

Meeting Minutes
Board of Directors – Wheat Belt PPD
November 21, 2022

A regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the Wheat Belt Public Power District was held November 21, 2022, 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 #L22-761, on November 10, 2022. 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
Sean Blackburn	<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, Nick Brauer and Kelli Chaon.

Guests present at times throughout the meeting: Attorney Kendra Strommen, John Krajewski of JKEnergy Consulting, and Collin Anderson.

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.

Approval of the Consent Agenda

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

- Item 1: Approval of the agenda
- Item 2: Waive the reading of the Meeting Notice
 - Regular Board Meeting Notice November 21, 2022
- Item 3: Approve the Board Meeting Minutes of the Previous Meeting
 - October 28, 2022, Regular Board Meeting Minutes
- Item 4: Approve Policies with no Changes (E-30, E-31, E-32, E-33, E-34, E-35, E-36)
- Item 5: Approve Polices with Changes (N/A)

Meeting Minutes

November 21, 2022

The motion was seconded by Milanuk, 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
Toni Blomenkamp	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Sean Blackburn	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Marcus Milanuk	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No

Motion carried.

Introduction of Guests –

Introduction of Attorney Kendra Strommen and John Krajewski, JKEnergy Consulting

Cost of Service and 2023 Rates

John Krajewski of JKEnergy Consulting presented the results of the cost-of-service study and proposed rate changes as outlined in the board book. Board ask John to provide irrigation rate comparisons. Morgan moved to adopt rate recommendations; Milanuk 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
Sean Blackburn	<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

Borges updated the board regarding the November Safety meeting. The November Safety Committee minutes will be published in the December board book.

Department Reports

Engineering and Line Crew – Reviewed by Ryan Borges

IT & Metering – Reviewed by Jim Weeda

Meeting Minutes

November 21, 2022

Corporate Services and Financials– Reviewed by Sharrell Keane

In addition to the board report Keane presented the current investments rates for both Wells Fargo and CFC. The board discussed allowing the potential of adding CFC to the list of investments allowed by policy. The current policy indicates that we allow investments approved by the State of Nebraska as determined by the NREA and CFC is currently approved by NREA.

- Morgan made a motion to approve adding CFC to our named Investment Managers. Moffat 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
Toni Blomenkamp	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Sean Blackburn	<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.

The Board took a break from 9:49 a.m. – 9:59 a.m.

General Manager’s Report

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

- Summary of Operations
- Wage information
- Federated Claims
- Travel
- General Update
- Tri-State Rate Design

Federated Insurance Policies

Gulbranson presented the new proposed 2023 Federated Insurance Policy rates to the board.

Moffat moved to adopt the proposed 2023 Federated Insurance Policies as presented; 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
Sean Blackburn	<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

Meeting Minutes

November 21, 2022

Motion carried.

2023 Wage Increase and Potential 2022 Bonus

Morgan moved to approve a 5% wage increase for all employees affective January 1, 2023; Eckhardt seconded. Roll call vote by the directors as follows:

Sean Blackburn	<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
Toni Blomenkamp	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No

Motion carried.

Policy Review

Blackburn moved to adopt Board E-24 and E-37with major changes; Milanuk seconded. Roll call vote by the directors 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
Sean Blackburn	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No

Motion carried.

Power Supply Report

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

FERC Interventions, Protests and Settlement

Gulbranson discussed the contract termination pricing updates.

Executive Session

The board did not go into executive session.

Meeting Minutes

November 21, 2022

Strategic Plan Update

Gulbranson and Borges gave an overview of progress on the 2022-2024 Culture, Operational Efficiency and Safety Strategic Plan initiatives. The Strategic plan discussion was paused at 10:59 a.m. to move into the Budget Hearing.

Budget Hearing

The Budget Hearing began at 11:00 a.m. Keane and Gulbranson presented the 2023 proposed budget as outlined in the board book with the following assumptions being discussed:

- Revenue and Cost of Power based on 7 Year trend (budget policy)
- Expenses based on bottoms up budget
- Employee wage increase of 5% 2023 and a fall performance-based increase
- Rate increase of 2.8% rate increase based on Cost-of-Service Study
- Reduction of 1 full-time headcount
- Inventory level stabilization to 2022
- Workplan implementation at \$2,750,000

A motion was made by Milanuk and seconded by Blackburn to approve the proposed 2023 Budget as presented. A roll call vote was taken 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
Sean Blackburn	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Marcus Milanuk	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No

Motion carried.

Strategic Plan Update Continued

The Strategic Plan update finished with the Customer Experience initiative update by Keane.

Meeting reports

Gulbranson provided an update on the CFC Independent Borrowers conference and the Tri-State Rate Committee that she attended in November.

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.

Meeting Minutes

November 21, 2022

Other Business

No additional items were brought forth for discussion.

The next regular board meeting is Friday, December 23, 2022, at 8:30 a.m. at the Wheat Belt office.

Adjournment

With no further business, Zimmerman moved for adjournment at 11:43 a.m.

Attest:

Brian Zimmerman, President

Brian Moffat, Secretary