

Meeting Minutes
Board of Directors – Wheat Belt PPD
September 22, 2023

A regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the Wheat Belt Public Power District was held September 22, 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 #L23-606, on September 14, 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 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, Mark Cape and Kelli Chaon.

Attorney: Kendra Strommen not present

Guests 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. Jim Weeda recorded minutes at the request of Board Secretary Moe Moffat.

Introduction of Guests –

Public Comment Period

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

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 Regular Board Meeting Notice September 22, 2023
- Item 3: Approve the Board Meeting Minutes of the Previous Meeting
 - August 25, 2023, Regular Board Meeting Minutes

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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
Collin Anderson	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Marcus Milanuk	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No

Motion carried.

Construction Work Plan

Gulbranson presented an overview of the 2024-2027 Construction Work Plan as proposed by RVW. RVW representative will provide a more in depth review at the October board meeting. Guidance was provided on the 2024 work plan to the General Manager to include the remaining cost for the VoTec project that was to be started in 2023.

Safety Issues and Safety Meeting

Cape updated the board regarding the September Safety meeting.

Department Reports

Engineering – Reviewed by Mark Cape

Operations – Reviewed by Rollie Waite

IT & Metering – Reviewed by Jim Weeda

Corporate Services and Financials– Reviewed by Lacey Gulbranson In Keane’s absence

General Manager’s Report

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

- Summary of Operations
- Federated Claims
- Construction Work Plan
- Cost Of Service Study, JKEnergy will attend the October board meeting for a formal rate presentation
- NREA Group Retention, which will be brought back in an upcoming month in the form of a formal board resolution
- Customer Account Adjustments, guidance was given to bring back next month

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- Handbook / Employee Policy
- Investment Update
- Processes
- Data Request from Tri-State
- Large Projects
- Travel / Meetings

Power Supply Report

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

Strategic Plan Update

Gulbranson gave a brief update on the Efficiency Strategic Plan Committee.

FERC Interventions, Protests and Settlement

Due to the sensitive nature of ongoing and potential litigation, Eckhardt moved to enter executive session to discuss FERC Contract Termination Pricing, FERC Contract Buy Down Pricing and FERC Formulary Rate Filing. Anderson 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
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.

Executive Session – FERC Discussion and General Manager Performance Review

The board entered Executive session at 10:35 a.m. to discuss FERC Interventions, Protests and Settlement and General Manager Performance Review, Gulbranson was asked to stay.

Milanuk made a motion to end the executive session at 11:35 a.m.; Eckhardt 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
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

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Motion carried.

A motion to provide a 5% increase (4% Wage adjustment, including cost of living +1% merit) to the General Manager starting the first pay period in 2024 was made by Anderson and seconded by Morgan.

- | | | |
|-------------------|---|-----------------------------|
| 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.

A motion was made by Moffat to intervene on docket #ER-23-2822 Tri-States filing of unexecuted withdrawal of an agreement. Seconded by Milanuk. Roll call vote 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.

Meeting reports

No updates provided.

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.

Public Comment Period

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

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Other Business

A quick discussion was held highlighting High West’s decision to potentially pull out of JT&S.

The next regular board meeting is Friday, October 27, 2023, at 8:30 a.m. at the Wheat Belt office.

Adjournment

With no further business, Zimmerman moved for adjournment at 11:47 a.m.

Attest:

Brian Zimmerman, President

Brian Moffat, Secretary