

**MINUTES  
MASSACHUSETTS CLEAN ENERGY TECHNOLOGY CENTER  
BOARD MEETING**

**March 20, 2025**

**Directors:** Secretary Rebecca Tepper, EEA, Chair  
Assistant Secretary Heath Fahle, Designee of Secretary Yvonne Hao, EOED  
Robert Cohen, Policy Director, Designee of Secretary Lauren Jones, LWD  
Assistant Secretary Kaitlyn Connors, Designee of Secretary Matthew  
Gorzkowicz, ANF (Remote)  
Dr. Yanlai Chen, Designee of President of the University of Massachusetts Martin  
Meehan (Remote)  
Terry Moran, Executive Director, Massachusetts Workforce Alliance  
Commissioner Elizabeth Mahony, DOER  
Bob Haber, Principal, Proficio Capital Partners (Remote)  
Dr. Aisha Francis, President, Franklin Cummings Tech (Remote)  
Tom Galvin, Director, RESHydro  
Rear Admiral Francis McDonald, President, Massachusetts Maritime Academy  
(Remote)  
Lisa Theriault, Manager of Business Development, IBEW Local/National  
Electrical Contractors Association (Remote)  
Dr. John Cook, President, Springfield Technical Community College (Remote)

**Staff:** Dr. Emily Reichert, CEO  
John Hitt, General Counsel and Board Secretary  
Alexandra Zaltman, Chief of Staff  
Brooke Barton, COO  
Summer Zeh, Esq., Deputy General Counsel and Assistant Board Secretary  
Jaclyn Leslie, CFO and Board Treasurer  
Jennifer Applebaum  
Taline Badrikian  
Lena DeLuca, Esq.  
Alex Fung, Esq.  
Michelle Beadle  
Daniel Gates  
Lauren Van Schepen  
Carly Lavender  
Jacob Chaplin  
Ngoc Tran  
Erica Hines  
Claire Hazzard  
Korina Anagnostopoulou  
Audra Riding  
Jess Brookner  
Lisa Dobbs

Lisa Berry Engler  
Chris Cota  
Maddy Zeliff  
Elizabeth Youngblood  
Rebekah Pearson  
Victoria King  
Matt Cummings  
Ruedi Hauser  
Pepper Schneekloth  
Isabella McKinney  
Dan Hibbs  
Nick Lawson  
Corrin Moss  
Rachel Ackerman  
Meryle Leonard  
Benedikt Reynolds  
Sarah Cullinan  
Soumya Atnoor  
Janel Granum  
Matthew Mogavero  
Jeannie Houde  
Jenna Wills  
Cat Foley  
Alison Magoon  
Jennifer Le Blond  
Diego Huezo  
Emily Pittsley  
George Morant  
Grecia White  
Cassia Schuler  
Lauren Farnsworth  
Susan Mlodozieniec  
Stephanie Simmons  
Larry Trentin  
Susan Stewart  
Trisha Hua  
Nils Bolgen  
Lydia Hurley  
Catrina Damrell  
Elizabeth Kennedy Cleveland  
Connor Read  
Marcella McNerney  
Milindh Kashyap  
Kevin Bugbee-Cassara  
Jeremy Belknap  
Jess Brookner  
Heather Marciniac  
Marianna Miller

Devan DiLibero  
Rhys Webb  
Jasmine Li  
Jason DiCenso

**Other Attendees:** Michael Judge, Undersecretary of Energy, EEA  
Dr. Ram Balasubramanian, UMass Dartmouth  
Doug Earnst, The Foth Companies  
Helena Fruscio Altsman (EOED)

A meeting of the Massachusetts Clean Energy Technology Center (“MassCEC”) Board of Directors (the “Board”) was held on March 20, 2025, in person and via remote video conference. All participants could hear and be heard by each other throughout the meeting.

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

**I. Approval of Meeting Minutes of the January 23, 2025 Board Meeting**

As the first order of business, the Board reviewed the draft minutes of the January 23, 2025 meeting. Upon a motion made by Mr. Galvin and seconded by Commissioner Mahony, the following roll call vote was taken:

Secretary Tepper: Yea  
Assistant Secretary Fable: Yea  
Mr. Cohen: Yea  
Commissioner Mahony: Yea  
Assistant Secretary Connors: Yea  
Dr. Chen: Abstain  
Mr. Moran: Yea  
Mr. Haber: Yea  
Mr. Galvin: Yea  
Admiral McDonald: Yea  
Ms. Theriault: Yea  
Dr. Cook: Yea

With 11 yeas, 1 abstention, and 0 nays, it was VOTED, without further discussion or abstention, at 10:03 am:

**To adopt the Meeting Minutes from the January 23, 2025 Meeting of the MassCEC Board of Directors.**

**II. Update from Chair and CEO**

Secretary Tepper welcomed the Board and acknowledged that after five years of service, Dr. Ram Balasubramanian is stepping down from the Board of Directors. She thanked him for his contributions and welcomed Dr. Yanlai Chen as the new Board Member representing the UMass system.

[Dr. Francis joined the meeting at 10:05.]

Secretary Tepper then provided an update on the Governor's energy affordability bill that is being worked on. She emphasized the Governor's continued commitment to offshore wind.

Emily Reichert, CEO, also welcomed Dr. Chen to MassCEC. She previewed a plan to rationalize the membership of Board committees to more evenly distribute Committee assignments among Board members. She commented on the roll out of the Climatetech Economic Development Plan and stated that MassCEC is starting to implement the plan.

### **III. Update: MassCEC Budget to Actuals FY2025 Q2 YTD and Forecast**

Jaclyn Leslie, CFO, provided the quarterly financial report. Overall, the organization's position is favorable to budget. Restricted revenues are the primary driver of the net positive position. Operating expenses are under budget, largely due to a slower onboarding process for new hires and a favorable health benefits renewal. Grant expenses are largely behind budget (meaning it is taking longer to pay out the grants than anticipated, which can be due to many circumstances outside of MassCEC's control), but grant awards are on budget (meaning awarding funding to grantees is happening as anticipated).

Ms. Leslie next reviewed the actuals versus budget for the quarter. Ms. Leslie provided an update on federal funding. MassCEC is in the early stages of implementing its federal programs, so there are no large outstanding liabilities associated with federal programs in the event that financing was to no longer be available.

Ms. Leslie reviewed FY25 grant payments by focus area. This is the first fiscal year that the organization incorporated grant expenses as a budget line item. There was a brief discussion of how new financial systems and improved tracking will lead to improved forecasting. The Board asked how federal funds will be accounted for in FY26, which is to be determined.

Ms. Leslie summarized the key takeaways from the year-to-date financials and emphasized the importance of unrestricted funding to the long-term health of the organization. The Board expressed gratitude regarding the level of detail in the presentation and the regularity of financial updates.

### **IV. Update: FY25 Q1-Q2 Organizational Metrics**

Next Sarah Kostecki, Director of Data and Business Intelligence, delivered the Q1 and Q2 organizational metrics. Most programs anticipate being on track to achieve the annual program award target. Two targets—leveraged funds and funds directed towards underrepresented populations—have been exceeded.

Ms. Kostecki reviewed the progress towards preparing for the FY26 data priorities. MassCEC sent out a solicitation for an organization-wide CRM. She described the progress toward place-based storytelling and developing new metrics and visualizations, including two pilots to test approaches.

In response to a Board member's question, Ms. Kostecki briefly described place-based storytelling and how it will benefit the organization by being able to convey to legislators and other stakeholders the projects being funding in their municipalities.

### **V. Update: Wind Technology Testing Center**

Rahul Yarala, Executive Director of the Wind Technology Testing Center (“WTTC”), and George Blagdon, Engineering Director of WTTC, provided an update on the WTTC. Mr. Yarala reviewed the current market for turbine testing services globally. He described the testing mechanisms at the Center and reviewed WTTC revenues and the forecasted volume for blade testing in FY26 and FY27. Mr. Yarala described new wind turbine technology, including segmented blades and digital simulation testing. He described how WTTC is working to be prepared for these new technology developments.

Mr. Blagdon reviewed progress on the expansion design project. MassCEC brought in MassPort to manage the project and AECOM was selected as the primary design firm. An external firm confirmed the market need for larger blade testing. Mr. Blagdon reviewed how the WTTC is exploring funding for the construction phase. There was a brief discussion of the funding for the expansion project as well as vendor selection for the design phase.

Mr. Blagdon next provided recent highlights of the WTTC’s community engagement, including hosting public secondary schools, universities, workshops with start-ups, and industry meetings. A Board member requested a deeper explanation of digital simulation testing. The Center is in the early stages of exploring digital simulation.

#### **VI. Authorization Regarding Reallocation of ARPA Clean Energy Investment Trust Funds and New Bedford Marine Commerce Terminal Update**

Bruce Carlisle, Managing Director of Offshore Wind, presented a request for authorization to reallocate federal ARPA funding from a project that was to be a physical space to support ocean innovation to two other projects: 1) the New Bedford Marine Commerce Terminal (“NBMCT”) Phase 3 expansion project and 2) a new grant and technical assistance program for ocean technology and the companies that are developing ocean tech. He provided the background on the initial authorization and MassCEC’s efforts to pursue a physical innovation center. He described MassCEC’s reassessment of the risks associated with a physical center, including escalating capital costs and operating costs, difficulty securing site control, and the cascading implications of policies of the new federal administration.

Mr. Carlisle presented the new proposal. A total of \$5 million would be applied to Phase 3 of the NBMCT expansion project. The remaining \$3.8 million would be used to develop an “Ocean Innovation Network” program that would provide grants and technical assistance to ocean tech companies and researchers.

Multiple Board members expressed appreciation to the offshore wind team for its prudence in reassessing the use of these funds to best support ocean climatetech startups. There was a discussion regarding coordinating with Business Front Door for concierge services for ocean tech start-ups.

Next, Tim Griffin, NBMCT Director, provided an overview of NBMCT operations, including an update on Vineyard Wind 1 project. He also delivered an overview on security operations at the NBMCT.

Mr. Griffin reviewed major terminal initiatives, including a recent clean ports grant, a new operations and maintenance manual, and Phase 3 expansion project. Mr. Griffin delivered the commercial outlook for the Terminal. The next lease with SouthCoast Wind is slated to begin January 2029. He reviewed the NBMCT budget for FY22 through FY25. In response to questions from the

Board, Mr. Griffin described how the team is planning for future years when there may be less revenue from tenants, including whether there are other uses that can fill the gaps between offshore wind tenants.

Next, Mr. Carlisle further described the expansion project. He summarized the features of the Phase 3 expansion and how it will increase capacity and improve operations.

Upon a motion made by Mr. Galvin and seconded by Assistant Secretary Fahle the following roll call vote was taken:

Secretary Tepper: Yea  
Commissioner Mahony: Yea  
Mr. Galvin: Yea  
Mr. Haber: Yea  
Dr. Cook: Yea  
Assistant Secretary Fahle: Yea  
Mr. Moran: Yea  
Assistant Secretary Connors: Yea  
Mr. Cohen: Yea  
Dr. Chen: Yea  
Dr. Francis: Yea  
Admiral McDonald: Yea  
Ms. Theriault: Yea

With 13 yeas and 0 nays, it was unanimously VOTED, without further discussion or abstention, at 11:43pm:

**To authorize up to \$8,800,000 of the \$10,000,000 of funds previously authorized by the Board at its meeting on May 18, 2023 for expenditure from the Clean Energy Investment Fund (since renamed the Climatetech Investment Fund) for the construction of the Ocean Renewable Energy Innovation Center which have not yet been expended for such previously authorized purpose to be expended for the following purposes: (i) up to \$5,000,000 for the New Bedford Marine Commerce Terminal Phase 3 Expansion and Improvement Project; and (ii) up to \$3,800,000 for the Ocean Innovation Network initiative.**

**To authorize MassCEC's Chief Executive Officer: (i) to enter into contracts and issue individual awards for such purposes in a manner consistent with the staff memorandum; and (ii) to make modifications to such programs, contracts and awards, including modifications to award levels, provided that such modifications are consistent with the program goals set forth in the staff memorandum.**

## **VII. Executive Session: New Bedford Marine Commerce Terminal**

Secretary Tepper indicated that the Board would go into Executive Session for purpose 6 of Chapter 30A, Section 21 of the Massachusetts General Laws to consider the purchase, exchange, lease or value of real property. Secretary Tepper noted that the Board would not reconvene in Open Session upon the conclusion of Executive Session.

Upon a motion made by Commissioner Mahony and seconded by Mr. Galvin, the following roll call vote was taken:

Secretary Tepper: Yea  
Commissioner Mahony: Yea  
Mr. Galvin: Yea  
Mr. Haber: Yea  
Dr. Cook: Yea  
Assistant Secretary Fahle: Yea  
Mr. Moran: Yea  
Assistant Secretary Connors: Yea  
Mr. Cohen: Yea  
Dr. Chen: Yea  
Dr. Francis: Yea  
Admiral McDonald: Yea  
Ms. Theriault: Yea

With 13 yeas and 0 nays, it was unanimously VOTED, without further discussion or abstention, at 11:45 pm:

**To move into Executive Session for purpose 6 of Chapter 30A, Section 21 of the Massachusetts General Laws in order to consider the purchase, exchange, lease or value of real property, which information is confidential pursuant to Chapter 23J, Section 2(k).**

#### **VIII. Adjourn**

The Board then engaged in a discussion of matters relating to the potential purchase, exchange, lease, or value of real property. The meeting was adjourned during Executive Session at 12:09 pm. The Board did not return to Public Session.



Chair



Secretary

#### **Public Meeting Documents and Exhibits:**

##### Meeting Agenda

PowerPoint Presentation on MassCEC FY25 Financial Reporting

PowerPoint Presentation on Organizational Metrics Update Q1-Q2 2025

PowerPoint Presentation on Wind Technology Testing Center - (WTTC) Large Blade Testing Facility Update

PowerPoint Presentation on Authorization of Funding for the NBMCT Phase 3 Expansion Project and Ocean Innovation Network

PowerPoint Presentation on New Bedford Marine Commerce Terminal: Annual Update