

CUMING COUNTY PUBLIC POWER DISTRICT  
West Point, Nebraska

Regular Meeting May 13, 2020

A regular meeting of the Board of Directors of Cuming County Public Power District was held on the 13th day of May 2020 commencing at 9:11 o'clock a.m. In order to comply with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's guidance of social distancing due to the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak, the meeting took place by teleconference.

Present, via teleconference, were: President Strehle; Members: Directors Kaup, Kluthe, Mostek, Weiler and staff members Doggett, Haase, Haber and McWhorter. Guest in attendance Will Crane and Matt Robinette from Bluestem.

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 - April (Attached)

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

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

A roll call was as follows:

Mostek	Yes	Weiler	Yes
Kaup	Yes	Strehle	Yes
Kluthe	Yes		

Motion carried (5-0).

- (2) After discussion a motion was made by Director Kluthe and seconded by Director Kaup **to move forward with the New Director Replacement Paperwork.**

A roll call was as follows:

Mostek	Yes	Weiler	Yes
Kaup	Yes	Strehle	Yes
Kluthe	Yes		

Motion carried (5-0).

- (3) After discussion a motion was made by Director Mostek and seconded by Director Kluthe **to accept Resolution 2020-02 Recognizing Fred Schneider.**

A roll call was as follows:

Mostek	Yes	Weiler	Yes
Kaup	Yes	Strehle	Yes
Kluthe	Yes		

Motion carried (5-0).

- (4) After discussion a motion was made by Director Weiler and seconded by Director Kaup **to accept the bid from Freeman and Riggs to conduct the audit for 2020-2022.**

A roll call was as follows:

Mostek	Yes	Weiler	Yes
Kaup	Yes	Strehle	Yes
Kluthe	Yes		

Motion carried (5-0).

- (5) After discussion a motion was made by Director Weiler and seconded by Director Mostek **to accept the 2020 CRC Voting Delegate Chet McWhorter.**

A roll call was as follows:

Mostek	Yes	Weiler	Yes
Kaup	Yes	Strehle	Yes
Kluthe	Yes		

Motion carried (5-0).

- (6) After discussion a motion was made by Director Kluthe and seconded by Director Weiler **to accept the First Quarter Financials and Operating Report.**

After discussion, a roll call vote was as follows:

Mostek	Yes	Weiler	Yes
Kaup	Yes	Strehle	Yes
Kluthe	Yes		

Motion carried (5-0).

- (7) After discussion a motion was made by Director Kaup and seconded by Director Mostek **to accept Policy 315- Safety and Occupational Health, as reviewed.**

A roll call was as follows:

Mostek	Yes	Weiler	Yes
Kaup	Yes	Strehle	Yes
Kluthe	Yes		

Motion carried (5-0).

### **Directors' Expense and Reports**

Director expenses were presented.

Director Kluthe inquired about the Bluestem bill on the treasure report stated work in progress. General Manager McWhorter confirmed that there is written agreement that any work done regarding the TWAC's issues will be paid by Bluestem.

### **Director Assignments**

NREA Spring Meeting has been cancelled.

All of the meetings will now be held virtually until further notice. Meetings coming up: NPPD Customer Meeting on May 28<sup>th</sup>. May 19<sup>th</sup> NREA will have a meeting with Congressman Smith.

Director Strehle informed the board that the NREA Manager Search has narrowed the field down to four people. Interviews will be held in July.

### **Managers Expense & Report**

Chet had no expenses to report.

### **COVID Response**

CCPPD is still working with split staff. A plan is in the works to bring all employees back to regular duty, maybe by June 1<sup>st</sup>. The lobby will stay closed until some changes are made to keep employees and customers safe.

### **Bancroft Sub**

A team meeting was held May 7<sup>th</sup> with DGR and some CCPPD employees. If materials can be acquired, the Bancroft Sub will hopefully be completed by the end of 2020.

### **Interns**

Two interns have been hired to work at CCPPD. One intern is working with the lineman and the other intern will be working in the office.

### **Solar**

McWhorter has been researching methods to get better usage out of the solar panels. Last week two linemen washed the panels and production increased right away. It is now on the schedule to wash the panels twice a year. Production is right on track for May.

### **Safety**

JT&S are continuing to educate Safety. Both teams watched a video created by the JT&S staff. This month was on Hazard Recognition and COVID 19. Additional videos are being made to handle a few topics during the COVID 19.

### **Beemer Bridge**

Scott Haber had a meeting with county employees to discuss what will need for the Bridge. Items that need to be looked at is tree removal pricing and where the new line will go. CCPPD does have some poles in the right of way. The county is asking CCPPD if they could cover some of the price to have trees that will need to be removed. The price could range from \$8,00-\$12,000.

Scott Haber wanted the board members thoughts on what to do. Director Kluthe asked about maybe splitting the bill. General Manager McWhorter thought possibly the District could cover the same percentage of the tree removal as the percentage of poles that are in the right of way that the District would be responsible for. The board concurred with that concept. As far as if the tree removal could be capitalized as part of the project, Kari Haase will research. Scott stated he would have more information after the next Supervisors meeting at the end of the month.

## **Public Comment**

None was given

## **Old Business**

### **Bluestem BESS Discussion**

Will Crane discussed with the board, after last months meeting Bluestem looked in the financials for CCPPD. Bluestem has decided that economically this will not be a good fit for CCPPD. There will not be big savings for the Cuming County. The battery does have great function and storage options but financially it will not fit for the District's needs. Matt values his partnership with CCPPD, but prices could not be adjusted to what would work for CCPPD.

The board appreciated Bluestem looking into the project and thanked them for their work.

Will Crane and Matt Robinette left the meeting at 9:32 a.m.

### **Director Replacement Discussion**

Directors gave the motion to go ahead and continue with paperwork presented on finding a new director.

Directors discussed the Director Confidentiality and Non-Disclosure Agreement. It was decided that each director will sign the form and any new directors will do the same. With the COVID 19 going on, Kinzey Doggett will mail out the forms for the directors to sign and mail back.

## **New Business**

### **Resolution 2020-02 - Recognizing Fred Schneider**

Resolution was discussed and approved.

### **Auditor Approval**

The board reviewed the proposals from the auditors. Freeman and Riggs was the best fit for Cuming County Public Power and will be the auditor the for the time frame 2020-2022.

### **2020 CRC Voting Delegate**

The board appointed General Manager McWhorter the 2020 CRC Voting Delegate.

### **First Quarter Financials**

Kari Haase discussed the First Quarter Financials for 2020. Board approved the First Quarter Financials.

### **Policy 315 - Safety & Occupational Health**

Policy was discussed and reviewed

The next regular meeting will be held June 10th, 2020 at 9:00 a.m.

Motions were read by Doggett.

**ITEMS FOR FUTURE BOARD MEETINGS:**

New Director Questions

Voting to fill Fred Schneider's positions: Treasure and Fault Van.

The motion was made at 10:36 am to adjourn the meeting by Director Kluthe and seconded by Director Weiler.

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

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Secretary