



**DAKOTA ELECTRIC ASSOCIATION®  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS VIRTUAL MEETING  
MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 24, 2022**

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**Dakota Electric Association Board Members in Attendance:**

**District 1**

John DeYoe  
David Jones  
Jerry Pittman

**District 2**

Bill Middlecamp  
Clay Van De Bogart

**District 3**

Ken Danner  
Bill Holton  
Margaret Schreiner

**District 4**

Paul Bakken  
Judy Kimmes  
Stacy Miller

**Staff in Attendance:**

Melissa Cherney  
Jon Beyer  
Adam Heinen

Corey Hintz  
Betty Jo Kiesow  
Sara McGrane

Greg Miller  
Joe Miller

Mjyke Nelson  
Jeff Schoenecker

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**Call to Order**

Chair Jerry Pittman called the regular virtual meeting of the Dakota Electric Association Board of Directors to order at 8:30 a.m. and presided. A quorum was present.

**Executive Session**

✓ **A motion was made, seconded and carried to move into Executive Session.**

Annual CEO Goal Setting and Performance Appraisal Review. Dakota Electric directors and legal counsel were present.

**A motion was made, seconded and carried unanimously to move out of Executive Session and convene into open session at 9:15 a.m.**

**Agenda Adoption**

✓ **A motion was made, seconded and carried to adopt the agenda.**

**Approval of the Consent Agenda**

✓ **A motion was made, seconded and carried to approve the consent agenda.**

- **Minutes of January 27, 2022 Board Meeting**
- **Attorney's Monthly Fees – Resolution 22-2-1**
- **Attorney's Monthly Fees**

**Board Chair Update**

Chair Pittman provided an update regarding various events and activities during the month of February.

**President and CEO Report**

Vice President of Regulatory Services Adam Heinen provided a legislative update noting the Prairie Island Indian Community Net Zero initiative is delayed due to supply issues. He also noted that RentHelp MN has exhausted their program funding and will no longer accept new applicants. RentHelp has remitted payments to 635 Dakota Electric members with an estimated total of \$425 thousand in aid. Vice President of Energy and Member Services Jon Beyer provided an update regarding Dakota Electric's residential survey. Surveys will be administered in March and results will be shared at the April board meeting. Vice President Beyer noted the last survey was scheduled to go out in 2020 and was delayed due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Vice President of Engineering and Administrative Services Betty Jo Kiesow provided an update regarding the Minnesota Annual Compliance Report. Dakota Electric is required to submit an updated report each year. She noted that the 2021 data is showing an underutilization of women and people of color due to terminations, women leaving the workforce to provide homeschooling and childcare during the COVID-19 pandemic and fewer applicants overall.

Vice President of Financial Services and CFO Corey Hintz provided an update on average delinquent member account balances, status of the Arrearage Forgiveness Program and reviewed new protocols to help combat check fraud. Vice President of Information Services and CIO Mjyke Nelson provided updates regarding AGI, ERP and reviewed cybersecurity concerns related to an increase in phishing attempts.

Vice President of Utility Services Jeff Schoenecker provided a vegetation management update noting the continued success of the tree trimming initiative. Vice President Schoenecker then spoke to recent outages and a major event day on January 20, 2022 due to a failed circuit switch. CEO Miller concluded with updates related to safety, COVID-19 protocols, strategic planning for the board retreat in May and highlights from the Great River Energy Regional meetings.

**2022 Legislative Gathering Planning**

Vice President Heinen provided a planning update for the upcoming legislative gathering noting it will be a virtual event again this year and will be held on March 10, 2022

**Resolution 22-2-2  
Resolution 22-2-3**

✓ **A motion was made, seconded and carried to approve the Transformer Purchase – Resolution 22-2-2 and the Primary Cable Purchase – Resolution 22-2-3.**

**Great River Energy**

Directors Margaret Schreiner and Clay Van De Bogart provided a Great River Energy update noting the committees did not meet this month due to regional meetings, the strategic planning retreat has been pushed to September, 2021 budget has been moved into 2022 until major transactions are closed and the audit report will be reviewed at the March meeting.

- Minnesota Rural Electric Association** Director Stacy Miller provided a Minnesota Rural Electric Association update and noted the upcoming annual meeting scheduled for March 15-16, 2022.
- Audit Committee Update** Director Bill Middlecamp provided an Audit Committee update noting their recommendation to extend the contract with Eide Bailly for three years.
- ✓ **A motion was made, seconded and carried to extend the Eide Bailly contract.**
- Attorney Update** Attorney Sara McGrane provided an update noting work this month regarding human resource issues and the annual election candidate meeting.
- Meeting Delegation** ✓ **A motion was made, seconded and carried to appoint Director Jack DeYoe as delegate and Director Margaret Schreiner as alternate delegate for the 2022 NRECA Annual Business Meeting.**
- Adjournment** ✓ **A motion was made, seconded and carried to adjourn at 2:04 p.m.**

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**Melissa Cherney, Recorder**