

Meeting Minutes
Board of Directors – Wheat Belt PPD
April 15, 2024

An emergency virtual meeting of the Board of Directors of the Wheat Belt Public Power District was held April 15, 2024, at 12:00 p.m. via tele-conference, pursuant to email notice to each of the Directors on April 14, 2024 and being posted on the website. The agenda was emailed to the directors, posted in the lobby and board room at Wheat Belt’s headquarters.

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
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 and Sharrell Keane.

Attorney: Kendra Strommen present

Guests present:

The meeting was called to order at 12:00 p.m. by board President Brian Zimmerman, who noted the posting of a copy of the Open Meetings Law in the boardroom and available via link on emailed agenda. A quorum was present and established. Sharrell Keane recorded minutes at the request of Board Secretary Moe Moffat.

Storm Damage Resolution

Governor Proclamation was read by Gulbranson that was approved on 4/10/24 by Governor Jim Pillan. Resolution 2024-01 was read in full by Gulbranson.

A roll call was taken prior to discussions, and all directors were present.

Gulbranson then reviewed the estimated costs for the 2024 April storm. She reiterated that these were only estimates and gave them a brief overview of each category. The board had an in-depth discussion regarding the estimates and the proposed resolution.

A motion was made by Milanuk and seconded by Anderson to approve the proposed resolution No 2024-01 Resolution Recognizing Emergency and Authorizing Management to Respond with changes authorizing the General Manager to take necessary action spending up to \$4,200,000.00 without further board approval. 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
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.

Gulbranson then provided an update that there were 400 accounts without power as of the evening of April 14, 2024. The approximate breakdown of the 400 accounts included 40 residential, 150 seasonal, 160 irrigation, 50 small commercial and 7 government.

The board would like to thank all of the mutual aid crews that were here to provide help. Those crews include; Dawson, Mid-West, McCook, Loup Valley, Lacreek Electric Association, Southern, Rosevelt, PREMA, and Northwest.

Discussion was then had regarding the priority of next steps and the balance of speed of restoration and costs. It was determined that irrigation would be the next priority with a target date being May 15, 2024, at the latest.

The discussion of cost sharing was reviewed briefly for solar projects to replace existing downed services. Milanuk reminded the group that FEMA and NEMA will not reimburse for anything different than the existing structures. A decision was made that if there were any requests for cost sharing that would be viable, they would be brought forth to the April board meeting.

The board would like to thank all Wheat Belt PPD employees and families for all their efforts.

Clean up efforts were discussed as to timing, level of effort and customer communication.

Adjournment

With no further business, Zimmerman moved for adjournment at 1:15 p.m.

Attest:

Brian Zimmerman, President

Brian Moffat, Secretary