



**Kansas Municipal Energy Agency**  
**Executive Committee Meeting Minutes**  
**September 26, 2024**

<b>Committee Members</b>	<b>City</b>	<b>Present/ Absent</b>	<b>KMEA Staff/Guests</b>
Jeff Winkler	Baldwin City	Present	Paul Mahlberg
Mike Muirhead	Garden City	Present	Gerry Bieker
Dustin Bedore	Goodland	Present	Neal Daney
Chris Lindholm	Lindsborg	Present	Mike Meyer
Bret Glendening	Osawatomie	Present	Lisa Ferguson
Dave Hunsaker	Ottawa	Present	Tyson McGreer
Jon Quinday	Russell	Absent	Dan White
Jeff Scott	Stockton	Present	Manny Milbers – Beloit
Stacie Eiche	Wamego	Present	

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

Vice-President Mike Muirhead called the meeting to order at 12:31 p.m., which was held in at the KMEA office in Overland Park.

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

- **Minutes from the August 29, 2024, Executive Committee Meeting**  
 Vice-President Muirhead entertained a motion to approve the minutes from the August 29, 2024, Executive Committee Meeting. Chris Lindholm made a motion to approve the minutes. The motion was seconded by Dave Hunsaker and carried unanimously.
- **Appropriations Report for August 2024**  
 Mike Meyer presented the Appropriations Report for August 2024. Bret Glendening made a motion to approve the Appropriations Report for August 2024. Dustin Bedore seconded the motion, and the motion was carried unanimously.

**Item No. 3 - 2025 Budget Recommendation**

- Paul Mahlberg gave a presentation on the proposed 2025 KMEA Budget and provided a summary comparison of the 2024 budget and the proposed 2025 budget, including detailed information on the Agency budget, projects budget and the Mid-States budget. Dave Hunsaker made a motion to recommend the proposed 2025 KMEA Budget as presented to the full board for approval at the Board meeting in October. Chris Lindholm seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

Paul and Tyson McGreer led a brief discussion about potential fee structure to utilize for electric and gas rate studies done by KMEA in the future. Discussion ensued. Staff will provide further options at a later meeting of this committee for their consideration.

#### **Item No. 4 – Staff Updates**

- **Regulatory Update**

On behalf of Terri Pemberton, Paul Mahlberg provided updates on several regulatory items including FERC, KCC, and KMG Winter Storm Uri.

- **Operations Update**

Gerry Bieker provided updates on the following topics:

- There are multiple generation projects in process. The Cities of Cimarron and Moran are doing their own financing, and the Cities of Girard and Neodesha will be financed through KMEA.
- A back-up generator for the KMEA office will hopefully be installed by the end of the year.

- **Member Services Update**

Tyson McGreer provided the following updates:

- Registration for the 2024 Annual Conference on October 23-24 is now open. The format will be slightly different this year than in past years, and KMEA is soliciting feedback from members on their opinion of the new format.
- Several cities have moved forward on the free Solar Opportunity Analysis by Priority Power.
- A meeting has been scheduled with Stella Jones to explore a pole inventory yard in Kansas.
- Working with the City of Altamont on a pole purchasing package.

- **Mid-States Update**

On behalf of Mike Schmaderer, Dan White provided updates on the following topics:

- The Dighton crew has been working in the Cities of Russell and Moundridge this week.
- The Osage crew has been working in the City of Troy this week.
- The Dighton and Osage crews worked together on a line project in the City of Enterprise recently.
- The generation unit in the City of Baldwin City is expected to go online in November.
- The foundations have been completed in the City of Neodesha for their new generation units.
- A temporary generator has been set up in the City of Jetmore.
- Substation work in the City of Augusta is nearing completion.
- The City of Chapman is looking for a site for their new substation.

#### **Item No. 5 – General Manager’s Report**

Paul Mahlberg provided updates on the following topics:

- Annual Audit Discussion - KMG recently approved moving to a cash-basis audit. KMG Executive Committee members also posed a question of how long the agency had been using Rubin Brown as their auditor and when an RFP was last done. Mike Meyer put together a timeline of audit providers since 2011 and found an RFP was performed last in 2016. Discussion ensued as to whether the KMEA Executive committee would prefer to continue using Rubin Brown for their audit services or do another RFP. The consensus was to stay with Rubin Brown for the time being and consider an RFP at a future date.
- KACM Proposal on Scholarship – Paul Mahlberg listed the following terms suggested by KACM and asked for feedback from the Executive Committee:
  - KMEA Rising Star Scholarship presented annually
  - 3 yr commitment to KACM by KMEA
  - A donation of \$1,000 annually to KACM
  - A KMEA representative will be on the Awards Committee

- Recipient of the scholarship must be an employee of a KMEA member city and a member of KACM

Discussion ensued with the consensus that these terms were agreeable, and the Executive Committee would like to pursue this opportunity. Paul will work with KACM to get it set up.

- Paul, Brad Mears, Colin Hanson and Kimberly Svalty recently attended the SPP conference in Washington D.C. and visited staff of all the Kansas congress folks. In addition, the group had lunch with Derek Schmidt.
- The nominating committee for the KMEA Executive Committee will meet on Monday.

#### **Item No. 6 – Old Business**

- **Mid States New Facility Update**

The previously favored site has been sold to another buyer, the process is ongoing to gather information about other sites that are available. We have enlisted a local Salina attorney to help with the selection and negotiations of a site.

- **NextEra Solar Power Purchase Agreement Update**

Negotiations on a PPA are still ongoing with a target for completion by October 15. NextEra has agreed to add an additional 15 megawatts to the existing 75 megawatts for KMEA. Upon completion of the finalized contract, a special meeting with the KMEA Executive Committee will be scheduled to seek approval.

- **Girard CAT Generation Project**

The City of Girard's city council approved a contract with KMEA for a three-megawatt CAT generator, with the provision that KMEA will finance the project. Mike Muirhead entertained a motion to recommend the City of Girard's CAT financing project go to the full board for approval with the following parameters:

- Maximum finance amount not to exceed \$4 million
- Maximum interest rate not to exceed 7%
- Maximum term not to exceed 25 years

Dustin Bedore made a motion to recommend the City of Girard's CAT financing project go to the full board for approval with the latter mentioned parameters. Jeff Winkler seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

#### **Item No. 7 – New Business**

None.

#### **Item No. 8 – Executive Session to discuss personnel matters**

Stacie Eichem made a motion to go into Executive Session for 15 minutes to discuss personnel matters starting at 2:05 p.m. and ending at 2:20 p.m. Dave Hunsaker seconded the motion, and the motion was carried unanimously. No action was taken.

#### **Item No. 9 – Discuss and set date, time, and location for the next Executive Committee Meeting**

Due to the Annual Conference and board meetings taking place on October 23-24, there will be no Executive Committee meeting in October. The next Executive Committee Meeting will take place on Wednesday, November 21, 2024, at 10:30 a.m. at the KMU Facility in McPherson.

#### **Item No. 10 – Adjourn Meeting**

The meeting was adjourned at 2:29 p.m.



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Dustin Bedore, Secretary/Treasurer