

MEETING MINUTES



December 14, 2023 Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

Dakota Electric Association Board Members in Attendance

DISTRICT 1

John DeYoe
David Jones
Jerry Pittman

DISTRICT 2

Terry Donnelly
Bill Middlecamp
Clay Van De Bogart

DISTRICT 3

Ken Danner
Cyndee Fields
Margaret Schreiner

DISTRICT 4

Paul Bakken
Jenny Hoeft
Stacy Miller

Staff in Attendance

Jon Beyer
Rob Brick
Melissa Cherney

Eric Fehlhaber
Adam Heinen
Ryan Hentges

Corey Hintz
Betty Jo Kiesow
Sara McGrane

Mjyke Nelson
Trina Sandlie
Jeff Schoenecker

Guests in Attendance

Sarah Bridges

Derik Dautel

Heidi Schachtman

Minutes

TOPIC	DETAILS
Call to order	Chair Paul Bakken called the regular meeting of the Dakota Electric Association Board of Directors to order at 8:30 a.m. and presided. A quorum was present.
Agenda adoption	✓ A motion was made, seconded, and carried to adopt the agenda.
Executive closed session	✓ A motion was made, seconded, and carried to move into closed session at 8:31 a.m. Attorney Sara McGrane provide a legal update to the board. ✓ A motion was made, seconded, and carried to move into regular session at 8:45 a.m.
Consent agenda	✓ A motion was made and seconded to approve the consent agenda. The board discussed specifics to board legal fees. Motion carried. <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Minutes of the October 26, 2023 board meeting▪ October board legal fees▪ November board legal fees▪ Section II, Policy 1 – Employee Leave Benefits

2024 Operating Budget	<p>CEO Ryan Hentges and Executive Leadership Staff presented the 2024 Operating Budget. The 2024 budget includes projected revenue of \$231.5 million; an estimated 1.875 billion in kWh sales; and a projected operating margin loss of \$4.9 million primarily due to an increase in labor costs due to additional staffing to meet business needs.</p> <p>✓ A motion was made, seconded and carried to approve the 2024 operating budget and three-year budget – resolution 23-12-1.</p>
CEO report	<p>CEO Ryan Hentges provided updates related to safety, labor, budget margins, sales tax refund and upcoming January board items.</p>
Great River Energy update	<p>Directors Margaret Schreiner and Clay Van De Bogart provided a Great River Energy update. Director Schreiner will send a more detailed written report to the full board for those interested.</p>
Minnesota Rural Electric Association	<p>Director John DeYoe provided a Minnesota Rural Electric Association update including grants, GRIP funding and a new apprenticeship program.</p>
Election Committee Update	<p>Committee Chair Stacy Miller presented a proposed Dakota Electric Association bylaw amendment to be included on the 2024 election ballot.</p> <p>✓ A motion was made, seconded and carried to include the proposed bylaw amendment on the 2024 Dakota Electric annual election ballot for member-owner consideration.</p>
Attorney update	<p>Attorney Sara McGrane provided an overview of this month’s work on Dakota Electric related topics including employee relations issue, a tax issues update and working with Bridges Consultants.</p>
2025 Construction Budget	<p>Due to timing constraints of visiting consultants, the 2025 Construction Budget will be presented to the board in January.</p>
Executive closed session	<p>✓ A motion was made, seconded, and carried to move into closed session at 1:17 p.m.</p> <p>Presentation to the Board by Bridges consulting representatives Sarah Bridges and Heidi Schachtman.</p> <p>✓ A motion was made, seconded, and carried to move into regular session at 3:45 p.m.</p>
Adjournment	<p>✓ A motion was made, seconded, and carried to adjourn at 3:45 p.m.</p>