

WASHINGTON ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC.
REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

August 30, 2023

The regular meeting of the Board of Directors, conducted in person and via video teleconference, was called to order at 4:03 p.m. by President Stephen Knowlton. The following Board members were in attendance:

Susan Alexander	Steven Farnham	Stephen Knowlton
Betsy Allen	Roger Fox	Richard Rubin
Don Douglas	Jean Hamilton	Mary Just Skinner

Also present were General Manager Louis Porter, the Cooperative's legal counsel Ron Shems, accompanied by intern Ryan Wiese, of the law firm Tarrant, Gillies, & Shems; Director of Engineering & Operations (E&O) Dave Kresock; Director of Finance & Administration (F&A) Teia Greenslit; Member Services Supervisor Susan Golden; and Administrative Assistant Rosie Casciero. The Board was joined by guests Jared Duval, Executive Director of Energy Action Network, and members Annie Reed and Barry Bernstein. Directors Fox and Skinner, Mr. Kresock, and Mr. Bernstein attended remotely. Director Hamilton arrived at 4:26 p.m., Director Rubin arrived in person at 4:10 p.m., and Kresock arrived at 5:45 p.m. Duval, Bernstein, and Reed left at 5:07 p.m.

CONSENT AGENDA

The consent agenda included the minutes of the June 28, 2023 regular Board meeting. President Knowlton reviewed minor edits to the minutes.

On a motion by Director Farnham, seconded by Director Allen, the Board voted to approve the minutes of the regular June 28, 2023 meeting as amended. The motion passed 7-0.

PRESENTATION BY JARED DUVAL OF ENERGY ACTION NETWORK

Knowlton and Porter welcomed Jared Duval, Executive Director of Energy Action Network (EAN). EAN is a nonprofit organization that collects, analyzes, and reports on emissions energy, equity, and economic data. Duval has a background in energy and climate policy, having served as Economic Development Director at the Vermont Agency of Commerce before leading EAN, and currently serves as an appointed member of the Vermont Climate Council. Duval gave a presentation of EAN's upcoming 2023 Annual Report on Emissions, Energy, Equity, and the Economy. It included an overview of Vermonters' energy usage and the economic burden energy, options and actions for reducing CO2 emissions, and a review of Vermont's power portfolio. He entertained questions on the presentation and engaged in discussion with the Board.

QUARTERLY FINANCIALS

Director of F&A Greenslit presented an overview of the 2023 second quarter financials. She noted that the cost of purchased power for winter 2022-2023 was lower than budgeted and that lower-than-expected kilowatt-hour sales are projected to return to the budgeted amount before the end of 2023. Additionally, Greenslit reported on the Co-op's margins, TIER and MDSC. At present, Greenslit believes that the Co-op's finances appear stable enough to avoid a 2024 rate increase.

GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

Community Fund Flood Relief

Porter reported that, with the support of the Board, the WEC Community Fund is providing \$1,000 grants to nonprofits that sustained damage from the July 2023 flood. The purpose is to provide needed recovery funds to nonprofits in a timely manner. As of the end of August 2023, \$15,000 had been disbursed to nonprofits in or near WEC's service territory.

Additionally, the Community Fund's regular activities have continued with disbursements to organizations that requested donations during the second quarter of 2023.

Director of Special Projects & Innovation

The Co-op has advertised the new position of Director of Special Projects & Innovation. Porter stated that responses have been positive and that applications will be reviewed soon. He mentioned that he plans to invite Cyril Brunner, Innovation and Technology Leader at Vermont Electric Cooperative, to serve on the hiring committee.

Kingsbury Case

Porter reminded the Board that the Kingsbury net-metering case has resulted in a proposed order by the PUC to WEC to also remunerate some net-metering groups and collect from some other groups that are also subject to the specific net-metering tariff applicable to them. He noted that a commercial Co-op member with a large solar array is objecting to the Public Utility Commission's order that the Co-op must repay and collect revenue on net metering systems retroactively.

Integrated Resource Plan, Long-Range Plan, and Construction Work Plan

The Co-op will file for a three-month extension to submit its Integrated Resource Plan. Kresock and consulting engineers of the firm Control Point are close to completing the Long-Range Plan, which sets forth the Co-op's construction and operational plans for the next ten or more years.

WEC intends to file its upcoming Construction Work Plan in two phases. The first will include the Co-op's normal construction plans. The second Plan will be mainly for substation reconstruction, which will require more comprehensive environmental reviews than the former.

Legislative Session Preparation

After a discussion of Porter's plans for the Co-op's preparation for the 2024 legislative session, the Board requested that Porter prepare a summary of the 2023 legislative session and a preview of what is likely to occur in 2024.

Miscellany

Knowlton reminded the Board that the Renewable Energy Vermont (REV) workshop and conference will be held in October.

Porter clarified that the Energy Storage Access Project (ESAP) is a grant funding program in which WEC is participating with Burlington Electric Department and the Vermont Public Power Supply Authority. It focuses on load-side battery storage and other customer/member-based energy management and storage solutions. The budget and scope of the project are yet to be finalized with input from the Department of Public Service.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Board entered Executive Session at 5:45 p.m. to discuss contracts for upcoming projects.

The Board reconvened in open session at 6:06 p.m. and the following actions were reported:

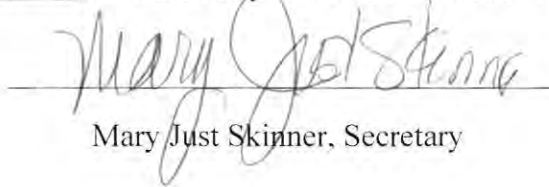
The Board voted to approve Washington Electric Cooperative, Inc. entering into a contract for consulting services related to the purchase and deployment of a new Advanced Metering System. The motion passed 9-0.

The Board voted to approve Washington Electric Cooperative, Inc. entering into a contract for engineering and design for the reconstruction of two substations, Jackson Corner and Mount Knox, and replacing transformers and regulators at the East Montpelier substation. The motion passed 8-0, with 1 abstention.

There being no further essential business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 6:07 p.m.

Mary Just Skinner, Secretary

The foregoing record of the minutes was duly accepted by the Board of Directors at a regular meeting held on September 27, 2013, at which a quorum of the Board was present and voting.



Mary Just Skinner, Secretary