

Wyoming Energy Authority (WEA)
January 18, 2023
PUBLIC BOARD MEETING
8:00 am MT
In person: Room W113 Capitol Building
Zoom Meeting link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88499156995>

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 8:01 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 | |
| Sarah Fitz-Gerald as proxy for Mr 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 | |
| Patrick Millin | Program Coordinator, WEA | X | |
| Anja Richmond | Program Director, WEA | X | |
| Marcio Paes-Barreto | Industrial Development 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.

Opening Comments

Ch. Ulrich welcomed participants to the meeting.

Approve Consent Agenda Items Minutes

- MOTION: Move to approve agenda of the January 18, 2023 meeting. Stege/Miller. Approved by acclamation.
- MOTION: Move to approve minutes from the meeting held December 8, 2022. Miller/Choquette. Approved by acclamation.

Director's report – Murrell

- Permitting Guides
 - No updates
- Hydrogen
 - WISHH - Western Interstate Hydrogen Hub
 - Our concept paper was one of 33 encouraged (total of 79 submitted). Competition remains fierce.
 - Lagging on the material for proposal development. Challenge is this set of companies hasn't worked together before, and are also competitors.
 - Proposal due April 7. Pink review in 2.5 weeks - there will be gaps in that first draft
 - Anja's workload is lightening
- SaaS
 - No update.
- Advanced Reactors
 - Roadmap and strategy document in final draft
 - Ongoing continued engagement with industry leaders and stakeholders from the public and private sectors will continue to help us identify both challenges and opportunities:
 - INL Industry day - 01/17 to 19
 - Supply chain visit with Wyoming firm and developer - 01/23
 - Alaska end-user cases - TBD - 01/24 to 27
 - INL EMA meetings - End of January
 - Microreactor developer facility visit - 02/01
 - Microreactor developer visit Wyoming - TBD - Mid February
- State Energy Program (SEP)
 - Patrick Millin started as SEP Manager 1/9/2023
 - 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.
- 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. Public hearing scheduled for January 31. Application due March 2023.
- Submitted response to GRIP 40103b in partnership with PacifiCorp
- 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 is out and application is in development. Submission due in March
- 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) - With Patrick
- Director Transition
 - Job description is out.
 - Planning transition internally (e.g. vacation time). Delegation of authority.
- Legislative Session
 - Actually reasonably quiet
 - HB0003 State assessment of independent power producers. (clarifies that the state assesses ad-valorem)
 - HB0069 Coal-fired facility closures litigation funding-amendments. (Broadens Gov's power to use)
 - HB0106 Eminent domain-wind energy collector systems. (Moratorium on use of ED thru 2032)
 - HB0124 Electricity generation-taxation (Gen tax on Solar)
 - SF0081 Monthly ad valorem tax revisions. (Timing)
 - Two others were in the works but dont seem to have been introduced:
 - A tweak on radiometric materials handling to accommodate production of thorium with REEs
 - HB200 tweak
- Other
 - Assisting Cheyenne LEADS with some large recruitment and ED projects.
 - The WEA hosted Legislative lunch meeting for the session in (January 18)
 - Wyoming Energy Regional Economic Coordination Office = RECO
 - RFP process closed on Friday, Jan 6. 6 proposals - Glen and I are reviewing
 - Quick review of Scope of Work
 - Net-Zero Energy Industry Partnership:
 - Strategies and Roadmaps:
 - Advanced nuclear
 - CCUS (carbon capture, utilization, and storage)
 - Electrification and conversion of energy sources
 - New Energy Market Tools for Wyoming businesses
 - Energy Conservation and Efficiency
 - Research and Identify Energy Projects Including a County-by-County Assessment

- Create a plan for equity and a just transition for inclusive, sustainable energy development in Wyoming. It is critical that the strategy for energy development share the benefits across all affected communities, both urban and rural, including efforts to reach historically excluded populations, racial minorities, and women.
- 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.
- Legislative Engagement - During the Legislative session of 2023 and after the Legislative Luncheon, we will present to legislators updates regarding the WEA, current projects, and relevant information about Wyoming's Energy economy.
- Project Tracker - Form a group of collaborators from Manufacturing Works at UW's Business Resource Network, Industrial Sitting Division at DEQ, CONNEX Marketplace, and NREX GIS tool to develop a system that tracks energy-related projects in Wyoming.
- Governor's Matching funds
 - Marcio leading, working with Susan and Randall to decide the next steps.
 - Finalize the first round of evaluation and follow-up with ROEI received for the Governor's Energy Matching Funds. All requests were analyzed, and firms that submitted the expressions of interest are receiving notifications of the next steps pertinent to them.

Ex-officio updates

- Holly Krutka – SER
 - Dr. Krutka provided an extensive overview of activities at SER, including legislative priorities
- Lon Whitman - EORI
 - Dir. Whitman provided a brief overview of the EORI activities
- Sarah Fitz Gerald I – WBC
 - Ms. Fitz Gerald provided a brief overview of the WBC activities and legislative priorities.
- Tom Kropatsch – Wyoming Oil and Gas Commission
 - Sup. Kropatsch provided a brief overview of activities at the WOGCC

New Business

- The Board participated in a broad discussion around setting priorities for the incoming Director.

Calendar

- Energy lunch at the Capitol - 1/18
- Next Board Meeting 2/9 7am.

- Director last day in office 2/14

Public comment opportunity

No public comment

Executive Session

MOTION: To enter Executive Session to discuss personnel matters. Lawrence/Miller.

Passed by acclamation

Meeting entered Executive Session at 10:47am

Meeting returned to Public Session at XXX

Adjournment: ??/???. Approved by acclamation – Adjourned at 11:00am

Recording Secretary,

Wanda Burget

Supported by Glen Murrell