA has worked cooperatively with the Utility Consultation Group (UCG) to provide both constructive policy and technical expertise to the Climate Action Council regarding the development of the Draft Scoping Plan. The UCG is anticipating submittal of formal written comments during the 120-day written comment period which currently end on April 30, 2022. In addition, the UCG is considering participation at the planned statewide public hearings. However, these hearings have not been scheduled yet.

Once the written comment period, and public hearings are concluded; the Climate Action Council must take the current Draft Scoping Plan and finalize it by the end of calendar year 2022. We will continue to provide updates in future monthly columns as this energy/environmental process that will have substantial impact on individual energy consumers, commercial and industrial customers, and local governments. After the Council finalizes the Plan, New York agencies will be required to promulgate regulations to align with the final Scoping Plan adopted.

**MEUA MUNICIPAL MEMBER EMPLOYMENT ADVERTISEMENTS:**

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

**Angelica: Electric Lineworker**

Electrical Lineworker – The **Village of Angelica**, Electric Department is presently accepting applications to fill a vacancy in the Municipal Electric Department.  This position will require climbing skills, working with high voltage electric and will encounter working at considerable heights in possible adverse conditions.  The position will also require completion of a 4-year apprentice Lineworker program as set forth by the Municipal Electric Utilities Association.

Applications will be accepted at the Village of Angelica, Village Office, 21 Peacock Hill Rd, Angelica, NY 14709. The Village of Angelica is an Equal Employment Opportunity Employer.

**Solvay: Assistant Electric Department Superintendent**

Salary Range: $75,000-85,000 Annually

**Job Description:**

The work involves responsibility for assisting in the daily management and supervision of the Village of Solvay Electric Department. An employee in this class is responsible for scheduling and directing the day-to-day and long-term activities of various departments and the crews. Under general supervision of the Electric Department Superintendent, an employee in this class carries out work in accordance with general policies of the Village Board of Trustees and its Electrical Committee with wide leeway for the exercise of independent judgment in carrying out technical duties of the work. General supervision is exercised over a large number of technical and clerical subordinates. An employee in this class is required to be on call at all times in order to direct staff during emergencies. Does related work as required.

**Minimum Qualifications:**

Five (5) years of professional supervisory level work experience, or its part-time equivalent, in business management which must have included operations planning and job cost analysis, while working or contracting for a municipal or private electric power company.

NOTE: Electrical contracting work must have been with a municipal or private electric power company.
Home, building construction or industrial contracting does not qualify.

**Please email resume and references to** **hdecarlo@villageofsolvay.com** **for consideration.**

**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.

**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 - Graduated scale thereafter based on longevity
* 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.
* Step Pay Scale: Advance 1 Step upon each anniversary of hire date current pay increases for Steps:1-4, 9, 13, 18, 22,25,27
* 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.

Interested applicants should apply by Friday 2/21/2022 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 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 February 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