

**Meeting Minutes**  
**Board of Directors – Wheat Belt PPD**  
**April 28, 2023**

A regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the Wheat Belt Public Power District was held April 28, 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 #L23-240, on April 20, 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 type="checkbox"/> Present	<input checked="" 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, Jim Weeda, Rollie Waite, Sharrell Keane, Nick Brauer, Mark Cape, and Kelli Chaon.

Attorney: Kendra Strommen present

Guests present: None

The meeting was called to order at 8:32 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**

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

- Item 1: Approval of the agenda
- Item 2: Legal Notices
  - Waive the reading of the Meeting Notice for the April 28, 2023, meeting.
- Item 3: Approve the Board Meeting Minutes of the Previous Meeting
  - March 24, 2023, Regular Board Meeting Minutes
- Item 4: Approve Policies with no Changes (C-3, C-4, C-6, C-7, C-8, C-9)
- Item 5: Approve Polices with Minor Changes (C-5)
- Item 6: One Card Resolution

The motion was seconded by Milanuk, and roll call vote with Directors voting as follows:

**Meeting Minutes**

**March 24, 2023**

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.

**Introduction of Guests –**

None present.

**Public Comment Period**

8:35 a.m. No comments were received.

**Executive Session – Personnel**

Morgan made a motion to enter executive session to discuss personnel matters at 8:35 a.m.; Anderson seconded. Roll call voting 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
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.

The board entered Executive session at 8:35 a.m., Gulbranson and Strommen were asked to stay.

Milanuk made a motion to end the executive session at 9:40 a.m.; Morgan seconded. Roll call voting 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
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.

## Meeting Minutes

March 24, 2023

### Policy Review

After a lengthy discussion, Eckhardt moved to adopt Board C-10, C-11, D-13 and E-20A with major changes; Blomenkamp 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

Motion carried.

### Special Topics – Renewable Energy Projects

Zimmerman and Gulbranson provided a brief overview of the Next Era Energy renewable energy projects.

### Safety Issues and Safety Meeting

Cape updated the board regarding the April Safety meeting.

### Department Reports

Operations – Reviewed by Rollie Waite

Technology Department – Reviewed by Jim Weeda

Corporate Services and Financials– Reviewed by Sharrell Keane

The board had an in-depth conversation regarding the purchase of a used small bucket truck from a neighboring Public Power District. Morgan made a motion to approve a large budget exception to add the purchase of a small bucket truck in the amount of \$60,000 for 2023 and remove the previously approved small bucket truck in 2024 in the amount of \$150,000. In addition, delaying the purchase of the Line Crew truck in the amount of \$60,000 to 2024. Blomenkamp seconded followed by roll call vote with voting 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
Stuart Morgan	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Jennifer Eckhardt	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No

**Meeting Minutes**

**March 24, 2023**

Motion carried.

The employee request to review and make an exception to board policies E-2 and E-37 was briefly discussed and determined to uphold the current policies and no further action was taken.

**General Manager’s Report**

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

- Summary of Operations
- Federated claims
- Rate Design Committee
- Tri-State Annual Contract Termination Price (CTP)
- 2023 First Quarter General Updates
  
- Gulbranson reviewed the use of Delta Banks due to inventory purchasing constraints. The board provided guidance to continue the process as necessary until inventory availability resumes.
- NREA Manager Meeting Updates –
  - NREA working on workman’s comp agreement.
  - The Mutual Aid agreement is being updated.
  - The Air Force is holding a meeting in mid-May to understand projects.
  - Bridgeport Ethanol has requested a meeting.

**Power Supply Report**

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

**FERC Interventions, Protests and Settlement**

Gulbranson provided recent updates and asked for board direction to join High Line in sending a letter to our representatives on potential impacts to end customer based on rate decisions. A motion was made to support the effort by Milanuk and seconded by Blomenkamp followed by roll call vote with voting as follows.

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
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.

## **Meeting Minutes**

**March 24, 2023**

### **Strategic Plan Update**

Gulbranson announced that the Safety Strategic Plan Committee will not meet today and an update will be sent to the committee via email. A full Strategic Plan review is scheduled for next month.

### **Meeting reports**

Gulbranson gave an update on the NREA Manager Meeting.  
Milanuk reviewed the potential structure changes to the NREA meetings that are being reviewed for future implementation.

### **Future Meetings and Trainings**

The calendar and meeting materials provided within the board packet were briefly discussed.

### **Delegations/Organizational Items**

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

### **Public Comment Period**

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

The board took a break at 12:22 p.m. and resumed at 12:47 p.m.

### **Other Business**

Keane provided an overview of the Financials for the board orientation.

The next board meeting is Friday, May 26, 2023, at 8:30 a.m. at the Wheat Belt office.

### **Adjournment**

With no further business, Zimmerman moved for adjournment at 1:32 p.m.

### **Attest:**

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Brian Zimmerman, President

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Brian Moffat, Secretary