

**Meeting Minutes**  
**Board of Directors – Wheat Belt PPD**  
**August 25, 2023**

A regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the Wheat Belt Public Power District was held August 25, 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 #L23-524, on August 17, 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Present	<input 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, Rollie Waite, Jim Weeda, Sharrell Keane, Mark Cape, Nick Brauer and Kelli Chaon.

Attorney: Kendra Strommen present

Guests present: Keith and Nancy Hughes

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 –**

Keith and Nancy Hughes  
Jonathan Williams, RVW Inc. to join at 10:00

**Public Comment Period**

Keith and Nancy Hughes were present to ask the board for a deviation from standard operating procedures regarding a line extension. Several options were presented and discussed by management, the board and guests.

Milanuk made a motion to go into Executive Session. The motion was seconded by Moffat and a roll call vote was taken as follows:

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

Motion carried.

Zimmerman thanked Keith and Nancy Hughes for attending and they exited the meeting.

**Executive Session:**

The board entered Executive session at 8:54 a.m. to discuss strategy for future policy and procedures, all Wheat Belt employees and Strommen were asked to stay.

Moffat made a motion to end the executive session at 9:14 a.m.; Blomenkamp seconded. Roll call voting by the directors as follows:

Jennifer Eckhardt	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Toni Blomenkamp	<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.

The board had a discussion with the Manager to provide guidance on how to proceed.

**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 August 25, 2023
  - Acknowledgment of Dalton Reconductor Project Bid Notice
- Item 3: Approve the Board Meeting Minutes of the Previous Meeting
  - July 28, 2023, Regular Board Meeting Minutes

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

Motion carried.

### Secondary Underground Replacement

Gulbranson presented the proposed new Board Policy C-30 Secondary Underground and changes to C-25 Irrigation Disconnect Rebate Program. After discussion, Milanuk moved to adopt Board Policy C-30 as proposed and Policy C-25 with minor changes as discussed; 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
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.

### Safety Issues and Safety Meeting

Cape updated the board regarding the August Safety Meeting and Safety Committee Meeting.

A break was taken from 9:36 a.m. – 9:49 a.m.

### Award Bid for Dalton Reconductor Project

Jonathan Williams of RVW Inc. joined the board discussion via conference call at 9:58 a.m. to present the bid results and recommended action. Moffat moved to award the bid for the Dalton Reconductor Project to Great Plains; Anderson seconded. Roll call vote by the directors as follows:

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

Motion carried.

## Department Reports

Engineering – Reviewed by Mark Cape

Operations – Reviewed by Rollie Waite

IT & Metering – Prepared 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:

- Cost Of Service Study – Gulbranson presented a review of current factors that are being evaluated as part of the cost-of-service study. The board provided guidance to have the consulting company run proposed rates at 3.58% and 4% for their review. Also, to use overages to offset cost of power then increases to basic fees.
- Summary of Operations
- Federated Claims
- Four Year Work Plan
- Large Projects
- Travel
- GM Review
- Travel/Meetings

## Power Supply Report

Morgan reviewed the Tri-State report submitted in the board book with a lengthy discussion being held by the board on the topic.

## Executive Session – FERC Interventions, Protests and Settlement

A Discussion was held regarding FERC contract Termination Pricing, Contract buy down pricing and formulary rate filing.

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**Public Comment Period**

11:30 a.m. No comments were received.

**Strategic Plan Update**

Gulbranson provided an update on the strategic plan.

**Meeting reports**

Milanuk provided a brief update on the NREA Quarterly meeting held in Scottsbluff that was attended by Milanuk, Zimmerman, Moffat and Gulbranson.

**Future Meetings, Training and Arrangements**

The calendar and meeting materials provided within the board packet were discussed. Gulbranson also mentioned that Tri-State will be conducting a Local Board Orientation on September 13 if any board members would like to attend.

**Delegations/Organizational Items**

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

**Other Business**

The next regular board meeting is Friday, September 22, 2023, at 8:30 a.m. at the Wheat Belt office.

**Adjournment**

With no further business, Zimmerman moved for adjournment at 12:30 a.m.

**Attest:**

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Brian Zimmerman, President

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Brian Moffat, Secretary