# MEETING MINUTES

DAKOTA ELECTRIC ASSOCIATION

## August 27, 2026, Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

### Dakota Electric Association Board Members in Attendance

| DISTRICT 1 | DISTRICT 2 | DISTRICT 3 | DISTRICT 4 |
|---|---|---|---|
| John DeYoe | Terry Donnelly | Ken Danner | Paul Bakken |
| David Jones | Bill Middlecamp | Cyndee Fields | Jenny Hoeft |
| Jerry Pittman | Clay Van De Bogart | Margaret Schreiner | Stacy Miller Mooradian |

### Staff/Guests in Attendance

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| John Berge | Jeremy Gaiser | Adam Heinen | Ryan Hentges |
| Corey Hintz | Betty Jo Kiesow | Nicole McEathron | Sara McGrane |
| Mjyke Nelson | Jeff Schoenecker | Jane Siebenaler | |

### Members in Attendance

### Minutes

| TOPIC | DETAILS |
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| **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.<br><br>Chair Bakken recognized Attorney Sara McGrane for being named among Minnesota's Top 50 Women Attorneys. |
| **Agenda Adoption** | CEO Hentges requested the addition of Resolution 26-8-2 relating to the USDA Solar Grant.<br><br>✓ A motion was made, seconded and carried unanimously to approve the agenda as amended. |
| **Consent Agenda** | Directors discussed amendments to the July meeting minutes related to virtual attendance documentation. Discussion included noting Director Middlecamp's departure from the meeting and subsequent virtual participation.<br><br>✓ A motion was made, seconded and carried unanimously to approve the consent agenda.<br>• July 28, 2026, Board Meeting Minutes – Amended<br>• July 2026, Board Legal Fees |
| **Quarterly Safety Update** | Jeremy Gaiser, Safety Director, provided an overview of safety initiatives, community outreach activities, key safety metrics and recent survey results. Discussion took place regarding member safety impacts, safety communication efforts and recent utility industry incidents. |

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| **CEO Report** | CEO Hentges provided an overview of key strategic and operational priorities including safety initiatives, open positions, strategic planning, facility planning, regulatory matters, union negotiations, cybersecurity, reliability and financial performance.<br><br>Discussion took place regarding cybersecurity approach, margins, large load developments and associated risks, power supply considerations, facility tours and member engagement.<br><br>CEO Hentges continued by sharing perspectives on the organization's strategic direction and approach. Discussion took place around proposed Board considerations. |
| **Election Follow-up** | Nicole McEathron, Director of Executive Services, and Attorney Sara McGrane reviewed proposed revisions to Policy 4.6. Discussion took place regarding the decision-making process, historical context and legal considerations.<br><br>✓ A motion was made, seconded and carried unanimously to approve the proposed Policy 4.6 revisions.<br><br>McEathron continued by providing an overview of the proposed 2027 election timeline.<br><br>✓ A motion was made, seconded and carried unanimously to approve the 2027 election timeline. |
| **Director Districts** | Betty Jo Kiesow, VP of Engineering, presented an overview of district boundary requirements, bylaw considerations and recommended district modifications. Discussion took place regarding voting requirements and election process. |
| **Line of Credit Increase** | Corey Hintz, VP of Financial Services, presented a recommendation to increase Dakota Electric's line of credit with CoBank and reviewed the rationale supporting the request.<br><br>✓ A motion was made, seconded and carried unanimously to approve Resolution 26-8-1 to increase the CoBank line of credit. |
| **Executive Session** | ✓ A motion was made, seconded and carried unanimously to move into a closed executive session at 10:47 a.m.<br><br>John Berge, Grid Modernization Manager, provided an overview of the New ERA Solar Grant and related strategic considerations.<br><br>The Board agreed to move into regular session at 11:10 a.m. |
| **USDA Solar Grant** | ✓ A motion was made, seconded and carried unanimously to approve Resolution 26-8-2 to authorize execution of a renewable member resource agreement and power purchase agreement for 5MW of solar. |
| **CIS/MyDEA Update** | Mjyke Nelson, VP of Information Services and Jane Siebenaler, VP of Energy and Member Services, provided a recap of the Customer Information System (CIS) implementation and MyDEA member portal launch including objectives, trends, member feedback and lessons learned throughout the transition process.<br><br>Discussion took place around member experience, communication efforts and overall adoption rates. |

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| **Audit Committee Update** | Director Fields provided an Audit Committee update and reviewed proposed revisions to Policy 4.1. Discussion took place regarding governance considerations and Committee recommendations.<br>✓ A motion was made, seconded and carried unanimously to approve the Policy 4.1 revisions. |
| **Great River Energy Report** | Directors Middlecamp and Schreiner provided a Great River Energy update in addition to the written report. Discussion took place around GRE's approach to margins. |
| **MREA Report** | Director Jones provided an update on recent MREA activities and initiatives including conference happenings and approach to member dues. |
| **Attorney Report** | Attorney Sara McGrane shared additional context related to her written report. |
| **Adjournment** | ✓ A motion was made, seconded and carried unanimously to adjourn at 11:54 a.m. |