



## Meeting of the Board of Utility Commissioners

Thursday, December 19, 2024 @ 4:00 PM

### MEETING MINUTES

Meeting was called to order at 4:02 PM

Directors In attendance: Barbara MacMullan, John Warfel, Tom Risom, Mary Jane Balsler, Ken Lacoste.

Others Present: Jeffrey Wright, Tracy Fredericks, Jim Stockman, Richard Martin, David Lewis, Chris Warfel, Carlos Salinas, Evan Carey.

1. **Public Input:** There was no input
2. **Correspondence: Letter from Chris Warfel (TNS MicroGrid Study)**  
Chris Warfel gave an update on a state funded project to look into the feasibility of a Micro Grid. Jeffery Wright said he recommends supporting the study and would write a letter to show our support.
3. **Commissioner's Report:** There was no report
4. **Approve Board Meeting Minutes from September 26, 2024, October 28, 2024, and November 12, 2024, regular board meetings.**  
  
A motion was made by John Warfel to approve both sets of minutes, seconded by Tom Risom. The motion passed unanimously.
5. **ETIPP Update:** Board Chair, Barbara McMullan reported that they had a short meeting with the ETIPP team re: the community meeting and that they will be moving forward on their study activities.
6. **Review 2024 Strategic Plan:** President Jeffery Wright reported the status of the 2024 strategic plan – on record.
7. **Treasurer's Report:** Treasurer, Tom Risom reported that he and Jeff are up to date on all reports for the year, with no discrepancies. Work has begun on the end of year fiscal report. Physical inventory will begin closer to years end in preparation for the audit.

Mary Jane B asked if our operations budget is too high and that we need to make sure it is paid off each year. Jeff agreed and said this is a regulatory standard. It was suggested that Tom report on this each month instead of on a quarterly basis.

8. **President's Report:** Jeffery Wright reported on a few highlights of the year.

There were no lost time accidents or accidents this year.

BIUD changed insurance companies and saved more than \$150,000 annually.

BIUD converted another part of the distribution system.

BIUD have set over 125 poles this year all in house.

BIUD 100% renewable and will be from 100% renewable resources starting November 1, 2025.

9. **Review and Act on 2025 Power Supply, Transmission and Net Metering ("Avoided Cost Feed-In Tariff) Rates**

Jeffery Wright presented the final power supply and transmission rates and asked for formal board approval of the rates as filed.

Barbara MacMullan made a resolution that the Block Island Utility District, board of utility commissioners resolves to approve the 2025 power supply, transmission and net metering rates as presented (on record and as filed). The motion was seconded by Tom Risom, without further discussion, the motion was approved unanimously.

10. **Review and Act on four Power Supply PPAs:**

Jeff reported that ENE has been working on power supply deals for all of their clients and that BIUD has a few power supply opportunities to consider. The power supply sub-committee met a few weeks ago and reviewed all of ENE's proposals. Jeff recommended accepting these proposals – detailed in the December 19, 2024 board materials.

Carlos asked why we are locking in our energy supply, yet we are working with ETIPP to incentivize on-island energy production. Jeff responded that implementing the on island generation opportunities that the ETIPP study may identify would not be implemented before 2040 most likely and because the proposal being considered are only a small portion of our power supply he is recommending approving these PPAs.

Mary Jane Balser made a motion to approve the power supply proposals as presented for Brookfield Pontook, Brookfield Williams and Cabot/Turners. The motion was seconded by John Warfel. The motion passed unanimously.

Mary Jane made a motion on the power supply proposal to cancel Broadleaf solar, the motion was seconded by Barbara, the motion passed unanimously.

A motion to adjourn was made by Mary Jane, seconded by Ken, motion passed unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 4:56.

