



**OPPD BOARD OF DIRECTORS**  
**ALL COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES**

**January 14, 2025**

The regular committee meetings of the Board of Directors of the Omaha Public Power District (“OPPD” or “District”) were held in person with public accessibility both in person and via WebEx audio and video conference on Tuesday, January 14, 2025. The meeting opened at 9:00 a.m.

Present in person were A. E. Bogner, M. J. Cavanaugh, M. R. Core, S. E. Howard, J. L. Hudson, C. C. Moody, M. G. Spurgeon and E. H. Williams. Also present in person were L. J. Fernandez, President and Chief Executive Officer, and Messrs. S. M. Bruckner and T. F. Meyerson of the Fraser Stryker law firm, General Counsel for the District. Executive leadership team members present in person included: J. M. Bishop, K. W. Brown, C. V. Fleener, S. M. Focht, G. R. Langel, T. D. McAreavey, M. V. Purnell, B. R. Underwood and T. R. Via. Chair E. H. Williams presided and E. H. Lane, Sr. Board Operations Specialist, recorded the minutes.

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

Chair Williams gave a brief opening statement, including an announcement regarding public notice of meeting, which was publicized by notifying the area news media<sup>1</sup>; by publicizing same in the Omaha World Herald<sup>2</sup>, OPPD Outlets newsletter, oppd.com and social media; by displaying such notice on the Arcade Level of Energy Plaza; and by emailing such notice to each of the District’s Directors on January 10, 2025. He also provided reminders for using the WebEx audio and video conferencing platform. He noted the Board would conduct a closed session to discuss two topics: (i) New Generation and Transmission Update; and (ii) Personnel Update.

***Committee Agenda Item 2: Closed Session***

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<sup>1</sup> News outlets that received OPPD Board meeting notification emails included: 1. KETV; 2. WOWT; 3. KMTV; 4. KPTM; 5. Telemundo Nebraska; 6. Nebraska Public Media (NET-TV); 7. NewsChannel Nebraska; 8. KFAB; 9. KOIL 1290 AM; 10. KIOS 91.5 FM – Nebraska Public Radio (Omaha); 11. Radio Lobo – 97.7 FM (Omaha); 12. Boomer Blair 97.3 FM (Blair); 13. KHUB 1340 AM/KFMT 101.5 FM (Fremont); 14. Sunny 101.3 FM (Falls City); 15. Omaha World Herald; 16. Washington County Enterprise & Blair Pilot Tribune; 17. Lincoln Journal Star; 18. Omaha Daily Record; 19. Omaha Star; 20. Douglas County Post-Gazette; 21. Papillion Times; 22. Bellevue Leader; 23. Midlands Business Journal; 24. Ralston Recorder; 25. Sarpy Guide and News; 26. Pawnee Republican; 27. Tecumseh Chieftain; 28. Ashland Gazette; 29. Wahoo Newspaper; 30. Nebraska City News Press; 31. Cassgram (Cass County online news publication); and 32. Associated Press.

<sup>2</sup> Public notice of meeting was published in the print version of the *Omaha World Herald* newspaper on January 7, 2025, and in the online version from January 7 through January 14, 2025. The public notice was also posted on nepublicnotices.com on January 8.

All Committee Minutes

January 14, 2025

Page 2

At 9:01 a.m. Director Moody moved that the Board go into Closed Session. Director Moody stated as follows:

*I move that the Board go into closed session at this time, 9:01 a.m. to discuss two topics: (i) New Generation and Transmission Update; and (ii) Personnel Update.*

*With respect to the **New Generation and Transmission Update**, a closed session is necessary for the protection of the public interest because the discussion involves sensitive utility infrastructure information, confidential cost information, regulatory matters relating to generation resources, and potential resource acquisition strategies, the disclosure of which would disadvantage the District in future negotiations with potential contractors.”*

*With respect to the **Personnel Update**, a closed session is necessary for prevention of needless injury to the reputation of an individual and such individual has not requested a public meeting.”*

The motion was seconded by Director Cavanaugh.

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

Chair Williams read the following:

*“The motion to go into closed session has passed. This closed session will be limited to two topics: (i) New Generation and Transmission Update; and (ii) Personnel Update. No votes or other board action will be taken.”*

After confirming the Board members, executive leadership team members, OPPD staff subject matter experts, S. M. Bruckner and T. F. Meyerson, General Counsel, and E. H. Lane were present, the WebEx Event was locked to prevent additional attendees from joining. The Board then conducted its closed session discussion of New Generation and Transmission Update and Personnel Update.

At 10:00 a.m., the Board took a break. No further business was discussed. The WebEx Event was unlocked to allow OPPD staff and the public to join.

At 10:12 a.m., a motion was made and seconded to reconvene the meeting in open session.

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

Chair Williams stated:

*“The motion to come out of closed session at 10:14 a.m. is carried. This closed session was limited to discussion regarding two topics: (i) New Generation and Transmission Update; and (ii) Personnel Update. No votes or other board action were taken.*

**Committee Agenda Item 3: Public Session – Board Chair Opening Statement**

## All Committee Minutes

January 14, 2025

Page 3

Chair Williams welcomed members of the public and gave an overview of the meeting agenda and reminders for using the WebEx audio and video conferencing platform. He informed the public that the Board will take public comment at the end of the All Committees meeting. The Board will also take public comments at the Board meeting on Thursday, January 16, 2025 which will be conducted in person at the Omaha Douglas Civic Center at 5:00 p.m. The public may attend in person or remotely via WebEx Events by going to oppd.com.

Chair Williams noted all Board members were present in person, and welcomed new Board member, Director John Hudson. Also present were members of the OPPD executive leadership team and subject matter experts. Additionally, 31 members of the public and OPPD employees joined via WebEx.

### ***Committee Agenda Item 4: Safety Briefing***

Josh Clark, Manager, Protective Services, provided physical safety reminders. L. J. Fernandez, President and CEO, provided psychological safety reminders, including current safety focus reminders about: (i) Slips/Trips/Falls; (ii) Winter Weather Hazards; and (iii) Cold Weather Fire Safety.

### ***Committee Agenda Item 5: Governance Committee***

#### **Governance Committee Chair Report**

Director Bogner reported the Governance Committee did not meet this month.

#### **Governance Committee Charter Revision**

S. M. Focht, Vice President, Corporate Strategy and Governance, presented the Board of Directors with the following information:

- a. The Governance Committee Charter, dated October 17,2024, stipulates that Chair of the Governance Committee will be the preceding Chair of the Board of Directors.
- b. In accordance with Board Policy GP-6: Role of the Board Officers, the Board Chair appoints the Chairs of the Customer and Public Engagement and Systems Management and Nuclear Oversight Committees with approval of the Board. The Finance Committee Charter stipulates the Treasurer of the Board of Directors will be the Committee Chair
- c. The current Customer and Public Engagement Committee and System Management and Nuclear Oversight Committee Charters both stipulate that the Committee will be appointed in accordance with Bylaws, Board Policy GP-6: Role of the Board Officers, and the recommendations of the Governance Committee.
- d. The current Governance Committee Charter requirement could create unnecessary challenges in identifying available leadership, limit opportunities for other qualified committee members to assume the chair role.
- e. The proposed Charter revision strives to enhance the Governance Committee's adaptability and align with governance best practices by reducing structural constraints that limit leadership opportunities.

The Governance Committee recommends Board approval of the charter as outlined in Exhibit A..

Board was scheduled to vote on this at the Board meeting on January 16.

All Committee Minutes

January 14, 2025

Page 4

Supporting Data

Datasheet

Exhibit A

Resolution

**Election of Board Officers**

Director Williams, Board Chair, presented the following information to support the election of Board Officers for 2025.

- a. In accordance with Article I, Section 2, of the District's Bylaws, the Chair of the Board, the Vice Chair of the Board, the Secretary and the Treasurer of the District shall be elected by the Board, from among its members, at its regular January meeting. Such officers shall serve for a term of one year and until the election of their successors, and may be removed from office during such term only by the affirmative vote of not less than five Directors at a regular meeting of the Board or a special meeting called for that purpose.
- b. The Board proposes to elect the slate of officers listed on Exhibit A, effective January 16, 2025. Such officers shall serve for a term of one year and until the election of their successors or removal from office.

Elect officers of the Board for 2025, as listed on Exhibit A, effective as of January 16, 2025, for a term of one year and until the election of their successor or removal from office

Board was scheduled to vote on this at the Board meeting on January 16.

Supporting Data

Datasheet

Exhibit A

Resolution

**Board Standing Committee Assignments**

Director Williams, Board Chair, presented the following information to support Board of Directors concurrence of the Standing Committees assignments for 2025.

- a. In accordance with Article III, Section 1, of the District's Bylaws, the Chair of the Board will appoint two or more Directors to each Standing Committee established in the Bylaws.
- b. The District Bylaws specify that the Board of Directors must concur with the Standing Committee assignments.

Obtain OPPD Board of Director concurrence of the 2025 Standing Committee assignments listed on Exhibit A.

Board was scheduled to vote on this at the Board meeting on January 16.

Supporting Data

Datasheet

Exhibit A

Resolution

## All Committee Minutes

January 14, 2025

Page 5

### **Standing Committee Annual Reports for 2024**

S. M. Focht, Vice President, Corporate Strategy and Governance, presented the Board of Directors with the following report to confirm that responsibilities described in the Standing Committee charters have been fulfilled:

- a. On February 1, 2009, the Board of Directors adopted the standing committee charters.
- b. In compliance with the charters, each Board committee completes an annual evaluation of its performance and shall submit an annual report to the Board regarding the evaluation, confirming that all responsibilities described in the Charter have been fulfilled.
- c. Each Committee has reviewed its performance, resulting in the Standing Committee Annual Reports for 2024 attached as Exhibit A through Exhibit E.

The Governance Committee recommends that the Board accept the standing committee annual reports for 2024 as shown in the attached Exhibit A through Exhibit E as evidence of the performance of each committee's accountabilities.

Board was scheduled to vote on this at the Board meeting on January 16.

#### **Supporting Data**

Datasheet

Exhibit A - E

Resolution

### ***Committee Agenda Item 6: Customer and Public Engagement Committee***

#### **Customer and Public Engagement Committee Chair Report**

Director Howard reported the Customer and Public Engagement Committee met on January 6 via WebEx videoconference. A copy of the agenda for that meeting was made available in the All Committee meeting materials for the Board to review. The committee discussed: (i) Safety Briefing; (ii) Prior Month Pre-Committee Action Items; (iii) Product and Service Update; (iv) Legislative Update; (v) 2024 Annual Committee Report; and (vi) Summary of Meeting.

#### **Supporting Data**

Agenda

#### **Product and Service Update**

B. E. Adams, Director, Product Development and Marketing, presented the following report to provide the Board of Directors with an update on OPPD's products and services, as well as marketing efforts planned for 2025.

OPPD is engaging customers in product partnership for resource adequacy, using and establishing programs that help reduce, flex, or produce energy across the service territory.

- a. OPPD launches new products and services on a regular basis, and the end of 2024 saw a handful of new business-focused products go live.

## All Committee Minutes

January 14, 2025

Page 6

- b. OPPD, in partnership with the State of Nebraska as well as local banks, has a Dollar and Energy Savings Loan Program to provide low-interest loans for energy-saving upgrades. In December OPPD doubled the funds made available for this program.
- c. OPPD regularly promotes products and services for customer awareness and use. Customers include both residential and commercial. In the coming year, OPPD will strive to engage these customers effectively, improving the individual customer experience as well as benefiting all customer-owners of OPPD.

### Supporting Data

Datasheet

Presentation

### **Legislative and Regulatory Update**

S. Voyles provided an update to the Board of Directors on 2025 state and federal legislative matters, local government affairs and regulatory matters.

- a. Nebraska's 109th Legislature 1st session began on January 8, 2025.
- b. The 119th Congress began on January 3, 2025 and is expected to end January 3, 2027.

### Supporting Data

Datasheet

Presentation

*The Board took a break at 11:10 a.m. and reconvened at 11:20 a.m.*

### ***Committee Agenda Item 7: Finance Committee***

#### **Finance Chair Report**

Director Spurgeon reported the Finance Committee did not meet this month.

#### **Pledged Securities**

J. A. Petruilis, Manager, Treasury Debt and Investments presented the following information to report the District's deposit balances held at financial institutions are sufficiently guaranteed.

- a. Nebraska statutes require that District balances held at financial institutions in excess of Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation ("FDIC") limits are sufficiently guaranteed with pledged securities.
- b. Exhibit A identifies financial institutions which have District funds on deposit and separately lists those financial institutions with balances above and below the FDIC limits.
- c. The District and its financial institutions monitor balances on a daily basis to ensure that sufficient levels of pledged securities are in place.

### Supporting Data

Datasheet

Exhibit A

All Committee Minutes

January 14, 2025

Page 7

***Committee Agenda Item 8: System Management & Nuclear Oversight Committee***

**System Management & Nuclear Oversight Committee Chair Report**

Director Moody reported the System Management & Nuclear Oversight Committee met on January 2 via WebEx videoconference. A copy of the agenda for the meeting was made available in the All Committee meeting materials for the Board to review. The committee discussed: (i) Safety Briefing; (ii) Prior Month Pre-Committee Action Items; (iii) 2024 Annual Committee Report Review; (iv) Nuclear Decommissioning Project Update; (v) Electric Vehicle Planning; (vi) New Generation Project Updates; (vii) Board Work Plan – Systems Committee Items; (viii) Summary of Meeting.

**Supporting Data**

Agenda

**Generation Cold Weather Preparedness**

R. A. Gerdt, Director of Operations, presented the following report to provide an update on internal preparation activities and external efforts, towards ensuring winter readiness at OPPD's Generating Station facilities.

Extreme cold weather events have increasingly challenged and impacted regional utilities' ability to generate and deliver reliable electrical service to customers. Increasing frequencies of cold weather events and reduced margin on the bulk electric system in recent years has necessitated action by the electric industry.

As a part of OPPD's System Weather Hardening initiative, the following is an update on OPPD's continued efforts towards Generation Cold Weather Preparedness for this winter season. The cold weather project teams within OPPD have:

- a. Improved processes and procedures using lessons learned captured during Winter Storms Uri, Elliott and Gerri.
- b. Completed the approved, physical modifications to generating stations to harden systems, improve operations and increase reliability in cold temperatures.
- c. Met and exceeded regulatory standards for extreme cold preparedness and operations.
- d. Enhanced and performed station level preventative maintenance routines, including thousands of station level tasks.
- e. Benchmarked and collaborated with neighboring utilities, built relationships with key river stakeholders, and increased awareness of utility risks at state and federal levels.

**Supporting Data**

Datasheet

Presentation

***Committee Agenda Item 9: Other Business***

**Confirmation of Board Meeting Agenda**

## All Committee Minutes

January 14, 2025

Page 8

The Board members reviewed the agenda for the Board meeting on Thursday, January 16, 2025. The meeting will be conducted in person at the Omaha Douglas Civic Center, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Legislative Chamber, at 5:00 p.m. The public may attend in person or remotely via WebEx audio and video conference.

### **Review of Board Work Plan**

The Board reviewed changes to the board work plan since the December board meeting.

### **New Generation and Transmission Update**

S. L. McGuire, Sr. Director, Operations Support and J. E. Lang, Director Generation Strategy and Origination, provided an update on the large number of bulk electric system projects that are advancing through the planning, engineering, construction, and commissioning phases of their respective project lifecycles.

- a. Standing Bear Lake Station: For the approximate 150MW reciprocating internal combustion engine (RICE) facility in Douglas County, Nebraska, the commissioning activities are advancing through finalization with the expectation to reach operations in February 2025.
- b. Turtle Creek Station: For the approximate 450MW simple cycle combustion turbine (CT) facility in Sarpy County, Nebraska, the commissioning activities are advancing through finalization with expectation to reach operations in February 2025.
- c. Renewable Energy Resource Facilities:
  - i. Solar
    - a. K Junction Solar - Project development efforts continue for the potential 310MW K Junction solar project in York County, Nebraska.
    - b. Pierce County Energy Center - Contracts have been executed for a new 420MW solar/170MW battery facility in Pierce County, Nebraska, dependent on results of various items including the Southwest Power Pool Interconnection Study and firm network transmission study. County Road Construction and Site Civil began 4th quarter 2024.
    - c. Solar Corner Grant - Project that is intended to utilize low yielding agriculture land in the corner of a center pivot irrigation field and install a one-time solar array. This project is through a Nebraska Environment Trust grant and is estimated to be in commercial operation in 2027.
- d. Energy Storage: Pierce County Energy Center materially satisfies the required storage volumes in SD-9 but the feasibility study at North Omaha continues. Feasibility study in progress to potentially deploy energy storage at the North Omaha Station. Results expected 1<sup>st</sup> quarter 2025.
- e. Cass County Station Units 3, 4 and 5 and Turtle Creek Station Unit 3 – Dual Fuel Combustion Turbines: Approximately 900MW simple cycle combustion turbines (CT) will be constructed between Turtle Creek Station and Cass County Station. Contracts with Siemens Energy have been executed for four combustion turbines to be constructed at the sites. In addition to the combustion turbine contracts, the Engineer, Procure & Construct contracts have also been executed.



All Committee Minutes

January 14, 2025

Page 9

- f. Cass County Station Units 1 and 2 Dual Fuel Conversion – Contracts have been executed with Siemens to complete the dual fuel conversion retrofit of Cass County Siemens Units 1 and 2. Responses to OPPD’s RFQ for an EPC vendor have been received and reviewed. Provide update on the EPC sourcing process.
  
- g. North Omaha Station Transition – The burners required for North Omaha Station Unit 5 conversion to natural gas are in shipment from Europe. Partial installation of fans to support fuel conversion has been completed.

Supporting Data

Datasheet

Presentation

**Opportunity for Public Comment on Items of District Business**

Chair Williams asked for comments from the public in attendance on items of District business. There were no comments.

Chair Williams asked for comments from members of the public on WebEx. There was one comment.

David Corbin, 1002 N. 49<sup>th</sup> St, representing the Nebraska Sierra Club, provided comments on the product and service update.

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

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 12:10 p.m.

Signed by:

*S. M. Focht*

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

DocuSigned by:

*Erin H. Lane*

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E. H. Lane  
Sr. Board Operations Specialist