



Kansas Municipal Energy Agency
Executive Committee Meeting Minutes
July 25, 2024

Committee Members	City	Present/ Absent	KMEA Staff/Guests
Jeff Winkler*	Baldwin City	Present	Paul Mahlberg
Mike Muirhead*	Garden City	Present	Terri Pemberton*
Dustin Bedore	Goodland	Present	Gerry Bieker
Chris Lindholm	Lindsborg	Present	Neal Daney*
Bret Glendening*	Osawatomie	Present	Mike Meyer
Dave Hunsaker	Ottawa	Present	Lisa Ferguson*
Jon Quinday	Russell	Present	Brooke Kistler*
Jeff Scott	Stockton	Present	Mike Schmaderer
Stacie Eichem*	Wamego	Present	

**Participated virtually*

Item No. 1 – Call the Meeting to Order

President Jon Quinday called the meeting to order at 10:32 a.m., which was held at the KMU facility in McPherson, KS, and virtually.

Item No. 2 – Seek approval for the following items:

- **Minutes from the June 27, 2024, Executive Committee Meeting**
 President Quinday entertained a motion to approve the minutes from the June 27, 2024, Executive Committee Meeting. Chris Lindholm moved to approve the minutes. The motion was seconded by Dustin Bedore and carried unanimously.
- **Appropriations Report for June 2024**
 Mike Meyer presented the Appropriations Report for June 2024. Dave Hunsaker made a motion to approve the Appropriations Report for the month of June 2024. Jeff Scott seconded the motion, and the motion was carried unanimously.
- **2nd Quarter 2024 Financial Report**
 Mike Meyer presented the 2nd Quarter 2024 Financial Report. Dustin Bedore made a motion to approve the 2nd Quarter 2024 Financial Report. Chris Lindholm seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

Item No. 6 – New Business*

*This portion of New Business was moved up in the line items for discussion sooner as Terri Pemberton had another commitment and had to leave the Executive Committee meeting early.

- **Draft KMEA Artificial Intelligence Policy**
 Terri provided an overview of the proposed AI policy and the considerations she undertook as she drafted it. Discussion ensued as to what should be included in the KMEA AI policy and how often it needs to be updated to keep up with current AI trends. Mike Muirhead made a motion to approve the KMEA AI policy, with the stipulation that the policy be reviewed every 90 days and updated as needed during review. Bret Glendening seconded the motion, and the motion was carried unanimously.

Item No. 3 – Staff Updates

- **Regulatory Update**

Terri Pemberton provided updates on the following topics:

- FERC
- KCC – status of Local Access Charges dockets
- Evergy interconnection and delivery point facility agreements

- **Operations Update**

Gerry Bieker provided updates on the following topics:

- The bond bids (financing) for generation in the Cities of Herington and Garnett have been solicited and will be opened soon.
- There has been a minimum of five additional cities that have expressed interest in getting their own generator and are at some level of interest.
- With the retirement of KMEA employee, Neil Rowland, the operations group is slowly coming together managing the workload.

- **Member Services Update**

On behalf of Tyson McGreer, Paul provided the following updates:

- Planning for the 2024 Annual Conference continues and speakers are being lined up. The format of the conference this year will be slightly different than previous years.
- The 2024 Annual Gathering will be on September 26th and the mood will be more informal this year, with a casual dinner and the opportunity to play pickleball.
- The 2024 Public Power Management nominees, Kristi Northcutt and Halley Roberson, have been notified of their nomination to attend the program.

- **Mid-States Update**

Mike Schmaderer provided updates on the following topics:

- The Dighton line crew recently spent a week in the City of Cimarron, and an additional week in the City of LaCrosse.
- The Osage line crew is staying busy in the City of Pomona.
- Dan White and Nolan White recently spent time replacing poles in the City of Troy.
- The City of Oberlin had a ribbon cutting last week to celebrate the commissioning of their two new CAT generators.
- Generation work in the City of Washington is almost complete.
- Testing will take place in the City of Herington next week.
- The City of Chanute has requested help with a generator installation project.
- The substation project in the City of Morrill is almost complete.
- Substation work is ongoing in the City of Augusta.
- The City of Chapman has requested assistance with their substation project.
- Mike took a moment to recognize Jeff Leger for his hard work on the completion of several projects lately.

Item No. 4 – General Manager’s Report

Paul Mahlberg provided updates on the following topics:

- Evergy is looking to charge for meter agent services for meters that sit outside their transmission zone. KMEA currently has five meters that meet those criteria (Cities of Jetmore and Sterling.) This cost is not affordable for the cities. We have been looking at other options including bringing that service into our 24/7 operations group, but Midwest Energy is also looking at providing this service at no additional cost.
- Several KMEA staff and Executive Committee members attended the ribbon cutting in the City of Oberlin last week to celebrate the commissioning of their two new CAT generators.

- KDOT is widening a highway near the City of Jetmore soon, and the transmission line that services Jetmore will need to take a 2-week outage. Staff have developed a solution by bringing in a mobile Caterpillar generation unit for the city to use that will supplement the one generator they already have.
- The meeting with Sunflower CEO has been rescheduled to August 7th.

Item No. 5 – Old Business

- Priority Power Solar Discussion
Paul mentioned that it has been determined that a master services agreement with Priority Power is not needed after all. KMEA will continue to work with member cities that are interested in pursuing solar opportunities with Priority Power.

Item No. 6 – New Business (continued from earlier New Business discussion)

- Establishment of Awards Nominating Committee
The 2024 Awards Nominating Committee has been formed and includes past winners Dean Cordes and Larry Berry, as well as Jeff Scott.

President Quinday announced that he will be retiring effective September 1, 2024, but he plans to keep fulfilling his role as President of the Executive Committee until his term ends in October.

Item No. 7 – Discuss and set date, time, and location for the next Executive Committee Meeting

The next Executive Committee meeting will take place on August 29th at 10:30 a.m. in Russell, KS.

Item No. 8 – Adjourn Meeting

The meeting was adjourned at 11:54 a.m.



Stacie Eichem, Secretary/Treasurer