



Meeting of the Board of Utility Commissioners

Thursday, June 26, 2025 @ 4:00 PM

THE MEETING WAS HELD AT THE POWER COMPANY

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

Jeffery Wright, Tracy Fredericks, Jim Stockman, David Lewis, Don Logan, Dick Martin, Evan Carey, Carlos Salinas, Tom Durden, Tom Brown, Sedona Brown, Steve Corbette.

Barbara MacMullan called the meeting to order at 4:05

1. Public Input

- Member, Carlos Salinas, commented that he is impressed on how much work we are doing and how much our power has improved. He thought it would be interesting to do a series on what we are doing and make the public aware of our work.
- Mr. Salinas asked when form 7 would be available. Jeff said it is available, and it will be posted on the website.
- Mr. Salinas offered his opinion on the ETIPP study and said that he was upset with the way the board handled Chris Warfel's input. He believes that the net metering policy should be revisited.
- John Corbett offered that Chris Warfel has a conflict of interest and that he, as a solar developer, is trying to make money and is trying to persuade the board to make a bad decision that will cost the other members an increase in the cost of their power.

2. Commissioner's Report

- No report

3. Appoint NRECA Regional Meeting and CFC Annual Meeting Voting Delegates

- President Jeffery Wright asked to ratify the NRECA Regional Meeting and CFC Forum Voting Delegates. Mary Jane Balser moved to nominate Board Chair Barbara MacMullan as the delegate with Ton Risom as alternate. The motion passed unanimously.

4. Review and Act Upon the Meeting Minutes from May 22, 2025, regular meeting.

- This will be referred to next meeting to make some changes to the ETIPP portion of the meeting.

5. Review of Block Island's Solar Penetration and Integration of ETIP Strategies.

- Jeffery Wright reported on the ETIPP study and recommended that BIUD issue a RFP for community solar array with battery backup which may help solve the curtailment problem with the BASA net metering.
- Steve Corbette offered that he thought this may be cost prohibitive and warned about battery fire issues.

6. Review of the 2025 Strategic Plan

- A short review of the strategic plan was provided by Jeffery Wright.

7. Annual Meeting and Election Update

- Jeff wanted to remind everyone that the annual meeting will be at the Legion again. The speakers will be Tony Anderson, former President of NRECA, and Peter Cappers from the ETIPP study, along with other Board members and the Presidents update will be presented.
- Tracy Fredericks provided an election update. The Candidate forms are due July 7th. We hope to have several good candidates to choose from. Anyone running will have the opportunity to speak at the annual meeting. There are three openings for the board, John, Barbara and Tom's seats are up for election.

8. Treasurer's Report

- Tom reported that the monthly reporting is done and reviewed.
- The Q2 financials will be coming out before the July meeting.
- BIUD's CFC loan has been approved and on the Q2 financials, the line of credit will show zero.
- Cash on hand is a little over \$300,000.

9. President's Report

Jeff said there are three things he wants to talk about, the voltage conversion, capital projects, and summertime readiness and the NRECA conferences.

- This winter we have done numerous projects. We did it all with our internal help and Greg. We finished all Old Town Road. Our losses are at the lowest ever. Every 1% is equal to \$35,000 in power supply and transmission. When we first started, we were at 16% and we are now below 9%, this is real savings for everyone. The work on the 4a circuit has been ongoing. This is our second largest circuit and includes Payne Rd and Pilot hill. To date we have only converted 5 of the 35 miles of lines, we have another 10 ready to go.

- Summertime readiness, we almost hit a peak (5.2) on June 24th. Jeff described the various actions the BIOUD had taken to be prepared for the summer season.
- Recent NRECA conference attendees, Tracy Fredricks, Jim Stockman and Tom Durden provided comments on what they learned and the value they gained by attending.

10. Review And Discuss Dave Bebyn's Rate Analysis

- Jeff explained we have several different rates they are listed on your bill; this depends on the type of service. The rate analysis is about the plant and distribution rates. We are working on developing a budget that we need to operate the business and continue with the important projects and improvements to the system. We will have a budget in a few months and will be able to determine the type of rate increases necessary.
- Dave was asked to look at a couple of different scenarios. These scenarios will be looking at an increase or more than 10%, but Jeff wanted to remind everyone that we have not had an increase in the plant and Distribution rate since 2008.
- Lengthy discussion was had and at the conclusion, Barbara and Tom both suggested we look at the rates more frequently and make small increases more frequently instead of a larger increase.

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Tom and seconded by Barbara. The motion passed unanimously, the meeting adjourned at 5:52