

Wyoming Energy Authority (WEA)
December 08, 2022
PUBLIC BOARD MEETING
7:00 am MT
Virtual

Zoom Meeting link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85822060525>

A regular public meeting of the Wyoming Energy Authority was convened at the above time. The meeting was held in-person and also by simultaneous video and conference call. Presiding was Paul Ulrich, Chairman of the Wyoming Energy Authority.

Roll-call, Establish Quorum, Approve Agenda

Ch. Ulrich noted, without objection or comment, that a quorum of the voting members was present and that the meeting was properly noticed. Meeting was called to order at 7:06 a.m.

Name	Position	Present	Absent
Paul Ulrich	Chair, Voting Member	X	
Wendy Hutchinson	Vice-Chair, Voting Member		X
Wanda Burget	Secretary, Voting Member		X
Mark Stege	Voting Member	X	
Donna Lawrence	Voting Member		X
Ken Miller	Voting Member	X	
Kara Choquette	Voting Member	X	
Randall Luthi	Ex-Officio, Non-Voting Member, WY Gov's Office	X	
Holly Krutka	Ex-Officio, Non-Voting Member, UW SER	X	
Lon Whitman	Ex-Officio, Non-Voting Member, UW EORI	X	
Josh Dorrell	Ex-Officio, Non-Voting Member, WY Bus Council	X	
Tom Kropatsch	Ex-Officio, Non-Voting Member, WOGCC	X	
Glen Murrell	Executive Director, WEA	X	
Jami Blosmo	Accounting Manager, WEA	X	
Kaeci Daniels	Program Coordinator, WEA		X
Anja Bendel	Program Director, WEA		X
John Masterson	Counsel to WEA		X
Pat Tolley	Counsel to WEA		X
Honora Kerr	3Elephants – PR/Comms Consultant to WEA	X	

The meeting was open to the public and attended.

Opening Comments

Ch. Ulrich welcomed participants to the meeting.

Approve Consent Agenda Items Minutes

- MOTION: Move to approve agenda of the December 08, 2022 meeting. Miller/Choquette. Approved by acclamation.
- MOTION: Move to approve minutes from the meeting held November 10, 2022. Choquette/Miller. Approved by acclamation.

Auditor's Report – Brandy Marrou MHP

- Presentation by Brandy Marrou – MHP. Audit committee recommends approval.
- Mitigation actions for findings was discussed.
- MOTION: To approve annual audit. Stege/Miller. Passed unanimously.

Director's report – Murrell

- Permitting Guides
 - No updates
- Hydrogen
 - Coal to Hydrogen RFP closed, review complete, approval received from ERC to fund BHE project (11/18). Public hearing took place 12/2. Funding agreement and Public Benefit Statement now in process.
 - Western Interstate Hydrogen Hub (WISHH) full application in process. The redacted concept paper is available on our website.
- SaaS
 - No update.
- Advanced Reactors
 - Nuclear status document complete. Roadmap/strategy doc in final phases
- State Energy Program (SEP)
 - Submitted supplemental budget application on 12/5. Kaeci helped us get across the line.
 - Starting coordinating with various state-wide organizations in preparation for Inflation Reduction Act programs. Many programs are community centric and will likely pass through SEP.
 - Last interview for SEP manager position on Friday 12/9
- Wyoming Energy Strategy Update
 - Now drafting an executive summary that will serve as an interpretation of the analysis.
- Infrastructure Bill
 - Hydrogen program. Full application in development
 - Grid Resiliency. On hold after DOE postponed due date to March 2023.
 - Participating, with a light touch, in the various CCUS Programs (FOA's also released). Including 2 cost share commitments

- Direct Air Capture. Working with SER and WBC on this. Sarah Fitz-Gerald (WBC) is lead and Murrell is supporting. FOA still not out. RFEI published, closed on 12/6.
- Inflation Reduction Act
 - Developing a plan to coordinate with state level partners (e.g WOC, PRBRC, ECW et al., plans to reach out to TNC, WEDA, WACC and WAM)
- Other
 - Assisting Cheyenne LEADS with some large recruitment and ED projects.
 - The WEA is planning a Legislative lunch meeting for the session in (January 18)
 - Regional Economic Development Office funding from US EDA. Publishing RFP for Wyoming Energy Regional Economic Coordination Office Monday 12/5, closes January 6.
 - Communication Strategy - WEA is re-building the communication strategy, including a website restructuring. Social media growth. Messaging. Website infrastructure has been re-built. Next step is content and structure.
 - Governor's Matching funds
 - Marcio leading, working with Susan and Randall to decide the next steps.
 - Process is in place. Communication to all respondents is soon to go out. review process kicked off.
 - Opportunity Tracker
 - Started working with Manufacturing Works and UW Econ Dev to develop a solution to track energy projects in different levels of completion
 - This solution will also aim to inform and benefit the broader energy economy actors and firms (fabrication, construction, communities, etc.)
 - Co-signatory (WBC did all the work) response to DOE RFI Docket No. DE-FOA-0002841 ENERGY IMPROVEMENTS IN RURAL OR REMOTE AREAS

Ex-officio updates

- Randall Luthi - Governor's Office
 - Mr. Luthi provided a brief report out on the recent Western Governor's meeting, and provided comments on the upcoming Joint Appropriations Committee process
- Holly Krutka – SER
 - Dr. Krutka provided an overview of activities at SER
- Lon Whitman - EORI
 - Dir. Whitman provided a brief overview of the EORI JAC supplemental budget request
- Tom Kropatsch – Wyoming Oil and Gas Commission
 - Sup. Kropatsch provided a brief overview of activities at the WOGCC and IOGCC. Included an update on orphaned well program.
- Josh Dorrell – WBC

- Mr. Dorrell provided a brief overview of the WBC JAC supplemental budget request

New Business

- Kara Choquette provided comments on recent Department of the Interior review of Solar energy development on public lands.
- Ch. Ulrich provided comments re: BLM emissions reduction measures and proposed new EPA rules on leak detection.
- Kara Choquette provided comments re: proposed legislative efforts to raise taxes on electricity generation.

Calendar

- Hydrogen Hubs 101 - DEQ workshop 12/6 - Anja with Eugene
- JAC 12/8
- WY Aeronautics Commission and WYDOT Executive Leadership - 12/13
- Next board meeting, in person, Cheyenne 1/18

Public comment opportunity

No public comment

Adjournment: Stege/Choquette. Approved by acclamation – Adjourned at 7:59am

Recording Secretary,

Wanda Burget
Supported by Glen Murrell