

Meeting Minutes
Board of Directors – Wheat Belt PPD
February 24, 2023

A regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the Wheat Belt Public Power District was held February 24, 2023, 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 #L23-112, on February 16, 2023. 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 type="checkbox"/> Present	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Not Present
Collin Anderson	<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, Ryan Borges, Jim Weeda, Sharrell Keane, Valerie Richards, Nick Brauer and Kelli Chaon.

Attorney: Kendra Strommen present

Guests: Attorney Kendra Strommen, Matt McLaughlin, and Suzy Ernest

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.

Introduction of Guests –

Introduction of Leyton School District representatives Suzy Ernest and Matt McLaughlin.

Public Comment Period

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

Approval of the Consent Agenda

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

- Item 1: Approval of the agenda
- Item 2: Legal Notices
 - Waive the reading Regular Board Meeting Notice February 24, 2023
 - Affidavit from the January Regular Board Meeting
 - Affidavit from the Annual General Manager’s Salary Notice January 11, 2023

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- Item 3: Approve the Board Meeting Minutes of the Previous Meeting
 - January 27, 2023, Regular Board Meeting Minutes
- Item 4: Approve Policies with no Changes (D-7, D-8, D-9, D-11, D-14, M-1)
- Item 5: Approve Policies with Minor Changes (D-13)
- Item 6: Resolution to Modify Bank Signatories (remove Blackburn and add C. Anderson)

The motion was seconded by Eckhardt, 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
Jennifer Eckhardt	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Collin Anderson	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Marcus Milanuk	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No

Motion carried.

Board Education

Attorney Kendra Strommen review the Open Meetings Act and provided handouts on the topic. Following the discussion, guests Suzy Ernest and Matt McLaughlin left the meeting. Gulbranson then reviewed the topic of administrative compliance.

Moffat moved to adopt a change to future agendas allowing two public comments period at each board meeting with the times being 8:35 a.m. and 11:35 a.m. Anderson seconded the motion. 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
Collin Anderson	<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.

A break was taken from 9:45 a.m. to 9:56 a.m.

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Safety Issues and Safety Meeting

Borges updated the board regarding the February Safety meeting. The minutes from the February Safety Meeting will be included in the March Board Book due to the meeting being held later in the month to accommodate JT&S scheduling.

Department Reports

Engineering and Line Crew – Reviewed by Ryan Borges

IT & Metering – Reviewed by Jim Weeda

Corporate Services and Financials– Reviewed by Sharrell Keane

General Manager’s Report

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

- Summary of Operations
- Federated Claims
- Tri-State Patronage Capital Allocation
- Tri-State Rate Design Committee
- General Updates

Power Supply Report

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

FERC Interventions, Protests and Settlement

Gulbranson gave an update regarding the current FERC Interventions, FERC Contract Termination Pricing and Basic Stated Rate Intervener. Milanuk made a motion to file a Minority Report Position to the Tri-State Board of Directors as outlined. 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
Collin Anderson	<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.

Strategic Plan Update

Gulbranson referred the board to the update in the board book on the Customer Experience Committee minutes. Today the Culture committee meeting will be after the board meeting.

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Meeting reports

Milanuk gave an updated to the board on the NREA Legislative Meeting.

Milanuk moved to support the NREA position on the legislative bills; Moffat seconded. Roll call vote by the directors as follows:

Jennifer Eckhardt	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Collin Anderson	<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

Motion carried.

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.

The board took a break for lunch from 12:20 p.m. – 12:55 p.m.

Other Business

Gulbranson conducted board orientation on the topics of Legislative and Grassroots.

The next regular board meeting is Friday, March 24, 2023, at 8:30 a.m. at the Wheat Belt office.

Adjournment

With no further business, Zimmerman moved for adjournment at 1:45 p.m.

Attest:

Brian Zimmerman, President

Brian Moffat, Secretary