



## **OPPDU BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

### **BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

**February 16, 2023**

The regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the Omaha Public Power District ("OPPDU" or "District") was held on Thursday, February 16, 2023 at 5:00 p.m. at the Omaha Douglas Civic Center, 1819 Farnam Street, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Legislative Chamber, Omaha, Nebraska and via WebEx audio and video conference.

Present in person at the Civic Center were Directors A. E. Bogner, M. J. Cavanaugh, M. R. Core, S. E. Howard, J. M. Mollhoff, C. C. Moody, M. G. Spurgeon and E. H. Williams. Also present in person were L. J. Fernandez, President and Chief Executive Officer, S. M. Bruckner and T.F. Meyerson of the Fraser Stryker law firm, General Counsel for the District, E. H. Lane, Sr. Board Operations Specialist, and other members of the OPPDU Board meeting logistics support staff. Chair E. H. Williams presided and E. H. Lane recorded the minutes. Members of the executive leadership team present in person included: J. M. Bishop, S. M. Focht, T. D. McAreavey, K. S. McCormick, L. A. Olson and B. R. Underwood. Also in attendance as a delegate for T. R. Via was D. D. Buelt, Director, Engineering. K. W. Brown and M. V. Purnell attended via WebEx.

#### ***Board Agenda Item 1: Chair Opening Statement***

Chair Williams gave a brief opening statement, including reminders for using the WebEx audio and video conferencing platform.

#### ***Board Agenda Item 2: Safety Briefing***

J. D. Clark, Manager Protective Services, provided the safety briefing for the Civic Center. President Fernandez provided physical and psychological safety reminders, including current safety focus reminders about: (i) apply direct controls; (ii) utilize pre-job briefs; and (iii) heart health month.

#### ***Board Agenda Item 3: Guidelines for Participation***

Chair Williams then presented the guidelines for the conduct of the meeting and instructions on the public comment process in the room and using WebEx audio and video conferencing features.

#### ***Board Agenda Item 4: Roll Call***

Ms. Lane took roll call of the Board. All members were present in person.

#### ***Board Agenda Item 5: Announcement regarding public notice of meeting***

Ms. Lane read the following:

*"Notice of the time and place of this meeting was publicized by notifying the area news media; by publicizing same in the Omaha World Herald, OPPDU Outlets newsletter, oppd.com and social media; by displaying such notice on the Arcade*

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*Level of Energy Plaza; and by e-mailing such notice to each of the District's Directors on February 10, 2023.*

*A copy of the proposed agenda for this meeting has been maintained, on a current basis, and is readily available for public inspection in the office of the District's Corporate Secretary.*

*Additionally, a copy of the Open Meetings Act is available for inspection on oppd.com and in this meeting room."*

**Board Consent Action Items:**

6. Approval of the January 2023 Meeting Minutes and the February 16, 2023 Agenda
7. SD-1: Strategic Foundation Monitoring Report – Resolution No. 6550
8. SD-6: Safety Monitoring Report – Resolution No. 6551
9. Spring 2023 Transmission Construction – Resolution No. 6552

It was moved and seconded that the Board approve the consent agenda items.

Chair Williams noted the Board discussed the action items during the All Committees meeting held on Tuesday, February 14, 2023.

Chair Williams then asked for public comment. There was no comment from the public in attendance at the meeting or via WebEx.

Thereafter, the vote was recorded as follows: Bogner – Yes; Cavanaugh – Yes; Core – Yes; Howard – Yes; Mollhoff – Yes; Moody – Yes; Spurgeon – Yes; Williams – Yes. The motion carried (8-0).

**Board Agenda Item 10: President's Report**

President Fernandez next presented the following information:

- January Baseload Generation
- January Balancing Generation
- January Renewables
- Energy Education Program Expansion
- Transmission Basics
- Honor Our Community Activities and Events, including:
  - Heat the Streets
- Transmission Basics
- Transmission Reliability Project – 108<sup>th</sup> & Blondo to 123<sup>rd</sup> & Pacific. Mr. Dannie Buelt, OPPD transmission engineer, was asked to provide additional information concerning this project. He emphasized the need to assure safety and maintain system reliability.
- Tree Removal and Trimming
- In Memoriam

**Board Agenda Item 11: Opportunity for comment on other items of District Business**

Chair Williams asked for comments from the public on other items of District business.

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Mr. David Begley, 4611 S. 96<sup>th</sup> Street, Omaha, let the board know the Governor nominated him to serve on the Power Review Board. He also provided written materials that referenced data on worldwide population and Co2 output in relation to Nebraska's population.

Mrs. Barbara Haggert, Lake Candlewood resident for 40 years, expressed her concerns about removal of trees from OPPD's right of way area during a transmission line replacement project near her property in the area from 108<sup>th</sup> & Blondo to 123<sup>rd</sup> and Pacific.

Mr. Kevin Hatcher, 446 S. 126<sup>th</sup> St, expressed his understanding of the transmission line replacement project but stated that he disagrees with the number of trees being removed and offered alternative suggestions regarding the trees.

Ms. Mary Barnette, 105 S. 127<sup>th</sup> Plaza, expressed her concerns of the transmission line replacement project communication to residents. She requested more transparency and compassion regarding the removal of the trees.

Ms. Mary Peck, 206 Court Plaza, empathized with the homeowners but wanted to share her belief that OPPD is an empathetic organization and believes that they took the time to do what is best for the community.

Mr. (unintelligible), 12442 Rose Lane, introduced his high school group, Students for Sustainability, and shared their concern regarding the North Omaha Station and its effects on community members.

Mr. David Corbin, 1002 N. 49<sup>th</sup> Street, Omaha, had listened to the information on growth presented at the All Committees meeting and wanted to make sure OPPD will be promoting energy efficiency with new buildings.

Mr. John Pollack, 1412 N. 35<sup>th</sup> Street, Omaha, pointed out that strong storm winds can do a lot of damage to trees and in turn to power lines, and he provided a weather update.

Ms. Barb Violi, 12442 Deer Hollow Dr., commented on the lack of information she has received regarding the transmission line replacement project and would like more information.

There were no additional comments from the public in attendance at the meeting or via WebEx.

Chair Williams offered CEO Fernandez the opportunity to respond to the public comments regarding the transmission line replacement project.

Mr. Fernandez thanked the public for joining the meeting and reiterated that OPPD is a public power company and encourages the participation of customer owners. He shared history on the transmission line, emphasized OPPD's responsibility to the community to provide reliable service and acknowledged safety is the number one priority. OPPD empathizes with the homeowners and will strive to communicate more effectively in the future.

Chair Williams offered Director Moody the opportunity to respond to the public comments regarding the transmission line replacement project.

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Director Moody thanked the community members who have reached out with their comments and concerns. He thanked the OPPD team for their tireless work in the affected neighborhoods. Director Moody also acknowledged there are learnings from this project which will help in future outreach efforts. This is a safety and reliability issue and therefore a very necessary project, but emphasized the need for compassion and respect.

Director Cavanaugh asked whether Management considered relocation of the existing transmission line. D. D. Buelt responded that relocation was considered, but was not a viable option.

Director Bogner asked if the transmission line could be installed underground. D. D. Buelt responded in the negative, due to factors including cost and maintenance challenges, and stated that Management explored all possibilities when considering the replacement of the transmission line, but ultimately found all other options not to be viable.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:21 p.m.

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*S. M. Focht*  
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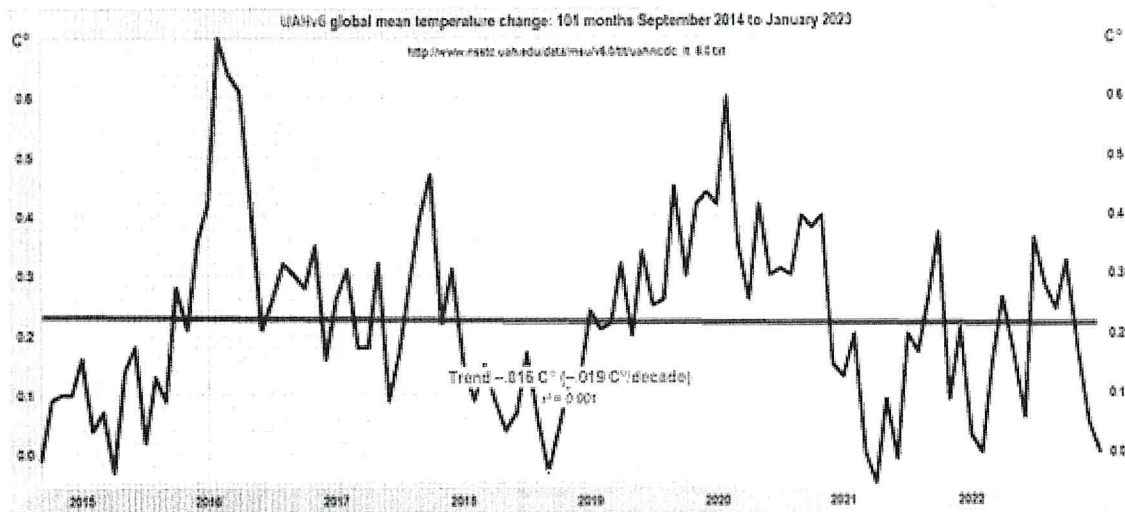
S. M. Focht  
Vice President – Corporate Strategy and  
Governance and Assistant Secretary

DocuSigned by:  
*Erin Lane*  
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E. H. Lane  
Sr. Board Operations Specialist

After 101 months and  
475 billion tons of CO<sup>2</sup>  
Flat temps

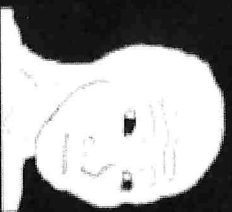
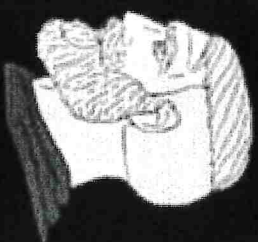




I still believe  
— everything they  
say

They've been wrong  
about literally  
everything so far

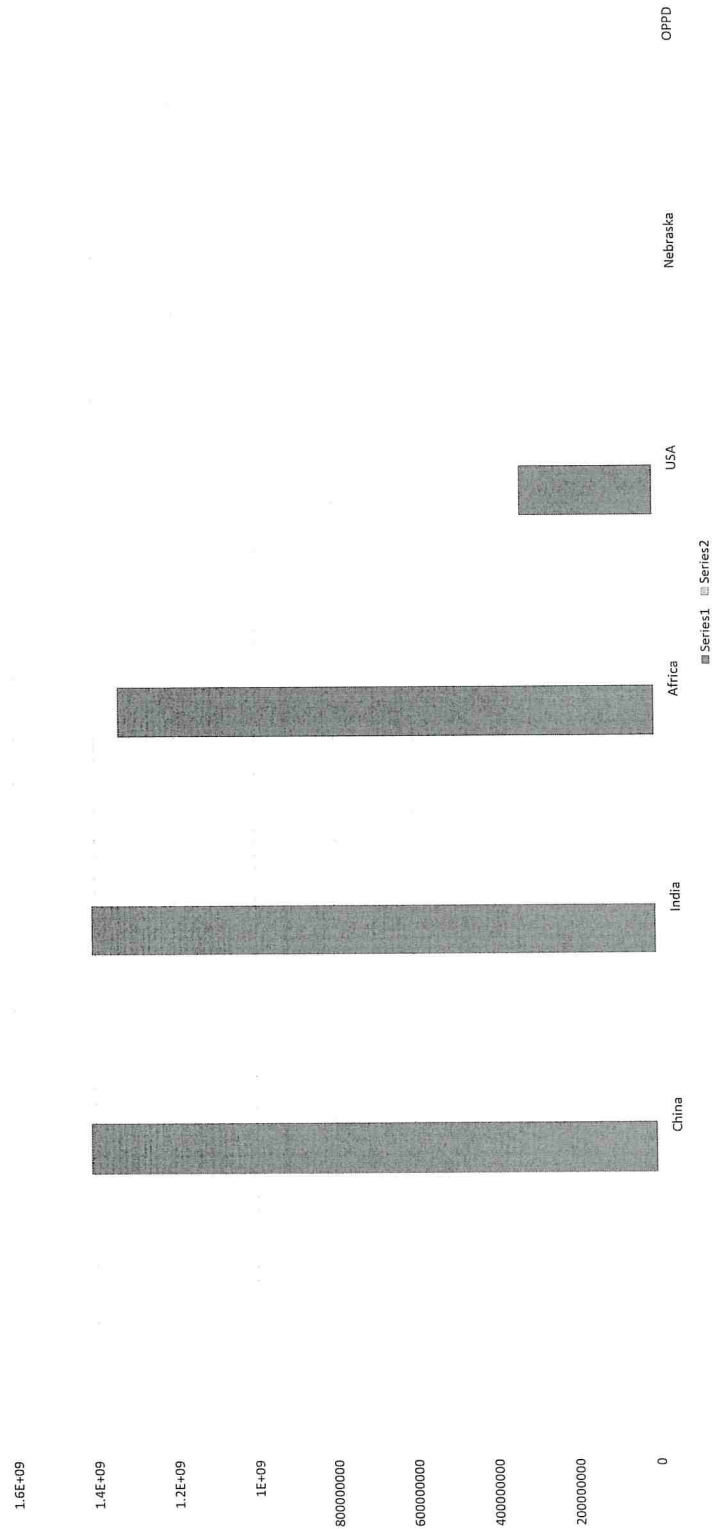
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— ...I still believe  
everything they  
say

China's population	1,412,000,000
India's population	1,408,000,000
Africa's population	1,340,000,000
USA's population	332,000,000
Nebraska's population	1,964,000
OPPD's customers	<b><u>853,000</u></b>

# OPPD v. The World





I've borrowed this portion from the comments of Konstantin Kisin at the Oxford Union debate of last month.

Mr. Kisin is a native of Russia but he now is a comic in England.

Mr. Kisin rightly observed that – assuming that carbon dioxide is causing the planet to warm – the future will be decided by the actions of political leaders in China, India and Africa.

There are millions of poor people in China, India and Africa and they don't care about the climate. What they care about is enough food to eat and cheap and reliable electricity.

Xi Jinping needs to deliver prosperity to China and that's why China is building a new coal-fired power plant every two weeks. **OPPD is irrelevant.**