



Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

**DAKOTA ELECTRIC ASSOCIATION®  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS VIRTUAL MEETING  
MINUTES OF MARCH 31, 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:**

Jon Beyer

Melissa Cherney

Dan Haller

Adam Heinen

Carla Henke

Corey Hintz

Betty Jo Kiesow

Greg Miller

Joe Miller

Mjyke Nelson

Jeff Schoenecker

Craig Turner

**Guests and Members in Attendance:**

Jon Brekke

Kellen Garrison

Derrick Larson

Justin Michlig

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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.**

Discussion and review of the 2021 audited financials. The Board of Directors, Attorney Dan Haller and Eide Bailly audit representatives Derrick Larson and Kellen Garrison were present.

**A motion was made, seconded and carried to move out of Executive Session and convene into open session at 9:01 a.m.**

**Agenda Adoption**

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

**Audit Report**

Eide Bailly representatives Derrick Larson and Kellen Garrison presented the 2021 audited financials and communication. The results reflect a clean audit report for Dakota Electric Association.

✓ **A motion was made, seconded and carried to accept the 2021 Audit Report – Resolution 22-3-1.**

**Approval of the  
Consent Agenda**

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

- **Amended Minutes of February 24, 2022 Board Meeting**
- **Attorney's Monthly Fees – Resolution 22-3-2**
- **Attorney's Monthly Fees**
- **Recognition of Retiring Employee – Lori Olson – Resolution 22-3-3**
- **2022 Circuits Subscription Membership Fee – Resolution 22-3-4**

**Board Chair  
Update**

Chair Pittman provided an update regarding various events and activities during the month of March. Chair Pittman then acknowledged and thanked Director Margaret Schreiner for her continued service to the Dakota Electric Association Board of Directors as it marked her 35<sup>th</sup> anniversary as a director this month.

**President and CEO  
Report**

Vice President of Utility Services Jeff Schoenecker shared the lobby will be opening April 4 for the first time in two years and noted some building improvements that have been completed highlighting two veteran murals that have been hung to honor Dakota Electric veterans, spearheaded by Transportation Supervisor Darnell Robinson. Vice President Schoenecker then reviewed a Lebanon feeder equipment failure that classified as our second major event in 2022.

Vice President of Regulatory Services Adam Heinen provided a legislative update noting the success of this year's Dakota Electric legislative gathering that was held virtually on March 10. Vice President Heinen then reported on the last meeting of the Identity Theft Protection Group. Vice President of Energy and Member Services Jon Beyer provided an update related to a possible commercial land development, Carbon Solution city contracts and a new electric car charging station in Dakota Electric service territories. Vice President Beyer then provided a residential member survey update noting it is going well and results will be shared at the April board meeting.

Vice President of Engineering and Administrative Services Betty Jo Kiesow provided an update regarding the continued supply chain issues delaying delivery of critical capacitor controls that is impacting Dakota Electric's ability to replace the systems that are at end of life. Engineering and Purchasing are working very closely with suppliers and manufacturers to get these units out and pivoting to utilize slightly different modems to ensure delivery of replacement units before the summer service peaks.

Vice President of Financial Services and CFO Corey Hintz provided an update on average delinquent member account balances noting 13,360 delinquent accounts and an average delinquent balance of \$4.8 million which is a slight increase. CFO Hintz then noted disconnection letters will be sent out mid-April in preparation for the end of the Cold Weather Rule on April 30. Disconnection processes will begin May 2.

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 and CEO Miller concluded with updates related to safety, the lobby opening and the recorded messages available on the Dakota Electric website in lieu of the 2022 annual member meeting.

**Revised  
Transformer  
Purchase**

✓ **A motion was made, seconded and carried to approve the Revised Transformer Purchase – Resolution 22-3-5.**

Cost revisions due to increasing supply chain issues.

**Great River Energy**

Directors Margaret Schreiner and Clay Van De Bogart provided a Great River Energy update regarding member survey results, approved resolutions, 2021 audit report, member refunds, change in date of strategic planning, continued use of the 2021 budget and the Connexus term sheet draft.

**Minnesota Rural  
Electric Association**

Director Stacy Miller provided a Minnesota Rural Electric Association update and shared highlights from the 2022 Annual Meeting in March. Director Miller also noted current concerns regarding education funding and looking for ideas to ensure they are providing the most beneficial courses and training opportunities. Director Miller then provided a Beneficial Electrification Group update noting ACRE will be rebranding and Minnesota Rural Electric Association is co-hosting the Electrify Minnesota event being held on April 27 in Minneapolis, MN.

**Board Retreat  
Committee and  
NRECA Meeting  
Update**

Director John DeYoe provided a strategic planning and board retreat update highlighting the successful retreat planning so far with 100 percent participation by staff and directors which is critical to ensure a productive retreat. Director DeYoe then shared highlights from the NRECA PowerXchange event he attended in Nashville March 6-9.

**Attorney Update**

Attorney Dan Haller provided an update noting work this month regarding telephone consumer protection act allegations, election questions, Human Resources employee issue and a franchise agreement with the City of Eagan.

**SRSQ Update and Standards Approval**

Director of Engineering Craig Turner presented the 2021 Safety, Reliability and Service Quality report (SRSQ).

- ✓ **A motion was made, seconded and carried to approve the 2021 SRSQ Report and SRSQ Standards for 2022 – Resolution 22-3-6.**

**Executive Session**

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

Discussion was held regarding the Great River Energy draft contract and term sheet related to the Connexus exit. The Board of Directors, Attorney Dan Haller and staff were present.

Second discussion was held to conclude the CEO performance appraisal process. The Board of Directors and Attorney Dan Haller were present.

**A motion was made, seconded and carried unanimously to move out of Executive Session and convene into open session at 2:45 p.m.**

**Adjournment**

- ✓ **A motion was made, seconded and carried to adjourn at 2:48 p.m.**

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**Melissa Cherney, Recorder**