

MINUTES
MASSACHUSETTS CLEAN ENERGY TECHNOLOGY CENTER
BOARD MEETING

May 16, 2024

Attendees:

Directors:

Secretary Rebecca Tepper (EEA), Chair
Secretary Yvonne Hao (EOED) / Ashley Stolba, Undersecretary of
Economic Foundations (EOED) (Designee of Secretary Hao)
Assistant Secretary Kaitlyn Connors (Designee of Secretary Matthew
Gorzakowicz, ANF) (Remote)
Robert Cohen, Policy Director (Designee of Secretary Jones (LWD))
Commissioner Elizabeth Mahony (DOER) / Deputy Commissioner Joanna
Troy (DOER) (Designee of Commissioner Elizabeth Mahony)
Dr. John Cook (President, Springfield Technical Community
College) (Remote)
Dr. Aisha Francis (President, Benjamin Franklin Cummings Institute of
Technology) (Remote)
Lisa Theriault (Manager of Business Development, IBEW Local/National
Electrical Contractors Association) (Remote)
Rear Admiral Francis McDonald (President, Massachusetts Maritime
Academy) (Remote)
Tom Galvin (Director, RESHydro)

Staff:

Dr. Emily Reichert (CEO)
John Hitt, Esq. (General Counsel and Board Secretary)
Jaclyn Leslie (CFO and Board Treasurer)
Connor Crowley, Esq. (Board Assistant Secretary)
Alexandra Zaltman
Lena DeLuca, Esq.
Alexander Fung, Esq.
Daniel Gates
Michelle Beadle
Lisa Engler
Jordan Meier
Matthew Mogavero
Isabella McKinney
Trisha Hua
Elizabeth Youngblood
Erica Hines
Chris Sparks
Kellie Murphy

Marianna Miller
Chuck Tanowitz
Chris Cota
Elizabeth Kennedy Cleveland
Bruce Carlisle
Peter McPhee
Dan Hibbs
Susan Mlodozieniec
Tamara Schexnider
Jennifer Robinson
Pepper Schneekloth
Jeremy Belknap
Leslie Nash
Soumya Atnoor
Janel Granum
Alison Magoon
Raija Vaisanen
Elijah Sinclair
Sam Watters
Kevin Diaz
Rebekah Pearson
Corrin Moss
Anitra Ford
Cassia Schuler
Edward Hsieh
Rachel Ackerman
Sarah Kostecki
Livia Polise
Stephanie Simmons
Eli Goldman
Laurel Clark
Camilla Bacolod
Nick Lawson
Rhys Webb
Benjamin Christensen
Heather Marciniac
Justin Packs
Ross Palley
Sarah Cullinan
Tom Chase
Katherine Straus
Meg Howard
George Blagdon
Emily Pittsley
Allison Markowski
Nahlia Yefet

Cat Foley
Rania Rahmoune

Other Attendees: Michael Judge, Undersecretary of Energy (EEA)

The one hundred-twentieth (120th) meeting of the Massachusetts Clean Energy Technology Center (“MassCEC”) Board of Directors (the “Board”) was held on May 16, 2024 jointly at MassCEC’s office at 294 Washington Street, Boston, MA 02108 and via remote video conference. All participants could hear and be heard by each other throughout the meeting.

Seeing a quorum, Secretary Tepper called the meeting to order at 10:02 am.

I. Approval of Meeting Minutes from March 20, 2024 and April 10, 2024 Meetings

As the first order of business, the Board reviewed the draft minutes. Upon a motion made by Undersecretary Stolba seconded by Mr. Galvin, the following roll call vote was taken at 10:03 am:

Secretary Tepper: Yea
Mr. Galvin: Yea
Ms. Theriault: Yea
Assistant Secretary Connors: Yea
Mr. Cohen: Yea
Undersecretary Stolba: Yea
Dr. Francis: Yea
Dr. Cook: Yea
Rear Admiral McDonald: Yea
Ms. Troy: Yea

With 10 yeas and 0 nays, it was unanimously VOTED, without further discussion or abstention, at 10:04 am:

To adopt the Meeting Minutes from the March 20, 2024 and April 10, 2024 Meetings of the MassCEC Board of Directors.

II. Update from Chair Secretary Tepper and CEO Dr. Emily Reichert

Secretary Tepper provided the Board with updates regarding: (i) the Commonwealth of Massachusetts receiving a \$156 million Solar for All grant from the U.S. EPA, thanking Kelsey Read for leading the effort from MassCEC in collaboration with DOER and others; (ii) testimony from the Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Secretary Hao, and Dr. Reichert to the Legislature regarding the Mass Leads Act and its benefit to the climatetech sector; (iii) the completion of the UMass Amherst Donahue Institute’s report regarding the economic impact of the Mass Leads Act; (iv) MassCEC’s South Station Marketing Campaign takeover; and (v) the Commission on Energy Infrastructure Siting and Permitting submitting its report and recommendations to the Governor for potential proposed legislation.

Dr. Reichert echoed Secretary Tepper's sentiments, thanking Cat Foley, MassCEC's Deputy Chief Program Officer, for leading the effort from MassCEC to get the Donahue Institute's report underway and completed in a timely manner. Additionally, Dr. Reichert thanked MassCEC's Communications and Marketing team for their work on the South Station marketing campaign.

III. MassCEC Funding and FY25 Budget Overview

Dr. Reichert proceeded to provide the Board with an organizational review based on her first six months as MassCEC's CEO. Dr. Reichert noted the organization is in a rapid growth stage, and that there is a need for additional investment in MassCEC's systems and infrastructure, a need to raise the profile of the organization's brand, and a need to secure long term, stable, flexible funding. Dr. Reichert noted her proposed solutions to these issues including additional organizational strategic planning, rebuilding critical functions and systems, investing in rebranding, public relations, and marketing, and identifying sustainable funding sources. Dr. Reichert stressed the need for collaboration with the Board to address the need to secure long term, flexible funding, indicating that without such funding, it will not be possible for MassCEC to meet expectations and execute the strategy to make Massachusetts the climate innovation lab for the world.

Dr. Reichert provided the Board with a reminder of MassCEC's current consistent sources of funding in the form of (i) the system benefit charge that flows into the Renewable Energy Trust Fund (RET) (currently yielding approximately \$22 million per year), and (ii) equity workforce funding from MassSave that is legislatively mandated to be given to MassCEC at minimum of \$12 million per year. Dr. Reichert also noted that MassCEC's revenues can fluctuate significantly from its annual budget and planned administrative and operational expenses depending on securing and/or receiving unbudgeted funds (often from other agencies within the Commonwealth) that need to be deployed. Dr. Reichert explained that dramatic increases in one-time revenue since 2021 have also led to slowly increasing infrastructure (people and systems) at MassCEC required to deploy the funding.

Dr. Reichert continued to explain that MassCEC has multiple revenue sources, which fluctuate year to year (in the form of investment returns, revenue from the New Bedford Marine Commerce Terminal and Wind Technology Testing Center, and intergovernmental revenues). Dr. Reichert noted that, in staffing up to support large influxes of one-time external funding, MassCEC's fixed annual costs are now approximately the same annual value of RET revenue, and that without additional sustainable funding, MassCEC will begin to outspend its available cash starting in FY27. Dr. Reichert reiterated her proposed solutions to challenges at MassCEC, including immediate plans for FY25.

Jaclyn Leslie, MassCEC's CFO, proceeded to provide the Board with an update regarding the FY25 budget process and process improvements. Ms. Leslie explained the budget process is an approximately six-month, organization wide effort, and that this year Ms. Leslie would be engaging the Audit Committee prior to the Board reviewing and approving the budget. Ms. Leslie explained that the budget process for FY25 has involved increased stakeholder involvement, greater transparency and visibility, additional long-term planning, and training and

development with teams across the organization to enhance understanding of the requisite involvement in the budget process.

[Secretary Hao joined the meeting at 10:46 am.]

[Dr. Reichert departed the meeting at 10:50 am.]

IV. Executive Session: Potential Funding for Greentown Collaborative, Inc.

Secretary Tepper indicated that the Board would then go into Executive Session for purpose 7 of Chapter 30A, Section 21 of the Massachusetts General Laws in order to discuss trade secrets or commercial or financial information or the competitive position in a particular field or endeavor regarding potential provision of collateral support to Greentown Collaborative, which information is confidential pursuant to Chapter 23J, Section 2(k).

Secretary Tepper noted that the Board would reconvene in Open Session upon conclusion of the Executive Session.

Upon a motion made by Mr. Galvin and seconded by Ms. Troy, the following roll call vote was taken at 10:52 am:

Secretary Tepper: Yea
Mr. Galvin: Yea
Ms. Theriault: Yea
Assistant Secretary Connors: Yea
Mr. Cohen: Yea
Secretary Hao: Yea
Dr. Francis: Yea
Dr. Cook: Yea
Rear Admiral McDonald: Yea
Ms. Troy: Yea

With 10 yeas and 0 nays, it was unanimously VOTED, without further discussion or abstention, at 10:52 am:

To move into Executive Session for purpose 7 of Chapter 30A, Section 21 of the Massachusetts General Laws in order to discuss trade secrets or commercial or financial information or the competitive position in a particular field or endeavor regarding potential provision of collateral support to Greentown Collaborative, which information is confidential pursuant to Chapter 23J, Section 2(k).

V. Solar for All Program Authorization

[Secretary Jones and Dr. Cook departed the meeting at the conclusion of Executive Session at 11:35 am; Dr. Reichert returned to the meeting during Open Session at 11:36 am.]

Kelsey Read, one of MassCEC's Program Directors for its High-Performance Buildings Team, was introduced to present on a requested authorization for Solar for All program funds. Mr. Read reminded the Board of the Building's team role within MassCEC's effort to accelerate decarbonization, and noted that, within the team's specific strategy, Solar For All funding would be used to expand access to clean energy, seeking to demonstrate strategies that can reach Low Income and Disadvantaged Communities (LIDACs), lower costs of building decarbonization, and deliver cost-saving clean energy to disadvantaged communities. Mr. Read explained the requested authorization was for \$168,120,000, which accounted for all federal funds and additional alternative compliance payment (ACP) funds from DOER, though noted it was unlikely MassCEC itself would deploy this full amount as there were other implementation partners who would use a portion of the funding and authorizing the full amount would provide MassCEC flexibility.

[Secretary Hao departed the meeting at 11:42 am.]

Mr. Read provided the Board with background information on the EPA's Solar for All program and indicated the timeline for contracting, receipt of funding, and program launches, noting the intention was to launch programs by the end of 2024 or the beginning of 2025 to meet the EPA's five-year window for deployment of these funds. Mr. Read explained the nature of collaboration between DOER, the lead applicant for funding from the EPA, MassCEC, the intended lead implementor of the funding, and Mass-Housing and Boston Housing Authority as program partners.

[Commissioner Mahony joined the meeting at 11:44 am.]

Mr. Read explained that Solar for All presents the opportunity to fund programming supporting increased solar deployment and related benefits in LIDACs, reduce emissions, and mobilize financing and private capital to expand overall access to solar. Mr. Read noted the alignment with these initiatives and the Commonwealth's Clean Energy and Climate Plan for 2030, as well as some of the target outcomes for the programming. Mr. Read noted next steps for the program, including entering into an MOU with DOER to guide development and implementation of programming/initiatives utilizing Solar for All funding.

Members of the Board proceeded to pose a series of questions, including: (i) clarification regarding size of the authorization request; (ii) division of the federal award amongst the Massachusetts applicant team members; (iii) how to program so subrecipients/beneficiaries do not need to be homeowners; and (iv) how programming would account for supply chain difficulties, each of which was addressed in the ensuing discussion. The Board requested that Mr. Read and staff continue to provide periodic updates regarding the progress and use of the authorized funding.

[Secretary Hao rejoined at 11:55 am.]

Upon a motion made by Mr. Galvin and seconded by Secretary Hao, the following roll call vote was taken at 12:04 pm:

Secretary Tepper: Yea
Mr. Galvin: Yea
Ms. Theriault: Yea
Assistant Secretary Connors: Yea
Mr. Cohen: Yea
Secretary Hao: Yea
Dr. Francis: Yea
Rear Admiral McDonald: Yea
Ms. Troy: Yea

[Undersecretary Stolba departed the meeting at 12:05 pm.]

With 9 yeas and 0 nays, it was unanimously VOTED, without further discussion or abstention, at 12:05 am:

To authorize the expenditure of up to \$168,120,000 for the Solar For All Program, and further to authorize MassCEC's Chief Executive Officer (i) to enter into contracts and issue individual awards under the program in a manner consistent with the staff memorandum and (ii) to make program modifications, including modifications to award levels, provided that such modifications are consistent with the program goals set forth in the staff memorandum.

VI. Authorization of ARPA Funds Reassignment for Existing Programs

Leslie Nash, MassCEC's Program Director for its Tech-to-Market (TTM) programs, was introduced to present a request to authorize the reassignment of certain ARPA funds. Ms. Nash indicated that, in May 2023, the Board previously authorized use of federal ARPA funds for specific programmatic purposes, including \$5 million for a cleantech startup studio. Ms. Nash explained that MassCEC's TTM programs are heavily oversubscribed with applicants for FY24 and need additional funding to meet that demand. Ms. Nash noted that, as a result, staff were seeking for the Board to reallocate \$1,513,770 of the \$5 million allocated to the startup studio to general TTM program funding. Ms. Nash explained this would not materially affect plans for the development of the startup studio, instead realigning it as a two-year effort instead of a three-year effort. Ms. Nash also reminded the Board of certain timing and deadline parameters regarding the use of ARPA funds.

[Secretary Hao departed the meeting at 12:09 pm.]

Upon a motion made by Assistant Secretary Connors and seconded by Mr. Galvin, the following roll call vote was taken at 12:09 pm:

Secretary Tepper: Yea
Mr. Galvin: Yea
Ms. Theriault: Yea

Assistant Secretary Connors: Yea
Mr. Cohen: Yea
Dr. Francis: Yea
Rear Admiral Francis: Yea
Ms. Troy: Yea

With 8 yeas and 0 nays, it was unanimously VOTED, without further discussion or abstention, at 12:10 pm:

To authorize the reassignment of \$1,513,770 of ARPA funds originally authorized by MassCEC's Board of Directors in May 2023 from the Start-up Studio to MassCEC's Technology-to-Market programs and further to authorize MassCEC's Chief Executive Officer (i) to enter into contracts and issue individual awards under the Technology-to-Market programs in a manner consistent with the staff memorandum and (ii) to make program modifications, including modifications to award levels, provided that such modifications are consistent with the program goals set forth in the staff memorandum.

VII. Project Update: Clean Energy and Climate Economic Development Implementation Plan

Ms. Nash Leslie then provided an update on the Clean Energy and Climate Economic Development Implementation Plan (Implementation Plan) being conducted by MassCEC's chosen consultant, Boston Consulting Group (BCG). Ms. Nash indicated that, to date, the project is on schedule, and that BCG has been a proactive, responsive consultant. Ms. Nash indicated BCG is in the midst of stakeholder interviews. Ms. Nash provided a general overview of the scope of work for the Implementation Plan with BCG, which is beginning with a macro approach of mapping Massachusetts state government climate activity to help identify MassCEC's highest and best use in that landscape. Ms. Nash noted BCG will review the competitive landscape across the northeast region and US, as well as assess MassCEC's capabilities to drive climatetech development. Ms. Nash concluded by indicating BCG will deliver its draft report due in July and BCG and the project team will seek to finalize it in August.

VIII. Adjourn

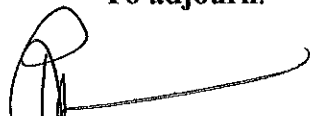
There being no further business to discuss at the meeting, upon a motion made by Ms. Troy and seconded by Mr. Cohen, the following roll call vote was taken at 12:15 pm:

Secretary Tepper: Yea
Mr. Galvin: Yea
Ms. Theriault: Yea
Rear Admiral Francis: Yea
Dr. Francis: Yea
Assistant Secretary Connors: Yea
Ms. Troy: Yea


Mr. Cohen: Yea

With 8 yeas and 0 nays it was unanimously VOTED, without further discussion or abstention, at 12:16 pm:

To adjourn.



Chair



Secretary

Public Meeting Documents and Exhibits:

Meeting Agenda

PowerPoint Presentation on MassCEC Funding and FY25 Budget Overview

PowerPoint Presentation on Solar for All Program Authorization

PowerPoint Presentation on Authorization of ARPA Funds Reassignment for Existing Programs

PowerPoint Presentation on Project Update: Clean Energy and Climate Economic Development Implementation Plan

