



Kansas Municipal Energy Agency  
 Executive Committee Meeting Minutes  
 January 23, 2025

Committee Members	City	Present/ Absent	KMEA Staff/Guests
Jeff Winkler*	Baldwin City	Present	Paul Mahlberg
Manny Milbers	Beloit	Present	Tyson McGreer
Mike Muirhead	Garden City	Present	Brooke Kistler*
Dustin Bedore	Goodland	Present	Mike Meyer*
Jonathan Mitchell	Hoisington	Present	Neal Daney*
Jeremy Johnson	Moundridge	Absent	Lisa Ferguson*
Bret Glendening*	Osawatomie	Present	Tom Saitta*
Dave Hunsaker*	Ottawa	Present	Terri Pemberton*
Stacie Eichem	Wamego	Present	Darren Prince*
			Sam Mills
			Paul Lampe
			Mike Schmaderer
			James Remley

\*Participated virtually

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

President Mike Muirhead called the meeting to order at 10:30 a.m., which was held in McPherson, KS.

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

- **Minutes from December 19, 2024, Executive Committee Meeting**  
 President Mike Muirhead entertained a motion to approve the minutes from the December 19, 2024, Executive Committee Meeting. Jonathan Mitchell made a motion to approve the minutes of the December 19, 2024, Executive Committee Meeting. The motion was seconded by Dustin Bedore and carried unanimously.
- **Appropriations Report for December 2024**  
 Mike Meyer presented the Appropriations Report for December 2024. Jonathan Mitchell made a motion to approve the Appropriations Report for December 2024. Manny Milbers seconded the motion, and the motion was carried unanimously.

Mike also mentioned that the new Derrick Digger truck has been purchased for the Osage City/Pomona line crew for \$279,000. This purchase was approved by the Executive Committee at last month’s meeting, not to exceed \$300,000. Mike also said that he is in the process of getting a lockbox from UMB bank. Once initiated, all check payments to KMEA will go directly to the lockbox which will result in a more streamlined deposit process that eliminates unnecessary risks and potentially allows for more deposit interest.

### **Item No. 3 – Staff Updates**

- **Regulatory Update**

Terri Pemberton provided updates on various Evergy dockets at FERC and the KCC, as well as SPP dockets at FERC, and an update on the Winter Storm Uri lawsuits.

- **Operations Update**

Tom Saitta said a winter event last weekend resulted in a temporary electric price increase, prices recovered quickly, and supply remained stable throughout. He also mentioned that heavy snow two weeks ago caused the roads around the KMEA office to become temporarily impassible and created travel issues for our operators. The KMEA office is still working on getting a back-up generator installed and should have a clearer timeline and cost estimate within two months. Lastly, he said SPP put together a committee to discuss non-jurisdictional behind-the-meter generation and KMEA is taking part in those discussions, along with KPP and others.

- **Member Services Update**

Tyson McGreer shared that KMEA is working with the City of Seneca on a new substation and generation units. He also provided an update on Community Solar grants with regards to tax credits and the changes occurring within the new presidential administration, and said planning for the Joint EMP event in June is underway.

- **Mid-States Update**

Mike Schmaderer introduced a new Mid-States employee, James Remley, who attended the meeting. Mike also shared updates related to the Dighton and Osage City line crews and provided updates on several generator and substation projects for various cities including Baldwin City, Neodesha, Osborne, Wamego, Chapman, Moran and Colby.

### **Item No. 4 – General Manager’s Report**

Paul Mahlberg provided an update on some recent restructuring of KMEA staff due to Gerry Bieker retiring last month. Tom Saitta has been promoted to Managing Director, Electric Operations. Paul Lampe is moving laterally into Tom’s previous position as Director, Electric Operations (24/7 operators will now report to Paul). Tyson McGreer has been promoted to Director of Member Services and KMEA plans to hire a new employee to help with the Member Services division. Additionally, Terri Pemberton will now head the Regulatory and Rates division and Darren Prince will report to Terri, with plans to hire a new employee that will report to Darren to help in the Rates and Regulatory division.

Additionally, Paul shared that the City of Hugoton is thinking about selling their system due to a fire that occurred last November that resulted in a lineman fatality and destroyed equipment. KMEA will be visiting the city to evaluate their system and perform a rate study to help the city decide whether to keep or sell their system.

Paul also mentioned that he, Terri Pemberton and Mike Muirhead will be attending the APPA Legislative Rally in Washington, D.C. in February.

Neal Daney provided a brief update on the GRDA extension and Large-Scale Solar. GRDA documents are still in the process of being approved by cities with a March 31, 2025, deadline for approval. The Large-Scale Solar project is looking for one more off-taker before moving forward but has now received all agreements back from cities. In total, thirty-four cities are participating.

**Item No. 5 – Old Business**

- **Update on Mid-States Proposed New Facility**

Sam Mills provided an update on the land that KMEA is in the process of purchasing for the site of the new Mid-States Facility. Phase 1 of the environmental review is finished but Sam recommends proceeding with Phase 2 assessment to check for air, groundwater, and soil contamination. A survey was also recently completed, and initial meetings were conducted with an architect and an engineer. KMEA plans to meet with additional architects and engineers before hiring any contractors.

**Item No. 6 – New Business**

None.

**Item No. 7 – Executive Session, if necessary**

None.

**Item No. 8 – Discuss and set date, time, and location for the next Executive Committee Meeting**

The next Executive Committee Meeting will take place on Thursday, February 20, 2025, at 10:30 a.m. in Wamego.

**Item No. 9 – Adjourn Meeting**

The meeting was adjourned at 11:56 a.m.



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Dustin Bedore, Secretary/Treasurer