

**Meeting Minutes**  
**Board of Directors – Wheat Belt PPD**  
**April 25, 2025**

A regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the Wheat Belt Public Power District was held April 25, 2025, at 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 #L25-257, on April 17, 2025. 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, Tim Jones, Mark Cape, and Kelli Chaon.

Attorney: Kendra Strommen present

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. Kendra Strommen recorded minutes at the request of Board Secretary Moe Moffat.

Moe Moffat joined the meeting at 8:36 a.m.

**Introduction of Guests:**

None were present

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### Approval of the Consent Agenda

Eckhardt moved to approve the consent agenda removing the approval of the agenda item containing the following:

- ~~Item 1: Approval of the agenda~~ (Pulled from the consent agenda)
- Item 2: Legal Notices
  - Waive the reading Regular Board Meeting Notice April 25, 2025
- Item 3: Approve the Board Meeting Minutes of the Previous Meeting
  - March 28, 2025, Regular Board Meeting Minutes
  - April 15, 2025, Special Board Meeting Minutes
- Item 4: Policies with no Recommended Changes
  - D-7: Director Elections
  - D-8: Director Absence from Meetings
  - D-9: Electronic Communications
  - D-10: Reliability Standards
  - D-11: Paperless Boardroom

The motion was seconded by Milanuk, and roll call vote with Directors 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
Collin Anderson	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No

Motion carried

- All Board members have an opportunity prior to voting to pull any item from the Consent Agenda to discuss as its own issue.

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Milanuk moved to approve the April 2025 WBPPD Board Meeting Agenda to include the District Audit Review; Blomenkamp seconded, roll call vote by the directors as follows:

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

Motion carried

Motion carried.

## Public Comment Period

No comments were received.

## Policy Review

Milanuk moved to approve the proposed policies with minor changes A-3: Employment of Relatives, A-4: Harassment, A-5: Information Use& Cybersecurity, D-1: Director Compensation and Expense Report Approval; Blomenkamp seconded, Roll call vote by the directors as follows:

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

Motion carried

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## Meeting Reports

None for April

## Delegates and Other Organizational Items

Nothing to report this month

## Safety Issues and Safety Meeting Minutes

Cape updated the board regarding the April 4th Safety meeting. Milanuk was the Board member guest at the meeting. Cape reviewed the remainder of the Safety Meeting Minutes in the board book with nothing additional to add.

## Department Reports

**Engineering** – Mark Cape reported that we had multiple outages on a three mile stretch of three phase line west of the Greenwood substation. They plan to have the line staked soon for a rebuild. Further, Cross Country Engineering out of Ogallala is putting together a proposal bid for the two miles of line to replace south of Lewellen sub.

**Operations** – Rollie Waite reported on some completed work. They installed the P.T. in the Lewellen Substation, replaced the Vo-Tech Substation Transformer with spare from Wheat Belt's Office, completed breaker maintenance on 80+ oil circuit reclosers, installed a new switch West of the Lewellen Substation and a new service for Jackson. Waite reviewed the remainder of the Operations Report in the board book with nothing additional to add.

**Technology** – Jim Weeda reported that they have been experiencing small internet traffic interruptions over the last several months. He reached out to Hamilton, and they suggested matching our firewall's maximum bandwidth to our capped internet speed. The problem has been resolved. Further, he attended the CEO Member Workshop meeting covering BP115 and HILA (High Impact Load Agreement). Weeda reviewed the remainder of the Technology Department Report in the board book with nothing additional to add.

Moffat made a motion to move \$9,231.99 inventory items to nonstock items; 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

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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.

**Finance & Administrative Services** – Tim Jones reviewed the Finance and Administrative Services report in the board book with nothing additional to add.

- Customer Engagement and Marketing
  - March sent out 472 delinquent reminders
  - March had 19 accounts disconnected
  - March had 1 new service
  - March had 4 services retired
  - March had 15 ownership transfers and 12 tenant transfers
  - 86% completed with the customer account audit (approx.. 700 left)

**Finance Reports** – Tim Jones reviewed the Statement of Operations, the Balance Sheet, the Statement of Cash Flow, Temporary Investments that can be found in the board book.

## 2024 Audit Review

Audit presentation by Dana F. Cole & Company, LLP, Certified Public Accountants, which reviewed the following that was provided in the board book.

- Board of Directors and General Manager
- Independent Auditor's Report
- Management's Discussion and Analysis
- Financial Statements:
  - Balance Sheets
  - Statements of Revenues, Expenses, and Changes in Net Position
  - Statements of Cash Flows
- Notes to Financial Statements
- Required Supplementary Information
- Report Required by Government Auditing Standards
- Summary Schedule of Prior Audit Findings

Eckhardt moved to review and discuss the Audit Review at next month's board meeting; Blomenkamp seconded, roll call vote by the directors as follows:

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

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

## Power Supply – Nebraska Public Power District – Overview

- Presentation given by Tom Kent, President and CEO and Chad Podolak, Director of Wholesale Sales and Services, which reviewed the following:
  - NPPD overview
  - Load Growth
  - Competitiveness
  - Load control program
  - New Wholesale Power contract

**Break for Lunch: 11:55 a.m. to 12:23 p.m.**

## General Manager's Report

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

- Sidney Training Facility
- FEMA update – April 2024 Storm
- MDMS ( Meter Data Management Systems)

## Power Supply Report

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

Gulbranson reviewed what occurred since our last meeting. She had an initial conversation with Todd Brickhouse the CEO of Basin electric where they discussed it would be best to include the other Panhandle system managers. It is very clear they will not be dropping their stance of member exits are a breach of contract.

Further, Duane Highley and Curtis Kayton have been talking and Tri-State has some ideas that they are working on. Duane and team met with most of the Nebraska members CEOs in Scottsbluff on April 10.

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### Power Supply Contract Extension Consideration

Moffat made a motion to sign and deliver Tri-State's updated 2050 contract to meet the May 20, 2025 deadline; Morgan seconded, followed by roll call vote with voting as follows:

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
Brian Zimmerman	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No

Motion carried.

### FERC Interventions, Protests and Settlement

Gulbranson provided an update on the following:

- Contract Termination Pricing
- Formulary Rate Filing
  - Fair and Reasonable Tilt Coalition
- Demand Response Tariff
- High Impact Load Tariff

### CEO Executive Search

Milanuk made a motion to accept and approve the NRECA Executive Search Proposal; Anderson seconded, followed by roll call vote with voting as follows:

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

Motion carried.

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### Executive Session:

The board entered the Executive session at 1:55 p.m. Gulbranson and Strommen were asked to stay to discuss Lacey's pending departure.

Milanuk made a motion to enter the executive session at 1:55 p.m., Eckhardt seconded. Roll call voting by the directors as follows:

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

Zimmerman made a motion to end the executive session at 2:24 p.m.; Moffat seconded. Roll call voting 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

### Strategic Plan Update

Gulbranson reviewed the following:

- 2025-2027 Strategic Plan Update



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### Future Meetings and Trainings

- May Safety Meeting – Friday, May 9, 2025
- May General Board Meeting – Friday, May 23, 2025
- Other Upcoming Meetings

### Public Comment Period

No comments were received from the public.


### Other Business

- The next regular board meeting is Friday, May 23, 2025, at 8:30 a.m. at the Wheat Belt office.

### Adjournment

With no further business, Zimmerman moved for adjournment at 2:32 p.m.

### Attest:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Brian Zimmerman, President  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Brian Moffat, Secretary

