

CUMING COUNTY PUBLIC POWER DISTRICT
West Point, Nebraska

Regular Meeting March 13, 2024

A regular meeting of the Board of Directors of Cuming County Public Power District was held at the meeting room in the District Office, 500 South Main Street, West Point, Nebraska on the 10th day of March 2023 commencing at 9:00 o'clock a.m.

Present were: President Strehle; Members: Directors Kaup, Kluthe, Mostek, Arduser, Petersen, and staff members Doggett, Haase, Haber and McWhorter.

Notice of the meeting was given in advance thereof by publications attached to these minutes. Notice of this meeting was simultaneously given to all members of the Board of Directors and acknowledgment of receipt of notice and the agenda confirmed at this meeting.

Availability of the agenda was communicated in the advance notice and in the notice to the members of the Board of Directors. All proceedings hereafter shown were taken while the convened meeting was open to the attendance of the public.

President Strehle publicly stated to all in attendance that a current copy of the Nebraska Open Meetings Act was available for review and indicated the location of such copy posted in the entrance to the meeting room where the meeting was being held.

Acceptance of Consent Agenda Items:

Suggestion Box Contents: None

Call to Order

Roll Call

Agenda as Amended - Attached

Minutes of the Previous Meeting:

Treasurer's Report - Attached - All questions were addressed.

Financial & Statistical Report - Attached

Safety Committee Report:

Operating Safety Committee Minutes (Attached) All questions were addressed.

Outage Reports - February (Attached)

Staff Reports: (Haase, Haber)- (Attached)

- (1) After discussion, a motion was made by Director Kluthe and seconded by Director Petersen **to accept the consent agenda items as presented.**

After discussion, a roll call vote was as follows:

Petersen	Yes	Mostek	Yes
Kaup	Yes	Strehle	Yes
Kluthe	Yes	Arduser	Yes

Motion carried (6-0).

- (2) After discussion, a motion was made by Director Kaup and seconded by Director Petersen **to accept Reserves for Uncollectible Accounts be decreased to \$30,000.**

After discussion, a roll call vote was as follows:

Petersen	Yes	Mostek	Yes
Kaup	Yes	Strehle	Yes
Kluthe	Yes	Arduser	Yes

Motion carried (6-0).

Derrick from Eide Bailly joined the meeting via conference call at 10:00 am.

- (3) After discussion, a motion was made by Director Mostek and seconded by Director Arduser **to accept 2023 Audit, by Eide Bailly.**

After discussion, a roll call vote was as follows:

Petersen	Yes	Mostek	Yes
Kaup	Yes	Strehle	Yes
Kluthe	Yes	Arduser	Yes

Motion carried (6-0).

The conference call with Derrick at Eide Bailly ended at 10:37 am.

- (4) After discussion, a motion was made by Director Kluthe and seconded by Director Petersen **to accept Policy 306A - CDL Drug & Alcohol Clearinghouse as reviewed.**

After discussion, a roll call vote was as follows:

Petersen	Yes	Mostek	Yes
Kaup	Yes	Strehle	Yes
Kluthe	Yes	Arduser	Yes

Motion carried (6-0).

- (5) After discussion, a motion was made by Director Kaup and seconded by Director Arduser **to accept Policy 116 - Right to Know as reviewed.**

After discussion, a roll call vote was as follows:

Petersen	Yes	Mostek	Yes
Kaup	Yes	Strehle	Yes
Kluthe	Yes	Arduser	Yes

Motion carried (6-0).

- (6) After discussion, a motion was made by Director Mostek and seconded by Director Kluthe **to accept Policy 323A - Cyber Security as reviewed.**

After discussion, a roll call vote was as follows:

Petersen	Yes	Mostek	Yes
Kaup	Yes	Strehle	Yes
Kluthe	Yes	Arduser	Yes

Motion carried (6-0).

Directors' Expense and Reports

Director expenses were presented.

Looking at Treasurer report, director Kluthe inquired on how long we pay for past employees' insurance. Past employees get \$500 a year with submission of proof of insurance. Former employee Woodka's premium is set up through the district and he reimburses the district less the \$500.

Director Kluthe asked what the wireless headsets are for. Scott Haber stated that 5 headsets were ordered for the lineman to use during tree trimming and any other work that requires loud machinery. They are noise cancelling and they guys can communicate with each other effectively. They have been used in the field and are working great.

Director Kaup asked McWhorter if he had heard of 40 acres getting purchased in Burt County for solar. McWhorter has not heard anything but will do some checking with Burt County's manager.

Meeting Updates

NRECA Annual Meeting

Directors Strehle, Petersen, and Arduser attended the meeting with General Manager McWhorter. The general sessions were impressive, but the breakout sessions could have been better. Arduser attended a Women in Power session, and she did enjoy that session. Strehle attended a session where the main topic of discussion was reliability. He stated it was good to hear how important reliability is to our customer and what should be strived for in our district. There was good attendance from Nebraska and there was a small win for PPD's. During the NRECA Business meeting it was voted on to remove Rural from several resolutions in an effort to make the resolution language more uniform. Cuming was part of a group that did not want it removed because we are concerned that NRECA may be losing their focus on the rural systems that started NRECA and make up majority of NRECA's membership, but the voting was closer than most expected. A point was made that rural public power is still an important piece to our industry.

Co Bank

Director Strehle, Mostek and Kluthe attended the Thursday evening dinner and speaker.

Director Strehle and Mostek attend the Friday meeting with General Manager McWhorter. The day was full of speakers with discussions on the economy, inflation and what is driving it right now. Two former Whitehouse press secretaries gave a perspective on the election and politics in general.

Director Assignments

NEG&T Board Meeting

The meeting will be held in Columbus on March 27th. Director Mostek and General Manager McWhorter will attend the meeting. Director Mostek did have a phone meeting last week. Discussion during the phone meeting was on raising their per diem, nominating committee and the NPPD budget. Those items will be discussed in detail during the March 27th meeting.

NPPD Customer Meeting

The meeting will be held March 21st in Grand Island. McWhorter will be attending and if anyone else would like to attend, they will need to let him know. The April NPPD board meeting will be held April 10th and 11th. This is the meeting that Cuming County usually attends, and McWhorter will need to know who can attend. Board members will look at their schedules and get back to him.

Managers Expense & Report

Chet McWhorter reported his expenses.

Uncollectable Reserves

Kari provided the necessary information in her report and Derrik from Eide Baily will give a recommendation on how it should be handled.

NE Legislature

The bills are now in the committee process and are being watched by the NREA. McWhorter will continue to monitor the bill and participate when it makes sense.

Line Extension Policy

McWhorter is continuing to work on the Policy. The policy is still being drafted and then he would like to have certain staff review the policy to make sure the verbiage is correct. Will bring the final draft to the April meeting. Director Kaup asked if any customer has come in since last month's meeting? Scott Haber had one customer come in and Haber told the customer the meter would be at the road. The customer seemed to understand and would talk to his electrician.

Generator

On the north side of Highway 32, Englehardt's had a tower that was sold to Tarpon Towers LLC. The tower had a generator that served Cuming County PPD and Cuming County. The generator is no longer in service, and they are looking at purchasing a new one. The new generator could cost up to \$15,000. Cuming county is looking at CCPPD to sign an interlock agreement with CCPPD paying \$7,500 of the cost. Skywave would pay the installation fee and Cuming County would cover the rest. McWhorter stated there is room in the budget for it and this generator serves our radios along with the 911 server. The board agreed with signing the agreement. Director Kaup wanted to make sure if anyone else would hook in they would have to pay a fee. David Bracht is working on the agreement and McWhorter will review it before signing.

NRECA Legislative Conference

The conference is being held in Washington, D.C April 21-23rd. Greg will be attending along with McWhorter. If anyone would like to attend, let him know soon.

Public Comment

No public comment was given.

Old Business

Reserves for Uncollectible Accounts

CCPPD has a balance of almost \$74,000 net in the uncollectible account. The board feels like that is too high and wanted to have this reviewed. Kari Haase asked Derrick to look it over and bring to the board his recommendation.

Derrick stated that the amount is high and to look at keeping a percentage of the current 0-60-day range plus an estimate of potential losses. He recommended making a one-time adjustment to the net amount. The board agreed on decreasing the amount to \$30,000. (Please add more, I know Chet mentioned making sure a comment was noted in the minutes.)

New Business

2023 Audit Report

Derrick Larson gave the 2023 audit report via conference call. The board approved the 2023 audit.

The board recommended that Kari look out to other auditors to get a bid for the next couple of years.

Policy 306A - CDL Drug & Alcohol Clearinghouse

Policy was discussed and reviewed.

Policy 116 - Right to Know

Policy was discussed and reviewed.

Policy 323A - Cyber Security

Policy was discussed and reviewed.

The board watched a video called: Home - Juiced the Series.

McWhorter reminded the board that April 8th is the lineman appreciation breakfast, and they are welcome to come.

Kari Haase will continue the discussion on the 2023 Audit.

The next regular meeting will be held Wednesday April 10th, 2024, at 9:00 a.m.

Motions were read by Doggett.

ITEMS FOR FUTURE BOARD MEETINGS:

Line Extension Policy

AI Policy

The motion was made at 11:35 a.m. to adjourn the meeting by Director Kaup and seconded by Director Petersen.

I the undersigned, Secretary for the Board of Directors of Cuming County Public Power District hereby certify that all of the subjects included in the foregoing proceedings are contained in the agenda for the meeting, kept continually current and available for public inspection at the District Office, 500 South Main Street, West Point, Nebraska; that subjects were contained in said agenda for at least twenty-four hours prior to said meeting; that said minutes were in written form and available for inspection within ten working days and prior to the next meeting of said body.

SEAL

Secretary