

MEETING MINUTES

January 23, 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
Clay Van De Bogart

DISTRICT 3

Ken Danner (virtual)
Cyndee Fields
Margaret Schreiner

DISTRICT 4

Paul Bakken
Stacy Miller

Staff/Guests in Attendance

Jon Beyer
Betty Jo Kiesow
Jeff Schoenecker

Ryan Hentges
Nicole McEathron

Adam Heinen
Sara McGrane

Corey Hintz
Mjyke Nelson

Members in Attendance

Jerry Brown (virtual)

Derik Dautel

Ray Yarwood
(present until 9:25 a.m.)

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.
Member Comments	Derik Dautel shared feedback related to member-owner engagement, policies and oversight. Ray Yarwood shared feedback related to the rate increase and Director engagement with members.
Consent Agenda	✓ A motion was made, seconded and carried unanimously to approve the consent agenda. <ul style="list-style-type: none">December 12, 2024, Board Meeting MinutesDecember 2024, Board Legal Fees
CEO Report	CEO Hentges provided an overview of reflections from 2024, as well as key considerations for 2025 strategic projects. Hentges called upon Adam Heinen, VP of Regulatory Services, to provide a rate case update. Hentges concluded by sharing a grants update and notable upcoming events. Discussion took place around rate increases, membership data and cost comparisons across the industry.

- ✓ A motion was made, seconded and carried unanimously to move into closed session at 9:25 a.m.

Executive Closed Session

Jon Beyer, VP of Energy & Member Services, provided an update on various current and prospective large loads moving into Dakota Electric's service territory.

CEO Hentges shared his perspectives on current and future power supply for the organization.

Executive Closed Session

Following a recess, the closed executive session continued. CEO Hentges provided an update on the GRE Appendix B Amendment and GRE Wind Contract with Red Butte.

The Board closed the executive session at 12:30 p.m.

GRE Resolution Approval

- ✓ After further discussion and clarification from questions asked during the closed executive session, a motion was made, seconded and carried unanimously for both GRE related resolutions including approval of Appendix B of the PPC (Resolution 25-1-1) and approval of NextEra Energy resources with a Red Butte wind energy purchase.

Apple Valley Franchise Agreement

Adam Heinen, VP of Regulatory Services, shared an overview of the Apple Valley city franchise agreement as well as other franchise agreement updates throughout the service territory.

Land Acquisition Update

Jeff Schoenecker, VP of Utility Services, provided a land acquisition update, reminding the Board of the project timeline, milestones and overall land location in relation to neighboring properties and roads. Schoenecker continued by presenting three options for consideration regarding a street extension. Discussion took place around prior precedence, priorities, strategies and budget implications.

- ✓ A motion was made, seconded and carried unanimously to approve the second option as presented, which would delay investing in the street extension in order to allow for additional conversations to take place between Dakota Electric staff, the City of Lakeville and the developer/landowner.

2025 Election Update

Nicole McEathron, Director of Executive Services, presented the updated process for randomly selecting Nominating Committee members for the 2025 election.

Applicants were pooled by district residence and two were randomly selected for each of the four districts. Two alternate members were also randomly selected. Given the number of applications received per district, two members were reassigned to balance out representation.

Great River Energy Report

Directors Middlecamp and Schreiner provided a Great River Energy update in addition to the written report. Discussion took place around communication and upcoming event attendance. Chair Bakken noted that he would attend the June GRE meetings as the invited guest Director. Director Jones noted he would be the alternate attendee.

MREA Report

Director DeYoe provided an update from the recent work and priorities of MREA.

Delegate Appointments

Chair Bakken asked for volunteers to serve as meeting delegates at various upcoming meetings. No alternates were selected.

A motion was made, seconded and carried unanimously to approve the following meeting delegates:

- MREA Annual Meeting – February 18-19, 2025
 - Director Schreiner
- NRECA Annual Meeting – March 7-11, 2025
 - Director Jones
- Federated Annual Meeting – March 7-11, 2025
 - Director Jones (if needed)
- NRTC Annual Meeting – March 7-11, 2025
 - Director Jones (if needed)

Attorney Report

Attorney Sara McGrane provided an overview of this month's legal work. McGrane shared further details on the written report items related to the Department of Revenue and election related handbook created by staff.

Discussion: Member Feedback/Request

Director Miller reminded Directors of the background and context for the topic of discussion. Overall process, implementation, timeline, logistics and next steps were discussed. All agreed that the topic of member engagement would be included on the June retreat agenda.

Retreat Committee Update

Chair Bakken provided context to the Retreat Committee update. Director Fields shared an overview of decision points related to the venue, structure and agenda. All agreed to hold the retreat at the Dakota Electric headquarters.

Executive Closed Session

- ✓ A motion was made, seconded and carried unanimously to move into closed session at 2:50 p.m.

Director Middlecamp provided an update from the CEO Performance Review Committee. The Board closed the executive session at 3:21 p.m.

Adjournment

- ✓ A motion was made, seconded and carried unanimously to adjourn at 3:21 p.m.