



Kansas Municipal Energy Agency
Executive Committee Meeting Minutes
February 20, 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 | Present | Lisa Ferguson |
| Bret Glendening | Osawatomie | Present | Terri Pemberton |
| Dave Hunsaker | Ottawa | Present | Sam Mills |
| Stacie Eichen | Wamego | Present | Mike Schmaderer |

Item No. 1 – Call the Meeting to Order

President Mike Muirhead called the meeting to order at 10:30 a.m., which was held virtually via Microsoft Teams.

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

- **Minutes from January 23, 2025, Executive Committee Meeting**
President Mike Muirhead entertained a motion to approve the minutes of the January 23, 2025, Executive Committee Meeting. Jonathan Mitchell made a motion to approve the minutes of the January 23, 2025, Executive Committee Meeting. The motion was seconded by Manny Milbers and carried unanimously.
- **Appropriations Report for January 2025**
Mike Meyer presented the Appropriations Report for January 2025. Bret Glendening made a motion to approve the Appropriations Report for January 2025. Dave Hunsaker seconded the motion, and the motion was carried unanimously.
- **Financial Results for End-of-Year December 2024**
Mike Meyer presented the Financial Results for End-of-Year December 2024. Jonathan Mitchell made a motion to approve the Financial Results for End-of-Year December 2024. Manny Milbers seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

Item No. 3 – Staff Updates

- **Regulatory Update**
Terri Pemberton provided updates on various Evergy dockets at FERC and the KCC and mentioned that Black Hills Energy has filed a rate case and KMGa may reach out to member cities that have special contract rates to mitigate any potential impact of this action. Terri also provided an update on Winter Storm Uri related to the AG and class-action lawsuits and said the AG has dismissed its federal and state litigation.

- **Operations Update**

On behalf of Tom Saitta, Paul Mahlberg provided the Operations update and mentioned that recent Winter Storm "Kingston" which took place over the past several days resulted in SPP setting a new winter peak that surpassed the previous winter. Paul reported that a number of units were dispatched and performed well during the storm. He also mentioned that an SPP update on planning reserve margins is currently making its way through committees and will increase the planning reserve margins even more.

Paul also shared that Tom and Tyson McGreer are working to provide power supply to the Cities of Wathena and Alma. Currently, both cities are under an all-requirements contract with Evergy that is due to expire before this summer and Evergy has agreed to a one-year extension as the cities evaluate their options. Lastly, work continues on the backup generator for the KMEA office with a drawing of the proposed site having been submitted to the City of Overland Park for approval.

- **Member Services Update**

Tyson McGreer said the dates of June 24th-25th have been chosen for the 2025 Joint EMP and the schedule will include golf, meetings, and a Royals game. In addition, the APPA National Conference will take place June 9th-11th in New Orleans and Tyson offered his assistance with booking hotel rooms if any Executive Committee members or their staff were interested in attending. He also shared that KMEA will be putting out a new quarterly newsletter starting in April which will focus on community events & news from member cities, in addition to industry information. Lastly, Tyson shared that he and Neal Daney continue to work with some member cities on community solar projects, although progress on the 40101D grant is currently at a standstill, and the City of Seneca is exploring financing options for new substation & generation work.

- **Mid-States Update**

Mike Schmaderer shared updates related to the Dighton and Osage City line crews with work being completed lately in the Cities of Dighton, Ashland and Garden City and he provided updates on several generator and substation projects for various cities including the Cities of Baldwin City, Neodesha, Osborne, Augusta and Chapman. Mike also mentioned that employee, Broc Scales, has ended his employment with Mid-States for a job opportunity in Wyoming.

Item No. 4 – General Manager's Report

Paul, Terri Pemberton, and Mike Muirhead will be attending the APPA Legislative Rally in Washington D.C. next week. Paul recently had a meeting with Evergy's CEO, David Campbell, and others and said the meeting went well and that Evergy has plans to build more gas plants which could be an opportunity for KMEA to get involved. Paul provided an update on work being done at the KMEA office and said mold remediation was completed but the underlying wall structures in some offices were in worse condition than expected due to water damage. As a result, reconstruction will be more costly and may include some exterior wall sections. Due to this, Paul said KMEA may need to revisit the previously approved budget for office improvements with the Executive Committee, but not until after KMEA receives the cost estimate for the reconstruction. The Spring KMEA Board of Directors meeting will take place Wed., April 23rd in Wichita at the KMU conference, and KMEA, Mid-States and Border States will sponsor a dinner in conjunction with the conference on Thurs., April 24th with details to come.

Item No. 5 – Old Business

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

Sam Mills shared that the Phase 2 assessment of the environmental review to check for air, groundwater, and soil contamination was underway and results of the assessment should be available two to three weeks after the process is completed. KMEA has also selected an architect based on proposals submitted by three companies and has commissioned the selected architect to do a feasibility & discovery study for \$15,000. This will allow staff to provide an update on the design and costs to the Executive Committee. KMEA also submitted a request to the Chamber of Commerce to extend the land purchase by sixty days, which will provide more time to get the due diligence work done.

- **Update on the City of Hugoton**

Staff visited the City of Hugoton last week and met with the Mayor, City Clerk and other city staff to discuss whether the city will sell or keep their system after a fire that occurred last November resulted in a lineman fatality and destroyed equipment. Paul said the meeting went well and that KMEA will be performing a system evaluation, rate study and financial forecast for the city to help them determine the best course of action moving forward.

- **Update on Ninnescah Solar and GRDA**

Neal Daney provided an update on Large-Scale Solar and shared that KCBPU will be the final off-taker for the project. In total, thirty-four cities are participating. NextEra recently added an amendment to safeguard the agreement due to potential changes at the federal level which will eliminate the tax incentives for solar project. This would impact future pricing. Executive Committee members expressed some concern about changes being made to the contract after the cities had already signed and discussion ensued with Paul Mahlberg providing a more detailed explanation of the considerations and reasoning for NextEra's actions. Paul shared that the amendment provides an off-ramp if the price is increased due to Adverse Change in Law. In addition, this price change request can only occur prior to commercial operation and not after. Mike Muirhead made a motion to approve the amendment to the agreement between NEER and KMEA. Jeff Winkler seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

Neal also mentioned the GRDA extension continues to move forward, and two-thirds of agreements are back from cities, with the expectation that more cities will be added in the near future.

Item No. 6 – New Business

- **2024 Audit Update**

Mike Meyer said the KMEA 2024 audit is currently being performed by Rubin & Brown and the audit process should be completed by the end of March.

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 be held on Thursday, April 3, 2025, at 10:30 a.m. in the City of Wamego.

Item No. 9 – Adjourn Meeting

The meeting was adjourned at 11:58 a.m.



Dustin Bedore, Secretary/Treasurer