



Kansas Municipal Energy Agency
Executive Committee Meeting Minutes
August 25, 2022

Committee Members	City	Present/ Absent	KMEA Staff Present
Rob Culley *	Baldwin City	Present	Gerry Bieker
Barack Matite	Eudora	Present	Laurie Brock *
Mike Muirhead	Garden City	Present	Paul Mahlberg
Dustin Bedore	Goodland	Present	Tyson McGreer
Ira Harrison	Holton	Present	Terri Pemberton
Jonathan Mitchell	Hoisington	Present	Mike Schmaderer
Dennis Tharp	Ottawa	Present	Sharon Schmaderer
Jon Quinday *	Russell	Present	Joni Shadonix
Stacie Eichem	Wamego	Present	

** Participated via Lifesize*

Item No. 1 – Call the Meeting to Order

Vice President Jonathan Mitchell called the meeting to order at 12:36 p.m. at the KMEA Office in Overland Park, KS. A quorum was present.

Item No. 2 – Seek Approval of the following items:

- **Minutes from July 13, 2022 Executive Committee Meeting**
Dennis Tharp made a motion to approve the minutes of the July 13, 2022 Executive Committee meeting. The motion was seconded by Mike Muirhead and carried unanimously.
- **Appropriations for July 2022 and Financials June 2022**
Laurie Brock presented the appropriations for July 2022 and financials for June 2022.

Mike Muirhead made a motion to approve the appropriations for July 2022 and financials for June 2022. The motion was seconded by Dennis Tharp and carried unanimously.

Item No. 3 – General Manager Report

Paul Mahlberg provided the General Manager report, which included:

- **2023 Annual Budget Discussion** – Paul Mahlberg reviewed the 2023 Annual Budget compared to the 2022 Annual Budget. He also reviewed the Organization Chart that reflects KMEA’s growth since 2015 and indicated that the 2023 budget includes two new positions to help relieve the strain on the IT and accounting departments. These two new positions will be discussed in executive session later in the meeting.

Paul then reviewed the Mid-States 2023 Annual Budget and proposed Rate Schedule.

- **Increased Energy Costs** – Staff is working on materials to provide to members and their citizens/customers to help explain why energy markets are higher compared to last year. Darren

Prince is collecting information on what the Coops and Evergy are seeing for their PCA changes so we can share with our members.

- **Quarterly Meeting** – Staff met for an update meeting with KPP and KEPCo in Emporia.
- **Data Management** – Staff is exploring a custom-built platform to help KMEA manage processes and data management more efficiently through the Leaf Software Solutions SureStart Program.
- **Osage City/Pomona Linemen Services** – Crew is up and running and we have received positive comments from the cities and residents within the communities.
- **Director, Finance & Accounting** – Interviews have been held and we should be able to make an announcement soon.
- **EMP Agency Fee Allocation Method** – As more cities install behind-the meter solar generation, discussions are being held with the EMP groups to see if they want to change the way the KMEA EMP Fee is allocated to the EMP members.

Item No. 4 – Regulatory Update

Terri Pemberton provided an update on the following topics:

- **Annual Local Access Charges (LAC)** – Review of status of dockets at the KCC – all Cooperatives that have LAC annual update filing requirements are seeking a decrease in their respective LAC rates. Mike Muirhead asked for a historical look at the local access charges by cooperative.
- **FERC Dockets** – Evergy TFR/GFR annual update complaint and subsequent filing by Evergy to change the TFR formula - main issue involves the treatment of retained earnings; Sunflower Annual TFR update is ongoing, and the Depreciation Study docket is being set for settlement discussions; SPP – Order 2222 Compliance – FERC issued deficiency letter to SPP, to which SPP will respond. We are supportive of SPP at this point.

Item No. 5 – Operations Update

Gerry Bieker provided an update on the following topics:

- **Leaf Software Solutions Platform** – discussed in General Manager Report
- **Behind-the-meter generation** – working on contract phase
- **Dighton Lineman Services** – working to increase revenue stream
- **Capacity Rates** – Tom Saitta is working on SPP performance-based accreditation requirements to try to control costs to the members.

Item No. 6 – Member Services Update

Tyson McGreer provided an update on the following topics:

- **Infrastructure Bill** – KMEA has partnered with KPP and KMU to assist members with opportunities within the Infrastructure Bill. Webinars are taking place and have been well attended.
- **KMEA Annual Conference** – September 29-30th, in Wichita. The hotel registration deadline is Monday.
- **AMI with Tantalus** – four additional cities are interested.
- **KMEA Membership** – We are working to bring on Wathena and Elwood as they will begin taking WAPA allocations in 2024.

Item No. 7– Mid-States Update

Mike Schmaderer provided an update on recently completed, pending, and future Mid-States projects.

Item No. 8 – Old Business

- **Nominating Committee for Elections Update** – Barack Matite reviewed the Committee's recommendations.

- **Nominating Committee for Awards Update** – Dennis Tharp reported that the Nominating Committee for Awards met, and their task is complete.

Paul recognized Dennis Tharp for his strong leadership throughout the years and thanked the Executive Committee for their continued support, leadership, and guidance.

Item No. 9 – New Business

There was no new business.

Item No. 10 – Executive Session to discuss Personnel Matters

Mike Muirhead made a motion for Executive Committee members and Paul Mahlberg to go into executive session for 15 minutes beginning at 2:03 p.m. to discuss personnel matters, with the open meeting to resume at 2:18 p.m. The motion was seconded by Barack Matite and carried unanimously. The executive session ended at 2:18 p.m. No action was taken.

Jon Quinday made a motion to recommend the 2023 Annual Budget as presented to the full Board with the understanding that the General Manager has the discretion to fill the two new positions at the appropriate time. The motion was seconded by Stacie Eichen and carried unanimously.

Item No. 11 – Discuss and set date, time, and location for the next Executive Committee Meeting

The date, time, and location for next KMEA Executive Committee meeting will be determined at a later date.

Item No. 12 – Adjourn Meeting

The meeting was adjourned at 2:33 p.m.



Mike Muirhead, Secretary/Treasurer