

Meeting Minutes - Corrected
Board of Directors – Wheat Belt PPD
October 27, 2023

A regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the Wheat Belt Public Power District was held October 27, 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 #L23-688, on October 19, 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, Sharrell Keane, Nick Brauer and Kelli Chaon.

Attorney: Kendra Strommen present

Guests present:

- Jerry Holdsworth, Arbor Wealth
- Jerry Meyerle, Arbor Wealth
- Jim Herchenbach, RVW Inc.
- John Krajewski, JKEnergy Consulting

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

Gulbranson asked for the removal of policy E-2 from the consent agenda and indicated it will be presented in the November board meeting. Milanuk moved to approve the consent agenda containing the following items with the removal of policy E-2:

- Item 1: Approval of the agenda
- Item 2: Legal Notices
 - Waive the reading Regular Board Meeting Notice October 27, 2023
- Item 3: Approve the Board Meeting Minutes of the Previous Meeting
 - September 22, 2023, Regular Board Meeting Minutes
-

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- Item 4: Approve Policies with no Changes (E-1, E-2, E-3, E-4, E-6, E-7, E-8, E-9, E-10, E-11, E-12, E-13, E-14, E-15, E-16, E-17, E-18, E-19, E-19^a, E-19B)
- Item 5: Approve Polices with Changes (N/A)

The motion was seconded by Eckhardt, and roll call vote with Directors 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.

Introduction of Guests –

- Jerry Holdsworth, Arbor Wealth
- Jerry Meyerle, Arbor Wealth
- Jim Herchenbach, RVW Inc. – to join later in the meeting
- John Krajewski, JKEnergy Consulting – to join later in the meeting

Public Comment Period

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

Arbor Wealth Investment Update

Jerry Holdsworth of Arbor Wealth, presented an investment overview

Prior Year Account Error Write-offs

Gulbranson provided an overview of the proposed write-off amounts as presented in the board book. A lengthy discussion was had regarding the approach and the board provided guidance that all future situations will be handled as an adjustment for same year only and write offs for anything in the prior year. Milanuk moved to reimburse the amount that was overbilled and proposed writing off underbilled accounts in the amount of for a total of \$11,534.18. Eckhardt seconded. Roll call vote by the directors as follows:

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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
Moe Moffat	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Stuart Morgan	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No

Motion carried.

2024-2027 Construction Work Plan

Jim Herchenbach, RVW Inc. presented a summary of the proposed work plan as outlined in the board book. The presentation was followed by discussion amongst the board. Morgan moved to approve the proposed work plan; 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
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.

The board took a brief break from 9:56 – 10:00 a.m.

Workman's Compensation Group Retention Resolution

Moffat moved to approve Resolution 2023-03 Resolution for Adoption of Nebraska Rural Electric Association Group Retention Plan Agreement; Blomenkamp seconded. Roll call vote 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

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Motion carried.

Safety Issues and Safety Meeting

Waite, on behalf of Cape, updated the board regarding the September October Safety meeting.

Department Reports

Engineering – Reviewed by Rollie Waite

Operations – Reviewed by Rollie Waite

IT & Metering – Reviewed by Jim Weeda

Corporate Services and Financials– Reviewed by Sharrell Keane

- Moffat made a motion to approve a large budget exception for an additional \$13,000 for the Spill Containment Plan. Blomenkamp seconded 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
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.

2024 Rate Approval

John Krajewski presented the Cost-of-Service study results. A lengthy discussion was had by the board regarding the potential rates presented.

General Manager's Report

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

- Summary of Operations
- Budget and Construction Work Plan
- Cost of Service
- Wage Information (CPI and NE journeyman lineman information)
- Processes
- Large Projects

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The board decided to continue discussions through a working lunch.

Executive Session – FERC Interventions, Protests and Settlement

Due to the sensitive nature of ongoing and potential litigation, Milanuk moved to enter executive session to discuss FERC contract termination, contract buy down pricing and 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:

The board entered Executive session at 11:50 a.m., Gulbranson and Strommen were asked to stay.

Milanuk made a motion to end the executive session at 12:35 p.m.; Blomenkamp 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

Motion carried.

Milanuk made a motion to file with FERC an answer in support of Poudre Valley Rural Electric Association and High Plains Power’s filing in response to Unite Power’s October 3, 2023, protest in opposition to Tri-State G&T’s Unexecuted Withdrawal Agreement. The motion was seconded by Moffat with a roll call vote as follows.

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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 made a motion to accept the 3% rate increase as presented by JKEnergy Consulting to be effective January 1, 2024 , seconded by Moffat. 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
Collin Anderson	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Marcus Milanuk	<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.

Strategic Plan Update

Gulbranson commented that this month's strategic plan update has been deferred to the November board meeting.

Meeting reports

Blomenkamp gave an overview of the NRECA Region 7 meeting and provided information on the proposals that were voted on during the meeting in Omaha. Milanuk also discussed the layout of the business meeting was not efficient.

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.

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Public Comment Period

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

Other Business

No new business was presented.

The next regular board meeting is Monday, November 28, 2023, at 8:30 a.m. at the Wheat Belt office.

Adjournment

With no further business, Zimmerman moved for adjournment at 1:17 p.m.

Attest:

Brian Zimmerman, President

Brian Moffat, Secretary