

**NORRIS PUBLIC POWER DISTRICT**  
**Board of Directors Regular Meeting**  
**Wednesday, October 2, 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 October 2, 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, Mark Knobel, Gary Kroese, Kenny Myers, John Novotny, Tom Sieck, Bruce Tegtmeier, Berneal Warner

**Board Members Absent:** Stewart Huneke

**Present Employees:** Bruce Vitosh, Jerry Enns, Michelle Junker, Trevor Wehrer, Emily Shockley, Jackson Aden, Jerrod Searcey

**Present Attorney:** Dave Jarecke

**Present Guests:** Alan Wallman; Jim Zvolanek; NPPD Directors Mary Harding, Wayne Williams, and Ron Mogul, Jr.; NPPD Account Manager Carsten Mlady

To excuse Stewart Huneke from the meeting due to illness. Passed with a motion by Rodney Heinrichs and a second by Mark Knobel. Roll call vote. Todd Buel: Yea, Rodney Heinrichs: Yea, Dennis Hentzen: Yea, Mark Knobel: Yea, Gary Kroese: Yea, Kenny Myers: Yea, John Novotny: Yea, Tom Sieck: Yea, Bruce Tegtmeier: Yea, Berneal Warner: Yea

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

To approve the minutes of the September 4, 2024 Board Meeting. Passed with a motion by Kenny Myers and a second by John Novotny. Roll call vote. Todd Buel: Yea, Rodney Heinrichs: Yea, Dennis Hentzen: 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 Jackson Aden and Jerrod Searcey.

## **VI. General Manager and Department Reports**

### **VI.A. General Manager Report**

The Board reviewed the minutes of the September 5, 2024 Safety Committee Meeting.

Trevor Wehrer provided the Safety and Training Report.

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

On October 1, 2024, Norris began serving the City of Hickman. The meter exchanges were completed successfully. Customer accounts have been integrated into the District's consumer accounting software. Employees were commended for the planning, preparation and the exchange of meters to serve Hickman.

On September 24, 2024, Jerry Enns attended a Gage County Planning and Zoning Committee Public Hearing, which was held to consider a Special Use Permit to construct a solar array on the Jeff and Krystal Hays property in southern Gage County. The Special Use Permit was unanimously approved by the Planning and Zoning Committee. The next step is for the Gage County Board of Supervisors to have a Public Hearing to consider the Special Use Permit on October 30, 2024.

Dave Jarecke explained that he is addressing legal matters on behalf of Norris and three other public power districts in Nebraska who have electric services connected to the Keystone Pipeline. The purpose for Jarecke's involvement is due to the spin-off of South Bow Corporation from TC Energy effective October 1, 2024.

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

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

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

Michelle Junker presented financial information for the month of August 2024. Operating revenues for the month ending August 2024, were \$11,537,556, in comparison to the budget of \$10,737,858. Year-to-date operating revenues were \$65,507,833, in comparison to the budget of \$65,771,518. For the month ending August 31, 2024, net margins were \$3,622,037 in comparison to the budget of \$2,726,860. Year-to-date, net margins were \$10,579,279 in comparison to the budget of \$7,311,447. Total cash and investments on August 31, 2024 were \$34,539,753.

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

The Board reviewed the Finance and Accounting Department Report.

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

Jerry Enns provided highlights of the Engineering Department Report.

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

Trevor Wehrer provided highlights of the Operations Department Report.

Approval of the General Manager and Department Reports including the check listing, outgoing wire transfers, and credit card statement for August 2024. Passed with a motion by Dennis Hentzen and a second by Todd Buel. Roll call vote. Todd Buel: Yea, Rodney Heinrichs: Yea, Dennis Hentzen: 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-\$750,000**

### **VII.A. None**

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

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

## **IX. Directors' Report**

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

Bruce Vitosh reported that the NREA Committee, Board of Directors and Annual Meetings will be held December 4 through 6, 2024 in Kearney.

Vitosh shared details about the NRECA Leadership Course #943.1 - Conversation Skills Outside the Board Room, which will take place on December 3, 2024, in Kearney in advance of the NREA meetings.

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

Bruce Tegtmeier provided an update on RESCO operations.

### **IX.C. Comments**

Bruce Vitosh encouraged the Directors to attend the 2024 Nebraska Power Association Annual Conference which is scheduled for October 29 and 30, 2024 in Kearney.

Vitosh showed a short video of Jim Matheson, NRECA CEO explaining how the NRECA is prepared to represent its members on Capitol Hill regardless of who wins the Presidential and Congressional elections in November 2024.

## **X. Unfinished Business**

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

## **XI. New Business**

### **XI.A. 2025 Preliminary Operating Budget, Capital Improvements, and Business Plan**

Michelle Junker provided a presentation on 2025 key budget considerations and assumptions. The Board received a draft of the 2025 preliminary Operating Budget, Capital Improvements, and Business Plan and asked Junker questions about the preliminary budget. The Directors will have an opportunity to provide suggestions to management prior to being requested to formally approve the 2025 Operating Budget, Capital Improvements, and Business Plan at the November 6, 2024 Board Meeting.

#### **XI.B. 2025 Customer Rate Design**

Michelle Junker presented the Board with a 2025 Cost of Service and Rate Design Overview that was based on information provided by John Krajewski.

#### **XI.C. Hickman General Service Rate Schedules**

Michelle Junker presented the Board with proposed General Service Rate Schedules for two commercial customers in the City of Hickman who will follow a five-year rate transition plan.

To approve Hickman General Service Rate Schedules as presented. Passed with a motion by Gary Kroese and a second by John Novotny. Roll call vote. Todd Buel: Yea, Rodney Heinrichs: Yea, Dennis Hentzen: Yea, Mark Knobel: Yea, Gary Kroese: Yea, Kenny Myers: Yea, John Novotny: Yea, Tom Sieck: Yea, Bruce Tegtmeier: Yea, Berneal Warner: Yea

#### **XI.D. Forvis Mazars Audit Engagement Letter for Year Ending December 31, 2024**

Michelle Junker presented the Forvis Mazars Audit Engagement Letter for the year ending December 31, 2024.

To approve the Forvis Mazars Audit Engagement Letter for the year ending December 31, 2024. Passed with a motion by Kenny Myers and a second by Mark Knobel. Roll call vote. Todd Buel: Yea, Rodney Heinrichs: Yea, Dennis Hentzen: Yea, Mark Knobel: Yea, Gary Kroese: Yea, Kenny Myers: Yea, John Novotny: Yea, Tom Sieck: Yea, Bruce Tegtmeier: Yea, Berneal Warner: Yea

#### **XI.E. Monolith Interconnection Construction Agreement**

Bruce Vitosh presented the Monolith Interconnection Construction Agreement for Olive Creek 2.

To approve the Interconnection Construction Agreement for Olive Creek 2 between Monolith and Norris Public Power District as presented. Passed with a motion by Rodney Heinrichs and a second by Todd Buel. Roll call vote. Todd Buel: Yea, Rodney Heinrichs: Yea, Dennis Hentzen: Yea, Mark Knobel: Yea, Gary Kroese: Yea, Kenny Myers: Yea, John Novotny: Yea, Tom Sieck: Yea, Bruce Tegtmeier: Yea, Berneal Warner: Yea

#### **XI.F. NPPD Update - Directors Mary Harding, Wayne Williams, and Ron Mogul, Jr.**

NPPD Directors Mary Harding, Wayne Williams, and Ron Mogul, Jr., along with NPPD Account Manager Carsten Mlady, provided the Directors with an NPPD update and answered questions from the Board and management team about NPPD and the electric industry.

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

Wednesday, November 6, 2024, at 9:00 a.m., in the boardroom, at the Beatrice District Office.

## **XIII. Adjournment**

To adjourn the meeting at 1:01 p.m. 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, 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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**THOMAS L. SIECK, VICE PRESIDENT**

APPROVED:



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**BRUCE D. TEGTMEIER, PRESIDENT**