

EAP Advisory Board
Meeting Minutes
July 26, 2024

Meeting Minutes: OCA

Present: Amanda Noonan – NHDOE, Lea Francoeur – NHDOE, Michael Crouse – OCA, Elizabeth Reynolds – CAA – BMCA, Jeanne Agri – CAA-BMCA, Jennifer Hemeon – Liberty, Justin Stearns – Unutil, John Braswell – Eversource, Robyn Sarette – NHEC, Karen Emis-Williams – NHLWAA, Stephen Tower (Teams) – NHLA, Raymond Burke (Teams) – NHLA.

1. April meeting minutes – Unanimous vote to accept as presented.
2. CAA Budget:
 - a. The budget was nominally lower than the prior year stemming from the CAAs foreseeing future efficiencies surrounding new forms with the Electric Assistance Program (“EAP”).
 - b. These forms streamline the process for a combined application that would potentially decrease the CAA budget moving forward depending on the new state software.
3. Commission Order No. 27,031 in DE 22-043, dated July 9, 2024:
 - a. The EAP Advisory Board (the “Board”) discussed Commission Order No. 27,031.
 - b. The Board took note that the order will change the eligibility threshold in Tier 2 of the EAP, which would result in significant administrative costs that outweigh potential savings in the first year.
 - i. The administrative costs result from having to retrain CAA staff, reeducating the public, updating CAA marketing, and helping EAP participants understand whether and how the changes impact them.
 - c. The Board discussed strategies on how best to address its concerns.
4. EAP Fund Status (DOE) – The materials were circulated, and no comments were received.
5. Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (“LIHEAP”) – The Board shared a general reminder that there is an annual public hearing on August 8, 2024, for the LIHEAP, also known as the Fuel Assistance Program (“FAP”), regarding Program Year 2025.