



**Kansas Municipal Energy Agency**  
**Executive Committee Meeting Minutes**  
**December 15, 2022**

Committee Members	City	Present/ Absent	KMEA Staff Present
Rob Culley *	Baldwin City	Present	Gerry Bieker *
Mike Muirhead	Garden City	Present	Laurie Brock *
Dustin Bedore	Goodland	Present	Neal Daney *
Ira Harrison	Holton	Present	Kay Forsen
Jonathan Mitchell	Hoisington	Present	Paul Mahlberg
Dave Hunsaker	Ottawa	Present	Tyson McGreer
Jon Quinday	Russell	Present	Mike Meyer
Stacie Eichem	Wamego	Present	Dixie Riedel
			Mike Schmaderer *
			Joni Shadonix

*\* Participated via Lifesize*

**Item No. 1 – Call the Meeting to Order**

President Quinday called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. at the KMU Training Center in McPherson, KS. A quorum was present.

President Quinday announced that Barack Matite has accepted a position with the City of Rockville, MD, and that effective December 9, 2022, he resigned his position on the KMEA Executive Committee. President Quinday will provide a recommendation for Barack’s replacement at next month’s meeting.

Paul Mahlberg introduced and welcomed Mike Meyer, KMEA’s new Director, Finance & Accounting. Laurie Brock has agreed to stay through February to assist with the transition.

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

- **Minutes from November 9, 2022 Executive Committee Meeting**  
Mike Muirhead made a motion to approve the minutes of the November 9, 2022 Executive Committee meeting. The motion was seconded by Ira Harrison and carried unanimously.
- **Appropriations for November 2022 & Financials for October 2022**  
Laurie Brock presented the appropriations for November 2022 and financials for October 2022.

Paul Mahlberg reported that KMEA provided a new linemen services contract to the City of Dighton’s council but there was not quorum to take action. He also reported that we continue efforts to encourage other members to utilize the Dighton crew to help balance the budget.

Mike Schmaderer discussed the Mid-States revenue shortfall.

Jonathan Mitchell made a motion to approve the appropriations for November 2022 and financials for October 2022. The motion was seconded by Mike Muirhead and carried unanimously.

### **Item No. 3 – General Manager Report**

Paul Mahlberg reported on the following topics:

- **TCR/ARR Optimization Program** – history of results since inception
- **Strategic Plan** – announced KMEA/KMGA Task Force participants; retreat to be held July 26-27, 2023

### **Item No. 4 – Regulatory Update**

On behalf of Terri Pemberton, Paul provided an update on the following topics:

- **Sunflower Depreciation Docket** – settlement discussions continue
- **Annual Sunflower Local Planning Meeting** – scheduled for tomorrow
- **Evergy Transmission Formula Rate** – dockets are proceeding
- **Evergy Local Planning Criteria** – Staff will continue monitoring
- **Evergy Docket** – KCC conducted a workshop earlier in the week regarding Evergy's capital plan projections.
- **NextEra** – KCC's approval of NextEra's CCN request has been appealed in Crawford County

### **Item No. 5 – Operations Update**

Gerry Bieker provided an update on the following topics:

- **Generation Projects** – City of Neodesha plans to move forward with generation project; KMEA to meet with City of Oberlin tonight to discuss same
- **Linemen Services** – Staff continues to work with cities out west to commit to financing/utilizing the Dighton crew; Osage/Pomona crew running smoothly and assisting nearby cities.
- **KORE** – KMEA continues to work with Leaf to develop an internal data management tool to keep track of communications with our members.
- **Insurance** – we continue to work through issues with our insurance provider

### **Item No. 6 – Member Services Update**

Tyson McGreer provided an update on the following topics:

- **City of Elwood** – we are awaiting Elwood's membership paperwork; Elwood to take WAPA allocation in 2024
- **GRIP Grant** – KMEA assisting members apply for GRIP grants
- **EV Charging Survey** – survey results show most communities are interested in EV charging stations; working on mechanics.
- **IRA and IIJA** – we continue to work with KMU and KPP to monitor grant opportunities

### **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**

- **CAT Generation Funding Discussion** – Paul reported that the CAT financing document has been finalized but since interest rates have continued to rise we are also looking at alternative financing opportunities with tax exempt municipal bonds; full board will have to approve all financing documents; Executive Committee can approve capacity agreements and lease documents.

**Item No. 9 – New Business**

- **KMEA Special Projects Fund Policy Discussion** – Paul reviewed the Special Projects Fund Policy and presented long-term and short-term options for use of the funds. Discussion was held on same.

Following discussion, staff was directed to bring back additional information related to Mid-States land/facility purchase options.

Jonathan Mitchell made a motion to authorize up to \$40,000 to be spent to build a training trailer. The motion was seconded by Mike Muirhead and carried unanimously.

**Item No. 10 – Executive Session to Discuss Personnel Matters**

Jonathan Mitchell made a motion for Executive Committee members and Paul Mahlberg to go into executive session for 15 minutes beginning at 2:34 p.m. to discuss personnel matters, with the open meeting to resume at 2:49 p.m. The motion was seconded by Mike Muirhead and carried unanimously. The executive session ended at 2:49 p.m. No action was taken.

Mike Muirhead made a motion for Executive Committee members and Paul Mahlberg to go into executive session for an additional 5 minutes beginning at 2:49 p.m. to discuss personnel matters, with the open meeting to resume at 2:54 p.m. The motion was seconded by Jonathan Mitchell and carried unanimously. The executive session ended at 2:54 p.m. No action was taken.

Jonathan Mitchell made a motion to approve Resolution No. 228, as amended. The motion was seconded by Mike Muirhead and carried unanimously.

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

Mike Muirhead suggested that KMEA help out with the 2023 APPA Lineworkers Rodeo that will be held March 31-April 1 in Kansas City, KS. Paul will follow up on this opportunity.

The next Executive Committee meeting will be held at 10:30 a.m., Thursday, January 26, 2023, at the Wamego City Hall, Wamego, KS.

**Item No. 12 – Adjourn Meeting**

The meeting was adjourned at 3:04 p.m.



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Mike Muirhead, Secretary/Treasurer