

Meeting Minutes
Board of Directors – Wheat Belt PPD
March 25, 2022

A regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the Wheat Belt Public Power District was held March 25, 2022, at 8:30 a.m. the District Headquarters at 11306 Road 32, Sidney Nebraska, pursuant to written notice to each of the Directors and publication in the Sidney Sun-Telegraph, Legal Notice #L22-185, on March 16, 2022. The agenda was emailed to the directors, posted in the lobby and board room at Wheat Belt’s headquarters, and the availability of the agenda at the District office was part of legal notice.

Directors present at the meeting:

Brian Zimmerman	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Present	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Present
Moe Moffat	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Present	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Present
Stuart Morgan	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Present	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Present
Jennifer Eckhardt	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Present	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Present
Toni Blumenkamp	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Present	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Present
Sean Blackburn	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Present	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Present
Marcus Milanuk	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Present	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Present

Employees present at times throughout the meeting: Lacey Gulbranson, Earl Reilly, Ryan Borges, Sharrell Keane, and Kelli Chaon.

Guests: Attorney Kendra Strommen, Mark Churchill and Jerry Holdsworth with Arbor Wealth and John Wieser of Wieser Construction.

The meeting was called to order at 8:30 a.m. by board President Brian Zimmerman, who noted the posting of a copy of the Open Meetings Law in the boardroom and who established a quorum was present. Sharrell Keane recorded minutes at the request of Board Secretary Moe Moffat.

Approval of the Consent Agenda

Morgan asked for the removal of policy C-26 from the consent agenda. Milanuk moved to approve the consent agenda containing the following items with the removal of policy C-26:

- Item 1: Approve the Agenda
- Item 2: Waive the reading of the Meeting Notice
 - Regular Board Meeting Notice March 25, 2022
- Item 3: Approve the Board Meeting Minutes of the Previous Meeting
 - February 25, 2022, Regular Board Meeting Minutes
- Item 4: Reapprove Policies with no Changes (C-18, C-20, C-21, C-22, C-23, C24, C-25)
- Item 5: Approve Policies with Changes (C-17, C-19)

The motion was seconded by Blackburn, and roll call vote with Directors voting as follows:

Brian Zimmerman	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Moe Moffat	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Stuart Morgan	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No

Meeting Minutes

March 25, 2022

Jennifer Eckhardt	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Toni Blomenkamp	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Sean Blackburn	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Marcus Milanuk	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No

Motion carried.

Introduction of Guests –

Introduction of Mark Churchill and Jerry Holdsworth from Arbor Wealth and it was noted that John Wieser from Wieser Construction will be joining for a presentation at 11:00am.

Public Comment Period

8:35 a.m. No comments were received.

Board Education

Gulbranson presented an overview of available board training from NRECA.

Investment Update

Mark Churchill presented an overview of the current investments, investment strategy and market information based upon the Federal Open Market Committee.

Policy Review

Policy C-26 was removed from the original consent agenda and discussed separately. Milanuk moved to adopt Board C-26 with changes; Eckhardt seconded. Roll call vote by the directors as follows:

Stuart Morgan	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Jennifer Eckhardt	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Toni Blomenkamp	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Sean Blackburn	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Marcus Milanuk	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Brian Zimmerman	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Moe Moffat	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No

Motion carried.

Building Update

Chaon presented an overview of the historical decisions made regarding the current headquarters building and land. Attorney Strommen also gave an overview of the building construction contract.

Meeting Minutes

March 25, 2022

Safety Issues and Safety Meeting

Reilly updated the board regarding both January Safety meeting and Safety Committee meeting.

Department Reports

Operations and Maintenance – Reviewed by Reilly

Construction and Engineering – Reviewed by Borges

IT & Metering – Reviewed by Weeda

Corporate Services and Financials– Reviewed by Keane

General Manager’s Report

Gulbranson reviewed her report focusing on the following items as outlined in the board book:

- Potential new load
- City of Bridgeport
- Leadership development
- NREA Strategic Planning

Building Drainage Proposal

John Wieser joined the meeting at 11:00 a.m. and reviewed his proposal for fixing the building drainage issues. It was noted that the bid was only to fix the drainage issues on the primary building and did not address the cold storage building, internal water damage or any issues found with the front stoop. It was discussed this being an initial bid and potential for additional changes would be created as a change order if necessary and would be reviewed and approved by the board. The initial work of installing the underground drainage pipes to divert water would likely start within the next few weeks to avoid any spring storms. The board also inquired about warranty of work and Mr. Wieser indicated this would carry a one-year materials and workmanship warranty. Wheat Belt will provide Mr. Wieser with a primary contact to move forward with the work.

Executive Session – FERC Interventions, Protests and Settlement

Due to the sensitive nature of ongoing and potential litigation, Blackburn moved to enter executive session. Milanuk seconded followed by roll call vote with voting as follows

Marcus Milanuk	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Brian Zimmerman	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Moe Moffat	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Stuart Morgan	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Jennifer Eckhardt	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Toni Blomenkamp	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Sean Blackburn	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No

Meeting Minutes

March 25, 2022

Motion carried.

Executive Session:

The board entered Executive session at 11:30 a.m., Gulbranson and Strommen were asked to stay.

A break was taken from 12:00 – 12:30 p.m.; upon returning Morgan was asked to refrain from joining until after the executive session had concluded.

Milanuk made a motion to end the executive session at 12:51 p.m.; Eckhardt seconded. Roll call voting by the directors as follows:

Marcus Milanuk	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Brian Zimmerman	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Moe Moffat	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Stuart Morgan	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Jennifer Eckhardt	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Toni Blomenkamp	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Sean Blackburn	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No

Motion carried.

Strategic Plan Update

Gulbranson reviewed the strategic plan initiative owners and will present a 3-year detailed plan in May.

Monthly Area of Focus – Operations

Reilly provided an overview of the Operations and Maintenance team structure and purpose.

Power Supply Report

Morgan reviewed the Tri-State report submitted in the board book.

Meeting reports

Blomenkamp gave an overview of the NRECA PowerXchange that was attended virtually March 6-9th. Gulbranson provided an update on the NREA Strategic Planning session that was held in Kearney, NE on March 23-24, 2022.

Future Meetings and Trainings

The calendar and meeting materials provided within the board packet were discussed.

Delegations/Organizational Items

The delegate list was reviewed. No further actions were taken.

Meeting Minutes

March 25, 2022

Other Business

Milanuk initiated conversation regarding the Board Evaluation that was completed in February asking for input from the upper management to be included to provide open constructive criticism on how to be a better board.

The disconnect policy was brought forth from the February meeting with no further action taken.

Zimmerman asked for input regarding the new consent agenda and received positive feedback to move forward.

The next regular board meeting is Friday, April 22, 2022, at 8:30 a.m. at the Wheat Belt office.

Adjournment

With no further business, Zimmerman moved for adjournment at 1:27 p.m.

Attest:

Brian Zimmerman, President

Brian Moffat, Secretary