

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

**March 27, 2024**

The regular meeting of the Board of Directors, conducted in person and via video teleconference, was called to order at 4:05 p.m. by President Stephen Knowlton. The following Board members were in attendance:

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

Also present were General Manager (GM) Louis Porter; Attorney Ron Shems of the law firm Tarrant, Gillies, & Shems, the Cooperative's legal counsel; Director of Engineering & Operations (E&O) Dave Kresock; Director of Finance & Administration (F&A) Teia Greenslit; Director of Products & Services (P&S) Bill Powell; Director of Special Projects & Innovation JJ Vandette; Member Services Supervisor Susan Golden; and Administrative Assistant Dawn Johnson. The Board was joined by members Ian Buchanan of East Montpelier, and Roger Fox of Walden. Director Hamilton; Director Douglas; staff members Powell, Vandette, and Golden; and members Barnes, Buchanan, and Fox attended remotely. Mary Just Skinner arrived at 4:18 p.m. Ian Buchanan joined the meeting at 4:20 p.m. and Director Douglas joined the meeting at 4:34 p.m.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

The consent agenda included the minutes of the February 2024 regular Board meeting held February 28, 2024, and Special Board Meeting held March 15, 2024. There was one amendment on page 2 of the regular Board meeting to add F&A to Ms. Greenslit's title.

*With the noted amendment, President Knowlton declared the minutes of the regular February 2024 meeting of the Board of Directors, held February 28, 2024, and the Special Board Meeting held March 15, 2024, approved.*

**WEC INTEGRATED RESOURCE PLAN (IRP)**

Director Knowlton introduced the IRP by pointing out that the document is required to be filed every three years with the PUC. The deadline for this IRP was extended from November and must be filed by April 12, 2024. The Board is being asked to approve the document in its draft form so staff can finalize and submit it to the PUC prior to the April regular Board meeting. The Board will be given an opportunity to review and discuss in its final format.

GM Porter outlined how the IRP is a summary of all WEC's important working documents such as the Construction Work Plan, Financial Audit, Load Forecast and Power Supply. He also explained briefly what is entailed in the filing process and its importance to WEC and the PUC.

*Director Farnham moved that the Board approve the draft IRP with the understanding that the final document be circulated to the board when complete. Director Alexander seconded the motion. The motion was approved 7-0.*

**DYNAMIC ORGANICS CONTRACT APPROVAL**

The Board was asked to approve a contract with Dynamic Organics LLC (DO) to conduct consultant work for WEC related to the future of the Coventry landfill gas plant. GM Porter noted that Morgan Casella, no relation to Casella Waste Management, of DO will work with WEC in

exploring and analyzing options to support long-term power supply at the Coventry landfill. Porter noted that he has two goals; the first is to extend the lease with Casella beyond 2038 and the second to determine what happens to the excess gas produced between now and then. This proposal is a \$30,000 unbudgeted service requiring approval by the Board.

Director Hamilton initiated a discussion regarding any threats that the landfill presents and its impact on Lake Memphremagog and the surrounding environment. The discussion was concluded in agreement that WEC and its Board members would learn more about the plant's impact on the environment.

*Director Rubin moved that the Board accept the Dynamic Organics Contract.  
Director Allen seconded the motion. The motion was approved 9-0.*

### **ITRON DEMAND REPORT AS LOAD FORECAST REVISED**

Director Knowlton noted that the report had been corrected and explained to the Board that some of the numbers that initialized the model predictions for 2023 were initially wrong. A discussion ensued noting that WEC should expand its search for companies to perform the forecast needed in 3 years for the next IRP.

### **GENERAL MANAGER'S UPDATE**

GM Porter informed the Board that the Kingsbury group net metering case is close to being resolved and plans are being made to rectify member accounts in line with the PUC ruling.

Porter and E&O Director Kresock discussed that Coventry is showing better production due to maintenance adjustments to the blower. The remaining issue with the gas chiller is being addressed in the Construction Work Plan.

Senator Sanders has directed a 2.5-million-dollar grant to help with the new AMI system. Porter stated that this award is not expected to change the schedule of the roll out of the AMI meters. Porter noted that the State funding will hopefully be able to be used to match the Federal dollars. If both funding sources come through, WEC's financial contribution could be a small portion of the total project cost.

Wrightsville generation data question, mis entered data noted by Director Farnham.

GM Porter reviewed how the Coventry plant is changing to a load reducer. He noted that Coventry will no longer be listed as a generator in the ISO New England market. There was a brief discussion regarding the impact of the change and the increased need for the plant to run efficiently as a consequence.

Director of P&S, Bill Powell, reviewed the revisions to Rule 5.100. He described that now the net-metering applicant will come directly to the utility and complete the net metering application before going to the PUC. This will assist WEC in determining the members' plans and can better advise what equipment will best support the members' needs.

There was a brief discussion regarding the speaker at the Annual Meeting. Roger Hill, from Weathering Heights will be the initial speaker and the second speaker is being determined.

### **UPDATE ON WEC POSITION STATEMENT AND AD HOC LEGISLATIVE MEETING**

Director Hamilton noted to the board that she was currently word smithing a policy statement and the wanted to work with the committee on generating a set of slides to flush out bullet points as well as set the next committee meeting.

Porter updated the status on the Renewable Energy Standard bill that passed.

There being no further essential business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 5:42p.m.

Betsy Allen, Secretary

The foregoing record of the minutes was duly accepted by the Board of Directors at a regular meeting held on April 24, 2024, at which a quorum of the Board was present and voting.



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Betsy Allen, Secretary

