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MMWEC elects directors and officers for 2010-11

Fitch of Princeton elected Chairman; Chicopee and Mansfield managers join board

LUDLOW, Mass. – May 11, 2010 – The Massachusetts Municipal Wholesale Electric Company (MMWEC) elected two new directors and a new chairman during the public power organization's May 6 annual election of directors and officers.

MMWEC Director Jonathan Fitch, manager of the Princeton Municipal Light Department, was elected by the Board of Directors to the chairman's post, replacing Ashburnham Municipal Light Department Manager Stanley W. Herriott, who chose not to seek reelection after six years on the board, including the last two as chairman. Also stepping down is MMWEC Director William F. Waters, general manager of the Peabody Municipal Light Plant.

Herriott thanked the board for the opportunity to serve the MMWEC organization and credited the board and membership for the achievement of various governance, policy and administrative goals during his tenure.

"We have made tremendous progress because we are more cohesive as an organization," Herriott said. "The work of the board, membership and MMWEC staff is better synchronized, and that is translating into greater value for the MMWEC Members," he said.

Both Herriott and Waters were recognized for their "exemplary and valuable service to the MMWEC organization" in board resolutions presented at the election meetings.

Gary R. Babin, director of the Mansfield Municipal Electric Department, and Jeffrey R. Cady, manager of the Chicopee Municipal Lighting Plant, were elected by the MMWEC membership to three-year terms as MMWEC directors.

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The Chicopee utility, along with the South Hadley Electric Light Department, joined the MMWEC membership in 2009, bringing the number of MMWEC member municipal utilities to 20. Mansfield renewed its membership in 2009 after reviewing alternate service options.

“After looking at other options, our board determined that MMWEC offers the best overall value for the services needed by municipal utilities to stay competitive in today’s volatile power marketplace,” Babin said.

Peter D. Dion, general manager of the Wakefield Municipal Gas & Light Department, was reelected by the membership to a second one-year term as president of MMWEC. In addition, Sean Hamilton, general manager of the Templeton Light & Water Plant, was reelected by the membership to a second three-year term as an MMWEC director.

Other MMWEC officers for the coming year, as elected by the board, are Ronald C. DeCurzio, Chief Executive Officer and Secretary; James B. Kline, Treasurer; Alan R. Menard, Assistant Treasurer; Nancy A. Brown, Assistant Secretary; and Nicholas J. Scobbo, Jr., General Counsel.

Other incumbent MMWEC directors elected by the membership are Marblehead Municipal Light Department General Manager Robert V. Jolly, Holyoke Gas & Electric Department Manager James M. Lavelle and Shrewsbury Electric & Cable Operations Manager Thomas R. Josie.

Michael J. Flynn and Paul Robbins, both of Wilbraham, serve on the board as gubernatorial appointees. Flynn also represents the Town of Wilbraham on the board, with Luis Vitorino and John M. Flynn representing the towns of Ludlow and Hampden, respectively.

MMWEC is a non-profit, public corporation and political subdivision of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts that provides a variety of power supply, financial, risk management and other services to the state’s consumer-owned, municipal utilities.