

MEETING MINUTES

December 12, 2024, 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

Margaret Schreiner

Cyndee Fields

DISTRICT 4

Paul Bakken

Jenny Hoeft (*joined virtually at 10:35 a.m.*)

Stacy Miller

Staff/Guests in Attendance

James Bender, CBS

Adam Heinen

Tim Masa, CBS

Kyle Ryman

Jon Beyer

Corey Hintz

Nicole McEathron

Jeff Schoenecker

Trevor Hauck

Andy Kalicak, CBS

Sara McGrane (virtual)

Ryan Hentges

Betty Jo Kiesow

Mjyke Nelson

Members in Attendance

Derik Dautel

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. Chair Bakken noted that member Derik Dautel's previous feedback and requests to the Board would likely be discussed at the upcoming January meeting.
Consent Agenda	✓ A motion was made, seconded, and carried unanimously to approve the consent agenda. <ul style="list-style-type: none">October 24, 2024, Board Meeting MinutesOctober & November 2024, Board Legal FeesRevised 2025 Election Timeline

Attorney Sara McGrane recapped previous discussion on this topic. Additional revisions to the Bylaws were brought forth for consideration. Further discussion took place around the overall revision process and associated expenditures. Chair Bakken framed a revised motion up for consideration

- ✓ A motion was made, seconded, and carried with a 10-2 vote to approve Resolution 24-12-1 including spelling and grammar error fixes, the addition of “member-owner (member)” language and reverting back to 5 days for special meeting notices.

Bylaw Discussion & Elections Committee Report

Director Schreiner provided an update from the Elections Committee and noted the revised SBS contract was included in meeting materials.

McGrane summarized previous discussions related to Election Policy 4.6 noting the additional revisions had been added to the materials. Further discussion took place around previous election related complaints, general processes and the distinction that the nomination process is not outlined in this policy.

- ✓ After additional discussion took place around specific verbiage within the policy and potential further revisions, a motion was made, seconded, and carried with a 10-2 vote to approve the revised policy 4.6, as presented.

Attorney Report

Attorney Sara McGrane provided an overview of this month’s legal work. McGrane shared an update on the revised Employee Leave Benefits policy and coinciding Resolution.

- ✓ A motion was made, seconded and carried unanimously to approve Resolution 24-12-7 concerning the revised Employee Leave Benefits policy.

McGrane provided an overview of the proposed changes to the 2025 legal services fees.

- ✓ A motion was made, seconded and carried unanimously to approve the proposed changes to the 2025 legal services fees, as presented.

Budget Overview

CEO Hentges shared an overview of the budget-related presentations that would be provided today including key recommendations, context and strategies.

2025-2027 Construction Workplan Presentation

Betty Jo Kiesow, VP of Engineering, provided an overview of the 2025-2027 construction workplan including strategic initiatives, supply chain updates as well as current and future projects and workplan components.

Discussion took place around franchise fees, AGi business case and labor costs.

2025-2027 Operating Budget Presentation

Corey Hintz, VP of Financial Services provided an overview of 2025 and three-year operating budget including assumptions, key initiatives, as well as detailed charts and graphs of sales, revenues, expenses and investments.

Discussion took place around sales trends, increased costs, opportunities and strategies.

Rate Case Presentation

Adam Heinen, VP of Regulatory Services, provided an update on the current rate case and next steps.

Long-Range Financial Forecast	Corey Hintz, VP of Financial Services, provided an overview of Dakota Electric’s long-range financial forecast. Discussion took place around the need for future conversations with GRE as well as rate case and ALDC considerations.
Budget Summary & Resolution Approval	<p>CEO Hentges provided remarks summarizing today’s budget related presentations.</p> <p>✓ A motion was made, seconded, and carried unanimously to approve all five budget-related Resolutions including 2025-2027 Construction Workplan (Resolution 24-12-2), 2025 Cable Purchases (Resolution 24-12-3), 2025-2027 Operating Budget (Resolution 24-12-4), Rate Case (Resolution 24-12-5) and Long-Range Financial Forecast (Resolution 24-12-6).</p>
CEO Report	CEO Hentges provided an overview of 2025 strategic projects, as well as recent organization updates coinciding with the strategic priorities. Hentges concluded by noting topics that are planned for discussion at the January Board meeting.
Great River Energy Report	Directors Schreiner and Middlecamp provided a Great River Energy update in addition to the written report. Discussion took place around future priorities and communication.
Facility Update	Jeff Schoenecker, VP of Utility Services, provided an introduction to the facility update and guest presenters, Tim Masa, Andy Kalicak and James Bender from Cooperative Building Solutions. Discussion took place around overall design elements, future planning and project timeline. All Directors agreed on granting directional approval for continuation of the design process.
MREA Report	Director DeYoe provided an update from the recent work and priorities of MREA.
Hurricane Milton Mutual Aid Briefing	Jeff Schoenecker, VP of Utility Services, introduced Powerline Specialist Crew Chief, Kyle Ryman, who shared a presentation about hurricane relief assistance provided in Florida.
Executive Closed Session	<p>✓ A motion was made, seconded, and carried unanimously to move into closed session at 3:25 p.m.</p> <p>Director Middlecamp provided an update from the CEO Performance Review Committee. The Board closed the Executive Session at 3:40 p.m.</p>
Adjournment	<p>✓ A motion was made, seconded, and carried unanimously to adjourn at 3:40 p.m.</p>