

**NORRIS PUBLIC POWER DISTRICT**  
**Board of Directors Regular Meeting**  
**Tuesday, May 7, 2024**

**I. Call To Order**

The regular meeting of the Norris Public Power District Board of Directors was held at the Beatrice District Office, located at 606 Irving Street, Beatrice, Nebraska on May 7, 2024. President Tegtmeier called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. and announced that the District abides by the Nebraska Open Meetings Act and a copy of the Act is available for review by anyone present at the meeting. President Tegtmeier advised the Board that the Statutory Notice of the meeting had been published and that an Attendance Sign-in Sheet is available for public visitors.

**II. Pledge of Allegiance**

The pledge of allegiance to the United States flag was recited.

**III. Roll Call**

Administrative Coordinator Emily Shockley called the roll.

**Board Members Present:** Todd Buel, Rodney Heinrichs, Dennis Hentzen, Stewart Huneke, Mark Knobel, Gary Kroese, Kenny Myers, John Novotny, Tom Sieck, Bruce Tegtmeier, Berneal Warner

**Board Members Absent:** None

**Present Employees:** Bruce Vitosh, Jerry Enns, Michelle Junker, Trevor Wehrer, Emily Shockley, Casey Jones, Mike Wiltse

**Present Attorney:** None

**Present Guests:** None

**IV. Approval of Previous Board Meeting Minutes**

To approve the minutes of the April 3, 2024 Board Meeting. Passed with a motion by John Novotny and a second by Kenny Myers. Roll call vote. Todd Buel: Yea, Rodney Heinrichs: Yea, Dennis Hentzen: Yea, Stewart Huneke: Yea, Mark Knobel: Yea, Gary Kroese: Yea, Kenny Myers: Yea, John Novotny: Yea, Tom Sieck: Yea, Bruce Tegtmeier: Yea, Berneal Warner: Yea

**V. Public Comments**

Bruce Vitosh introduced employee guests Mike Wiltse and Casey Jones.

**VI. General Manager and Department Reports**

**VI.A. General Manager Report**

Trevor Wehrer provided the Safety and Training Report.

Bruce Vitosh provided the Personnel Report and highlights of the General Manager Report.

Bruce Vitosh communicated that a metering error was discovered that impacted two industrial customers. Norris staff discussed the Norris Service Regulation and State Statutes that the District follows relative to customer billing adjustments.

## **VI.B. Proprietary Customer Information**

Michelle Junker reviewed the Summary of Revenues for March 2024 in comparison to March 2023.

## **VI.C. Financial Statements**

Michelle Junker presented financial information for the month of March 2024. Operating revenues for the month ending March 2024, were \$6,684,157, in comparison to the budget of \$7,183,481. Year-to-date operating revenues were \$21,741,803, in comparison to the budget of \$22,366,784. For the month ending March 31, 2024, net margins were \$281,686, in comparison to a budget of \$316,780. Year-to-date, net margins were \$1,155,362 in comparison to a budget of \$658,267. Total cash and investments on March 31, 2024 were \$34,274,008.

## **VI.D. Finance and Accounting Report**

Michelle Junker presented highlights of the Finance and Accounting Department Report.

## **VI.E. Engineering Report**

Jerry Enns provided highlights of the Engineering Department Report.

Enns reported that Technical Services Department employees are performing procedures on City of Hickman distribution transformers in preparation for serving the community at retail on October 1, 2024.

## **VI.F. Operations Report**

Trevor Wehrer presented highlights of the Operations Department Report.

Wehrer reported that a Norris skid steer was sold on a Purple Wave auction for \$41,000.

Approval of the General Manager and Department Reports including the check listing, outgoing wire transfers and credit card statement for March 2024. Passed with a motion by Rodney Heinrichs and a second by Kenny Myers. Roll call vote. Todd Buel: Yea, Rodney Heinrichs: Yea, Dennis Hentzen: Yea, Stewart Huneke: Yea, Mark Knobel: Yea, Gary Kroese: Yea, Kenny Myers: Yea, John Novotny: Yea, Tom Sieck: Yea, Bruce Tegtmeier: Yea, Berneal Warner: Yea

## **VII. Approval of Purchases \$125,000-\$250,000**

## **VII.A. AMI Meters**

Jerry Enns presented a quote and recommended approval for 672 Eaton Cannon Technologies, Inc. AMI meters in the amount of \$239,028.41.

To approve the purchase of 672 AMI meters from Eaton Cannon Technologies, Inc. in the amount of \$239,028.41. Passed with a motion by Mark Knobel and a second by Dennis Hentzen. Roll call vote. Todd Buel: Yea, Rodney Heinrichs: Yea, Dennis Hentzen: Yea, Stewart Huneke: Yea, Mark Knobel: Yea, Gary Kroese: Yea, Kenny Myers: Yea, John Novotny: Yea, Tom Sieck: Yea, Bruce Tegtmeier: Yea, Berneal Warner: Yea

## **VIII. Approval of Formal Bids**

### **VIII.A. None**

## **IX. Directors' Report**

### **IX.A. Nebraska Rural Electric Association (NREA)**

Stewart Huneke reported that the next NREA committee and board meetings are scheduled for May 8 and 9, 2024 in Norfolk.

Bruce Vitosh requested input from the Board on topics that will be discussed at the NREA committee and board meetings in Norfolk.

The Statewide Services Evaluation Committee will consider two options regarding the NREA General Manager position in 2025. Option one is to engage a national search firm to hire a full-time General Manager, while Option two is to extend Rick Nelson's part-time NREA General Manager agreement for one year. The preference of the Norris Board is to hire Rick Nelson as the full-time NREA General Manager beginning in 2025, while extending Nelson's part-time NREA General Manager agreement for one year as the second desired option.

The Statewide Services Evaluation Committee will consider whether to proceed with the NRECA International Program as previously discussed or forego participating in the program. The preference of the Norris Board is to communicate that the District supports the NREA in participating in the NRECA International Program.

The Policy and Resolutions Committee will consider two resolutions proposed by a member of the committee. One is to encourage the NRECA to oppose any legislation that offers tax credits for wind and solar power projects based on environmental concerns. The second proposed resolution is to encourage the NRECA to oppose any legislation that treats carbon dioxide as a pollutant and any legislation that is detrimental to the reliability of the United States electric grid due to unreliable renewable energy sources. The preference of the Norris Board is to oppose these two resolutions as stated.

### **IX.B. Rural Electric Supply Cooperative (RESCO)**

Bruce Tegtmeier provided a RESCO update. The next RESCO board meeting is scheduled for June 2024 in Minneapolis.

## **IX.C. Comments**

The Board discussed options on where to hold the District's August 13, 2024 board meeting, which is historically held offsite. The consensus of the Board is to host the August 13, 2024 board meeting at the Carleton Fire Hall.

## **X. Unfinished Business**

### **X.A. None**

## **XI. New Business**

### **XI.A. Joint Resolution 2024-5.1 Between Norris and Hickman - Approval of Electric System Lease Agreement, Memorandum of Understanding as to a Plan of Lease Agreement, and Termination of Wholesale Power Agreement**

Bruce Vitosh presented a Joint Resolution between Norris and the City of Hickman which includes the Electric System Lease Agreement, the Memorandum of Understanding as to a Plan of Lease Agreement, and the termination of the Wholesale Power Agreement. Discussion was held regarding the revisions made to the Electric System Lease Agreement since the last board meeting and the purpose of and specific provisions of the Memorandum of Understanding.

To approve Joint Resolution 2024-5.1 Between Norris and Hickman, which includes approval of Electric System Lease Agreement and Memorandum of Understanding as to a Plan of Lease Agreement and Termination of Wholesale Power Agreement. Passed with a motion by Rodney Heinrichs and a second by Berneal Warner. Roll call vote. Todd Buel: Yea, Rodney Heinrichs: Yea, Dennis Hentzen: Yea, Stewart Huneke: Yea, Mark Knobel: Yea, Gary Kroese: Yea, Kenny Myers: Yea, John Novotny: Yea, Tom Sieck: Yea, Bruce Tegtmeier: Yea, Berneal Warner: Yea

### **XI.B. Omega Morgan Construction Agreement**

Bruce Vitosh presented a Construction Agreement between Omega Morgan and Norris that requires the District to rebuild overhead lines across certain roadways to accommodate the transport of oversized loads through the District's service territory in the fall of 2024.

To approve the Omega Morgan Construction Agreement subject to Norris legal counsel and management review. Passed with a motion by Gary Kroese and a second by Mark Knobel. Roll call vote. Todd Buel: Yea, Rodney Heinrichs: Yea, Dennis Hentzen: Yea, Stewart Huneke: Yea, Mark Knobel: Yea, Gary Kroese: Yea, Kenny Myers: Yea, John Novotny: Yea, Tom Sieck: Yea, Bruce Tegtmeier: Yea, Berneal Warner: Yea

## **XII. Notification of Next Board Meeting**

Wednesday, June 5, 2024, at 9:00 a.m. at the Beatrice District Office.

## **XIII. Adjournment**

To adjourn the meeting at 11:25 a.m. Passed with a motion by Berneal Warner and a second by Kenny Myers. Roll call vote. Todd Buel: Yea, Rodney Heinrichs: Yea, Dennis Hentzen: Yea, Stewart

Huneke: Yea, Mark Knobel: Yea, Gary Kroese: Yea, Kenny Myers: Yea, John Novotny: Yea, Tom Sieck:  
Yea, Bruce Tegtmeier: Yea, Berneal Warner: Yea

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**STEWART A. HUNEKE, SECRETARY**

APPROVED:

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**BRUCE D. TEGTMEIER, PRESIDENT**