



**Kansas Municipal Energy Agency**  
**Executive Committee Meeting Minutes**  
**February 23, 2023**

Committee Members	City	Present/ Absent	KMEA Staff/Guests
Rob Culley	Baldwin City	Present	Gerry Bieker
Mike Muirhead	Garden City	Present	Neal Daney
Dustin Bedore*	Goodland	Present	Paul Mahlberg
Ira Harrison	Holton	Present	Tyson McGreer
Bret Glendening*	Osawatomie	Present	Darren Prince*
Dave Hunsaker	Ottawa	Present	Lisa Ferguson
Stacie Eichem	Wamego	Present	Mike Meyer
Jon Quinday	Russell	Present	Terri Pemberton
Jonathan Mitchell*	Hoisington	Present	Brad Mears *
			Mike Schmaderer
			Kayla Schneider
			Dave Sturgeon

*\*Attended virtually via Microsoft Teams*

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

President Jon Quinday called the meeting to order at 10:30 a.m., in McPherson, Kansas. A quorum was present.

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

- **Minutes from the January 4, 2023, and January 26, 2023, Executive Committee Meetings**  
 Ira Harrison moved to approve the minutes of the January 4, 2023, and the January 26, 2023, Executive Committee meetings. The motion was seconded by Mike Muirhead and the motion carried unanimously.
- **Appropriations for January 2023 & Financials for December 2022**  
 Mike Meyer presented the appropriations for January 2023 and the financials for December 2022 for the Agency Operations and for Mid-States Operations. In addition, Mike presented the following items on a “consolidated” basis:

  - KMEA Consolidated Revenue & Expenses for year ending 12/31/2022
  - KMEA Consolidated Net Position as of 12/31/2022
  - KMEA Operating Funds as of 12/31/2022
  - KMEA Consolidated Restricted Funds as of 12/31/2022
  - KMEA Consolidated Customer Deposits as of 12/31/2022

Mike also provided an update on the 2022 audit that is being performed by RubinBrown. Rob Cully made a motion to approve the financials, Mike Muirhead seconded the motion, and the motion was carried unanimously.
- Paul provided a summary of the proposed The Energy Authority (TEA) ARR/TCR Optimization Task Order #3. Mike Muirhead made a motion to approve The Energy Authority (TEA) Task Order #3, Dave Hunsaker seconded the motion, and the motion was carried unanimously.

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

Paul turned it over to Brad Mears (KMU) to provide an update on legislative activities. Brad provided a handout and an update on proposed bills being considered and worked in the Kansas State Legislature.

Paul reminded the Committee of the upcoming APPA Rodeo being hosted by BPU and sponsored in part by KMEA, KMU and KPP. The event needs volunteers and Paul encouraged any committee members able to do so to volunteer, to ensure the success of the event.

Paul briefly spoke about the Kansas Attorney General bringing a lawsuit against Macquarie Gas for price manipulation during Winter Storm Uri in violation of the Commodity Exchange Act.

Paul introduced new administrative assistant, Lisa Ferguson, who started January 31, 2023, and replaced Joni Shadonix.

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

Terri provided an update on the following FERC dockets:

- **Sunflower Depreciation**

The parties have reached a settlement in principle, and we are waiting for the settlement documents from Sunflower. The documents will be reviewed by the intervenors and FERC Staff and then filed with FERC for approval by the end of March.

- **Evergy TFR/GFR dockets**

These dockets are still ongoing. We are currently working on filing for recovery of overcollections dating back to 2018. As a reminder, FERC agreed in part with our arguments and ordered Evergy to refund for the current years but stated the request dating back to 2018 was beyond the scope of the original proceeding. However, FERC noted that a complaint could be filed in a separate docket to recover the overcollection from prior years, which is what we're compiling.

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

Gerry provided updates on the following matters:

- Ongoing Evergy Transmission Rate Issues
- Lineman services: The Western Kansas Line-crew service restructure is almost complete, and several cities have signed up for a much larger project contract. They have approved contracts to complete \$75,000 worth of work over the next three years. This, along with the City of Dighton approving their contract renewal to jump \$30,000 per year will allow the program to come much closer to breaking even.
- Osage City: The Osage City line-crew along with the Dighton line-crew have been busy all over the state. The demand for this service continues to grow.

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

Tyson provided updates on the following matters:

- Preparations continue for the KMU Conference in April.
- The annual joint EMP Meeting will be held in Salina this year instead of Kansas City and will take place in June.
- There are plans to conduct KMEA 101 presentations throughout the region.

### **Item No. 7 – Mid-States Update**

- **Demonstration Trailer Update**

Mike Schmaderer met with Evergy about the demonstration trailer. Committee members discussed the potential of the trailer, and the trailer's potential for advertising the presence of KMEA. Mike hopes to have the trailer completed in the next few months.

- **Mid-States Facilities Discussion**

Mike Schmaderer gave an update on a potential land purchase opportunity adjacent to the current Mid-States location that was discussed at the last Executive Committee meeting. The group discussed what funds could be used to purchase the property, the condition of the land, and the need for an environmental study to ensure no environmental concerns are present on the property that would negate the decision to make the purchase. Based on the discussion, a motion was made by Jonathan Mitchell to use special project funds for KMEA to purchase the land for up to \$30,000, plus associated legal and closing costs, subject to an environmental study. The motion was seconded by Ira Harrison. There was no additional discussion, and the motion passed 8 votes for, 1 against. Chairman Jon Quinday, City of Russell, later clarified his vote against was due to the upcoming strategic planning session and likelihood that Mid-States will need an entirely new location.

**Item No. 8 – Old Business**

- Paul reminded committee members there will be a special Executive Committee meeting on March 8, 2023, held virtually via Microsoft Teams, to discuss the financing options on the Caterpillar Generation Project for the City of Oberlin.

**Item No. 9 – New Business**

- Mike Muirhead informed the committee there it is currently difficult to obtain necessary power poles from suppliers. Mike proposed that if other cities are having difficulty obtaining poles as well, that perhaps a bulk order could be made on behalf of multiple cities. KMEA Staff would begin looking into a joint purchasing effort and would proceed with a survey to see what cities would be interested in a joint purchase and what specific types of poles the cities are needing.
- Ira Harrison announced that he is retiring at the end of March 2023.

**Item No. 10 – Discuss and set date, time, and location for the next Executive Committee Meeting**

The next executive Committee meeting will be held at 10:30 a.m., Thursday, March 23, 2023, in McPherson at the KMU Training Center.

**Item No. 11 – Adjourn Meeting**

The meeting was adjourned at 12:42 p.m.



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Mike Muirhead, Secretary/Treasurer