

MEETING MINUTES



August 28, 2025, 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

DISTRICT 3

Ken Danner
Cyndee Fields
Margaret Schreiner

DISTRICT 4

Paul Bakken
Jenny Hoeft
Stacy Miller

Staff/Guests in Attendance

Nick Devine
Betty Jo Kiesow
Mjyke Nelson

Ryan Hentges
Nicole McEathron
Jeff Schoenecker

Corey Hintz
Sara McGrane
Jane Siebenaler

Adam Heinen
Kaitlyn Murray

Members in Attendance

Minutes

TOPIC	DETAILS
Call to Order	Chair 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 unanimously to adopt the agenda.
Consent Agenda	✓ A motion was made, seconded and carried unanimously to approve the consent agenda. <ul style="list-style-type: none">July 24, Board Meeting MinutesJuly 2025, Board Legal Fees2024 Charitable Organization Annual Report Form
CEO Report	CEO Hentges provided an update on key considerations for 2025. Hentges continued by sharing an overview of KRTA ratio data from ALDC and a power supply update. Discussion took place around market volatility, data analysis and nuances. Hentges concluded by providing a large loads and staffing update, as well as outlining next steps with a strategic planning process.

Chair Bakken shared an outline of items up for consideration relating to the annual election process, including revisions to Policy 4.6, Policy 4.2, staff procedure updates, 2026 timeline and amendment to SBS contract.

Nicole McEathron, Director of Executive Services, outlined the red-lined revisions in Policy 4.6 Rules Governing the Election of Directors, based on feedback from the Board's recent retreat.

- ✓ A motion was made, seconded and carried unanimously to approve the revisions to Policy 4.6, as presented, with the addition of one strikethrough to the last sentence in Section II.B.2.

McEathron continued by outlining the red-lined revisions in Policy 5.2 Election Committee, based on feedback from the Board's recent retreat.

- ✓ A motion was made, seconded and carried unanimously to approve the revisions to Policy 5.2, as presented.

2026 Annual Election

McEathron continued by outlining staff procedure updates to the 2026 annual election process, based on feedback from the Board's recent retreat.

- ✓ A motion was made, seconded and carried unanimously to approve the updates to staff procedures for the 2026 annual election, as presented.
- ✓ A motion was made, seconded and carried unanimously to approve the 2026 Election timeline, as presented.

Chair Bakken shared an updated on a recent meeting with the election firm currently under contract, SBS. Discussion took place about the outcomes of that meeting related to the mitigation of mail operations challenges that took place during the last election cycle.

- ✓ A motion was made, seconded and carried unanimously to approve an amendment to the SBS contract for the 2026 election cycle to add a 2D barcode to envelope inserts as well as mail tracking and reporting to outbound mail with a coinciding additional expenditure of \$1,075.

CIS Update

Nick Devine, Financial Systems Operations Manager, provided an overview of the CIS implementation process including strategic objectives, project team, budget, timeline, challenges and opportunities. Discussion took place around member communication, payment options, testing and data security.

OnBoard Setup

Directors and staff completed the setup for a new board management platform, OnBoard, and discussed next steps in the transition process.

OnBoard Training Session

Kaitlyn Murray, OnBoard Implementation Consultant, provided a training session and overview of the platform for Directors.

Attorney Report

Attorney Sara McGrane provided additional context to the written report included with the meeting materials.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ A motion was made, seconded and carried unanimously to move into closed session at 11:38 a.m.
Executive Closed Session	CEO Hentges provided a power supply update and an overview of the GRE Dodge County Wind PPA Amendment.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ A motion was made, seconded and carried unanimously to move into regular session at 11:46 p.m.
GRE Dodge County Wind PPA Amendment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ A motion was made, seconded and carried unanimously to approve Resolution 25-8-1 approving NextEra energy resources and amended terms for the Dodge County wind energy purchase.
Locating Services	Betty Jo Kiesow, VP of Engineering, presented an overview of current locating service contracts, budget variances and next steps. Discussion took place around cost implications, historical perspectives and contracting options.
Audit Committee Update	Cyndee Fields, Audit Committee Chair, provided an update on the recent Committee meeting including review of auditor RFP submissions and selection, as well as potential policy updates.
Capital Credit General Retirement	<p>Corey Hintz, VP of Financial Services, shared an overview of the capital credit general retirement process and resolution which was up for consideration.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ A motion was made, seconded and carried unanimously to approve Resolution 25-8-2 which accepts staff recommendations for 2025 capital credit general retirement.
Great River Energy Report	Directors Middlecamp and Schreiner provided a Great River Energy update in addition to the written report, including context from recent meetings.
MREA Report	Director Jones provided an overview of the recent work and priorities of MREA, including the budgeting process and district meetings. Discussion took place around future meeting structures and an opportunity for an MREA presentation to take place at a Dakota Electric Board meeting.
Community Outreach Information	Chair Bakken shared an update from recent member outreach. Director Miller provided an overview of a townhall meeting held earlier in the month including discussion topics and next steps. Director Hoeft shared an update from the Dakota County Fair auction. Discussion took place around possible future adjustments to the designated budget amount for the auction.
Adjournment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ A motion was made, seconded and carried unanimously to adjourn at 1:26 p.m.