

**Meeting Minutes**  
**Board of Directors – Wheat Belt PPD**  
**March 28, 2025**

A regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the Wheat Belt Public Power District was held March 28, 2025, at the District Headquarters at 11306 Road 32, Sidney Nebraska, pursuant to written notice to each of the Directors. 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.

**Introduction of Guests:**

None

**Approval of the Consent Agenda**

Eckhardt 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 March 28, 2025
- Item 3: Approve the Board Meeting Minutes of the Previous Meeting
  - February 28, 2025, Regular Board Meeting Minutes
- Item 4: Policies with no Recommended Changes
  - D-2: Director Insurance

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- D-3: Student Scholarship
- D-4: Selection of General Manager

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.

## Public Comment Period

No comments were received.

## Policy Review

Moffat moved to approve the proposed Policies with minor changes A-1: Purpose, Formation, Review and Distribution and A-2: Nondiscrimination; 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

Zimmerman moved to table the proposed Policy D-1: Director Compensation until next month's monthly board meeting; Milanuk seconded. Roll call vote by the directors as follows:

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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		

Blomenkamp moved to approve the proposed Policy D-5: Board of Director Duties and proposed policy D-6: Board/Manager Relationship as written; Milanuk seconded. Roll call vote by the directors 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
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

Milanuk moved to table the proposed Policy D-5A: Wheatbelt Board Evaluation for a future board meeting; Blomenkamp seconded. Roll call vote by the directors as follows:

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

Motion carried

Milanuk moved to table the proposed Policy D-6A: General Manager for a future board meeting; Moffat seconded. Roll call vote by the directors as follows:

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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

## Meeting Reports

Blomenkamp provided a report from the Atlanta conference; she provided an overview of the breakout sessions:

- Post election update on Trump's ambitious Agenda
- Load growth is coming from all directions and rate increases are coming because of demand
- AI Mind Shift written by Brian Solis
- Wildfire breakout session overview
- Blomenkamp officially completed the BLC Certificate

## Election of Delegations/Organizational Items

Nothing to report

## Auditor RFP (request for Proposal) for Fiscal Years 2025, 2026, 2027

Tim Jones reported that there were no changes to the auditor's report.

Moffat made a motion to accept and approve the Auditor RFP (request for Proposal) for fiscal years 2025, 2026, 2027; Anderson seconded. Followed by roll call vote with 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
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.

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### Power Supply Contract Extension Consideration

Gulbranson presented a Decision Making Framework regarding 2025 Tri-State G&T Contract Extension. Gulbranson and the Board concluded we do not have a consensus that Tri-State G&T is our strategic partner, and we are not ready to sign a Contract Extension. Further discussion was had on the following:

- Buyout numbers with discussion on the buyout numbers
- Discussion on CPT Project Analysis on a 2027 buyout
- Decisions must be made by May 20, 2025

### Power Supply Report

Morgan gave a summary of his report in the board book. Tri-State filed with FERC, demand response Tariff. Morgan reminded the Board of the Annual Meeting, April 1-2 at the Omni Interlocken Hotel in Broomfield, Colorado.

Gulbranson stated that the Tri-State Contract Committee met three times last month. The Contract will be going to the Board at the Annual Meeting. Gulbranson voted in favor of the Contract language and voted to move it to the Board.

### FERC Interventions, Protests and Settlement

Gulbranson provided an update on the following:

- Contract Termination Pricing
- Formulary Rate Filing
  - Fair and Reasonable Tilt Coalition
- High Impact Load Tariff – to be filed in 2025
- Demand Response Tariff – to be filed in March 2025

Moffat made a motion to file an intervener for the Demand Response Tariff to be filed in March 2025. Eckhardt seconded followed by roll call vote with the 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 Blumenkamp	<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.

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### Safety Issues and Safety Meeting Minutes

Cape updated the board regarding the March 14 Safety 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 the first Chappell UG project has been completed. Cory and Cape will attend the safety director's update April 1-2 in Kearney. Cape reviewed the remainder of the Engineering Report in the board book with nothing additional to add.

**Operations** – Rollie Waite reported the outage report in Bridgeport on March 27. Waite reviewed the completed work and upcoming work in the Operations report in the board book. WBPPD has been short-staffed since it sent a crew to Perennial- York for storm restoration.

**Technology** – Jim Weeda reported his month was spent conducting inventory. Weeda reviewed the remainder of the Technology Department Report in the board book with nothing additional to add.

Milanuk made a motion to table the Inventory Management Report until the April 28<sup>th</sup> monthly board meeting; Anderson 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

**Finance & Administrative Services** – Tim Jones reviewed the finance and administrative services in the board book:

- 2025 Safety Fair will be on May 6<sup>th</sup> at the fairground for 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> graders. As of right now we have 347 students from area schools and homeschool students that have registered for the event.
- Finance/Accounting/HR
  - Audit is still on going. No material changes to December 2024-year end financials

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- Bond Procedures received 3/18/2025: 4,638,574 received in account and had 61,426 booked as expense for a total of 4,700,000
- Proceeds distributed as follows:
  - CFC Daily Liquidity Fund: 1,000,000
  - Wells Fargo: 1,400,000
    - Buying 14 CD's (250,000 each and laddering them for anticipated dates)
  - CFC Eloc: paid it off 3/19/2025 for 2,000,000

**Finance Reports** – Tim Jones reminded the board that Wheatbelt Public Power District audit is still ongoing, everything reflects preliminary financials. Further review on the Balance Sheet highlighting the construction work and Statement Cash Flow that can be found in the board book.

## General Manager's Report

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

- Sidney Training Facility
  - A couple of subcommittee meetings have taken place
  - Rollie has been active in helping get to an agreed upon design and working to get a square foot cost
  - The manager group and many of the JT&S subcommittee met at Roosevelt on March 20. The subcommittee provided an update on the anticipated cost on the improvements to the facility
- FEMA update – April 2024 Storm
  - FEMA has sent our project to the CRC (Consolidated Resource Center) for their audit of the Grant. We continue to receive data request from FEMA
  - RMA has provided their report for hopeful certification of roughly 60 miles of line that we are seeking reconductor/rebuild due to damage conductor that is back in the air following the storm. FEMA has requested some changes which RMA plans to have completed by the end of this week. We continue to work closing with FEMA on these projects.
- Operations have begun post-storm repair (re-sag straighten poles placing grounds) within coming days/weeks.
- Personnel Item

## Executive Session:

The board entered the Executive session at 12:00 p.m., Gulbranson and Strommen were asked to stay to discuss Personnel issues.

Moffat made a motion to enter the executive session at 12:00 p.m., Milanuk seconded. Roll call voting by the directors as follows:

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

Motion carried

Milanuk made a motion to end the executive session at 12:10 p.m.; Anderson 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

## Shortened Work Week Employee Recommendation

Milanuk made a motion to accept and approve the following recommendations:

- Pilot a 4–10-hour work week schedule
- June 1, 2025 – October 31, 2025
- Hours of operation:
  - Monday through Thursday 6:30 a.m. through 4:30 p.m., eliminating a formal lunch break (all salary employees would be expected to be present for board meetings), and closed on Fridays
- Holidays:
  - 4th of July (this is a Friday in 2025), we are asking to observe the holiday on Thursday July 3<sup>rd</sup>. 8 hours of holiday pay would be given to the employees, and they can choose to take 2 hours of PTO or comp time to make up the remaining two hours
  - Labor Day – 8 hours of holiday pay would be given to employees, and they can choose to take 2 hours of PTO or comp time to make up the remaining two hours

Eckhardt seconded, followed by roll call vote with voting as follows:

Moe Moffat	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
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Stuart Morgan	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Jennifer Eckhardt	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Toni Blumenkamp	<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.

## Strategic Plan Update

Gulbranson reviewed the following:

- 2025-2027 Strategic Plan Update

## Future Meetings and Trainings

- April Safety Meeting – Friday, April 4, 2025
- April General Board Meeting – Friday, April 25, 2025
- Tri-State Annual Meeting – April 1-2, 2025
- Other Upcoming Meetings

## Public Comment Period

No comments were received from the public.

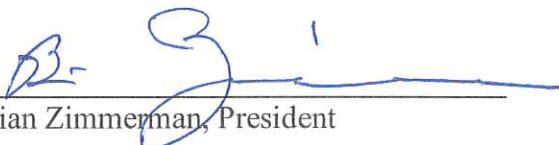
## Other Business

- The next regular board meeting is Friday, April 25, 2025, at 8:30 a.m. at the Wheat Belt office.

## Adjournment

With no further business, Zimmerman moved for adjournment at 12:37 p.m.

## Attest:

  
Brian Zimmerman, President

  
Brian Moffat, Secretary

