

Meeting Minutes
Board of Directors – Wheat Belt PPD
August 26, 2022

A regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the Wheat Belt Public Power District was held August 26, 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 #L22-541, on August 17, 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 Blomenkamp	<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, Jim Weeda, Sharrell Keane, and Kelli Chaon.

Guests: Attorney Kendra Strommen.

The meeting was called to order at 8:32 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

Blackburn moved to approve the consent agenda containing the following items:

- Item 1: Approval of the agenda
- Item 2: Legal Notices
 - Waive the reading of the Meeting Notice
 - Regular Board Meeting Notice August 26, 2022
 - Information – Election Notice
- Item 3: Approve the Board Meeting Minutes of the Previous Meeting
 - July 22, 2022, Regular Board Meeting Minutes
- Item 4: Approve Policies with no Changes (E-19, E-19B)
- Item 5: Policies to Move from Board Policy to Operating Policy for the General Manager to Manage (E-20B, E-20C, E-20D, E-20F, E-20G, E-20H)
- Item 6: Approve Policies with Minor Changes (E-19A, E-20 E-20A)

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

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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
Marcus Milanuk	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No

Motion carried.

Introduction of Guests –

Introduction of Attorney Kendra Strommen.

Public Comment Period

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

Board Education

Gulbranson presented an overview KRTA Ratios

Safety Issues and Safety Meeting

Reilly updated the board regarding the July Safety meeting.

Department Reports

Engineering and Line Crew – Reviewed by Borges

IT & Metering – Reviewed by Weeda

Corporate Services and Financials– Reviewed by Keane

- Moffat made a motion to approve a large budget change to reduce Cybersecurity by \$8,925 and SCADA by \$30,000 and utilize the funds to increase the Transit budget by \$6,000 and add new large budget item for PCS Servers in the amount of \$32,925. Eckhardt seconded followed by roll call vote with voting 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

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Motion carried.

- Moffat made a motion to approve irrigation testing write-off per policy in the amount of \$1,353.31. Including account 11996 location 23005 for \$340.76; account 1765 location 01570 for \$484.02; account 20373 location 43028 for \$514.09 and account 49010 location 90939 for \$14.44. Blackburn seconded followed by roll call vote with voting as follows:

Toni Blomenkamp	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Abstained
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
Stuart Morgan	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Jennifer Eckhardt	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No

Motion carried.

The board entered into a break period at 10:05 upon returning at 10:22a.m. Keane reviewed the financials.

General Manager’s Report

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

- Summary of Operations
- Cost Of Service Study
- Data Integrity Update
- Operating Policy Adjustment
- Legislative
- WNCC Lineworker Program
- GM Review

Auditor Engagement Agreement

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

Morgan made a motion to retain Dana F. Cole & Company as auditor for 2022-2024. Blackburn seconded followed by roll call vote with voting as follows:

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

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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

Motion carried.

2023 Employee Benefits Renewal

Keane presented overview of the 2023 Employee Benefits Renewal.

Eckhardt made a motion to approve 2023 Employee Benefits as presented. 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

Motion carried.

Morgan made a motion to approve additional employee paid holiday of July 3, 2023. Moffat 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

Motion carried.

Policy Review

Milanuk moved to approve Board Policy E-11 rewrite; Moffat seconded. Roll call vote by the directors as follows:

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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.

Executive Session – Personnel Matters

Due to the sensitive nature, Moffat moved to enter executive session to discuss Personnel matters. Blackburn 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

Motion carried.

Executive Session:

The board entered Executive session at 11:37 a.m., Gulbranson and Strommen were asked to stay.

Milanuk made a motion to end the executive session at 12:18 p.m.; Moffat 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

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Strategic Plan Update

Gulbranson presented the Culture Committee minutes and requested that the Safety Committee meeting after the board meeting be postponed.

Power Supply Report

Morgan reviewed the Tri-State report submitted in the board book and indicated that a rate increase is likely in 2023.

Meeting reports

NREA Meeting August 10-11th attended by Zimmerman, Milanuk and Blumenkamp and an overview presented to the board.

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.

Other Business

The next regular board meeting is Friday, September 23, 2022, at 8:30 a.m. at the Wheat Belt office. The Customer Experience Committee will meet after the board meeting.

Adjournment

With no further business, Zimmerman moved for adjournment at 12:51 p.m.

Attest:

Brian Zimmerman, President

Brian Moffat, Secretary