

Meeting Minutes
Board of Directors – Wheat Belt PPD
October 22, 2021

A regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the Wheat Belt Public Power District was held October 22, 2021, 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 #L21-583, on October 13, 2021. 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
Marcus Milanuk	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Present	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Present
Stuart Morgan	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Present	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Present
Toni Blomenkamp	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Present	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Present
Jennifer Eckhardt	<input type="checkbox"/> Present	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Not Present
Sean Blackburn.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Present	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Present

Employees present at times throughout the meeting: Lacey Gulbranson, Sharrell Keane, Kelli Chaon, Earl Reilly, Ryan Borges, and Jim Weeda.

Guests: Attorney Kendra Strommen

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 Agenda

Blackburn moved to approve the agenda; 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
Marcus Milanuk	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Stuart Morgan	<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.

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Introduction of Guests –

Attorney Kendra Strommen was introduced.

Public Comment Period

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

Reading of the Meeting Notice

Milanuk moved to waive the reading of the meeting notice; Moffat seconded with role call vote as follows:

Brian Zimmerman	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Moe Moffat	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Marcus Milanuk	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Stuart Morgan	<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.

Consideration of Previous Meeting Minutes

Moffat moved to approve the minutes of the September 23, 2021, regular meeting with clarification regarding wage approval to include general manager; Milanuk seconded with role call vote as follows:

Brian Zimmerman	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Moe Moffat	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Marcus Milanuk	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Stuart Morgan	<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.

Board Education

Keane and Gulbranson presented overview of the current lines of credit as listed in the financial board book.

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Safety Issues and Safety Meeting

Reilly updated the board regarding the October Safety meeting was rescheduled to accommodate JT&S training at a later date and therefore minutes will not be available until next board meeting.

Department Reports

Operations and Maintenance – Reviewed by Reilly

Construction and Engineering – Reviewed by Borges

IT & Metering – Reviewed by Weeda

Corporate Services – Reviewed by Keane. Gulbranson requested Large Item Budget exception for onsite training with Professional Computer Solutions, LLC in the amount of \$8,900 for Finance Team. Motion was made by Moffat and seconded by Milanuk followed by role call vote as follows:

Brian Zimmerman	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Moe Moffat	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Marcus Milanuk	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Stuart Morgan	<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 approved.

General Manager's Report

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

- Onboarding
- Standby Customer
- Leadership development
- Legislative & regulatory updates
- Travel
- Upcoming board meeting dates

2022 Budget Preparation

Gulbranson reviewed proposed rate changes for 2022 based on the 5-year rate plan. After discussion regarding historical rate changes and current market, motion was made by Milanuk and seconded by Blomenkamp to adopted suggested rate changes for 2022. Director role 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
Marcus Milanuk	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Stuart Morgan	<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.

2020 Census Data Review for Power Review Board

Gulbranson updated the board on the 2020 Census Data Review for the Power Review Board. Motion was made by Morgan that pursuant to the Nebraska law, the board reviewed the District's population and voting subdivision in light of the 2020 census. Upon further review, the Board does not believe it needs to account for population for its voting subdivisions because the Charter complies the 70-612 and the District's rural voters are not prejudiced. Therefore, the Board does not believe any Charter Amendment is necessary at this time. Seconded by Blackburn with role call vote as follows:

Brian Zimmerman	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Moe Moffat	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Marcus Milanuk	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Stuart Morgan	<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

Executive Session – FERC Interventions, Protests, and Settlement

Due to the sensitive nature of ongoing and potential litigation and personnel matters, Milanuk moved to enter executive session to discuss the status of Wheat Belt's FERC interventions, protests, and settlements, to discuss potential litigation, and to discuss personnel issues; Blomenkamp seconded followed by role 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
Marcus Milanuk	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Stuart Morgan	<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.

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Executive Session:

The board entered Executive session at 10:22 a.m. and Attorney Strommen and Gulbranson were asked to stay.

Morgan was asked to leave for the FERC portion of the executive session at 10:40 a.m. and rejoined at 10:58 a.m.

Moffat made a motion to end the executive session at 10:58 a.m.; Blackburn seconded. Role call voting 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
Marcus Milanuk	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Stuart Morgan	<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.

FERC Interventions, Protests, and Settlement

No further actions were taken by the board.

Strategic Plan Update

Gulbranson updated the board on potential future strategic plan topics around data reliability, data mapping optimization and financial acumen.

Power Supply Report

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

Meeting reports

Blomenkamp and Gulbranson discussed the NRECA Region 7 & 9 virtual session and PCB Spill Containment Class respectively.

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Policy Review

Milanuk moved to adopt Board Policies M-01, IT-01 and F-04, which had no or minor grammatical changes; Blackburn seconded. Role 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
Marcus Milanuk	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Stuart Morgan	<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.

Milanuk moved to adopt Board Policy D-09 which was updated based on board recommendations to clarify existing policy; Moffat seconded. Role call vote as follows:

Brian Zimmerman	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Moe Moffat	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Marcus Milanuk	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Stuart Morgan	<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

Milanuk moved to adopt Board Policy F-01, F-02 and F-03 with recommended changes to clarify existing policy; Blomenkamp seconded. Role call vote as follows:

Brian Zimmerman	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Moe Moffat	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Marcus Milanuk	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Stuart Morgan	<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.

Future Meetings and Trainings

The calendar and meeting materials provided within the board packet were discussed. Gulbranson indicated that reservations can now be done through Shelley Peterson or handled by each board member based on their preference.

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Delegations/Organizational Items

The delegate list was reviewed. NREA, Basin and Midwest Electric voting delegates being up for review, and all will remain as previously appointed. No further actions were taken.

Other Business

The next regular board meeting is Monday, November 22, 2021, at 8:30 a.m. at the Wheat Belt office. Wheat Belt Christmas Party will be Saturday, December 11, 2021. December regular board meeting will be held Thursday, December 23, 2021.

Adjournment

With no further business, Zimmerman moved for adjournment at 11:55 a.m.

Attest:

Brian Zimmerman, President

Brian Moffat, Secretary