

Wyoming Energy Authority
NOVEMBER 19, 2024
4th QUARTER BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
8:00 am MT

Location: Wyoming Oil and Gas Conservation Commission
Casper, WY

At the above time, the Wyoming Energy Authority convened a regular public meeting. The meeting was hybrid, held via video conference call and in person. Wendy Hutchinson, Chairwoman of the Wyoming Energy Authority, presided.

Roll-call, Establish Quorum

Chairwoman Hutchinson called the roll, and a quorum was present, as indicated below. The meeting began at 8:11 AM.

Name	Position	Present	Absent
Wendy Hutchinson	Chairwoman, Voting Member	X	
Wanda Burget	Vice-Chairwoman, Voting Member	X	
Mark Stege	Secretary/Treasurer, Voting Member	X	
Michelle Koch	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	
Rob Creager	Executive Director, WEA	X	
Brayden Connour	WEA staff	X	
Jami Blossmo	WEA staff	X	
Patrick Millin	WEA staff	X	
John Jenks	WEA staff	X	
Kyle Wendtland	WEA staff	X	
Sean Schaub	WEA staff		X
Honora Kerr	Three Elephant PR	X	

The meeting was open to the public. Public in attendance were: Drew Musser, John Burrows, Brenda Schladweiler, Alex Williams, Brian Dudek, George Hruska, and an individual registered as (609) 954-4198.

Opening Comments

Chairwoman Hutchinson welcomed participants to the meeting.

MOTION: Mark motioned to approve the agenda, seconded by Ken.
Approved.

MOTION: Ken made a motion and Mark seconded the motion to approve the minutes for the July 15, 2024, meeting. Donna seconded. The motion was approved.

Rob's report:

- Rob introduced Brayden Connour, John Jenks, and Kyle Wendtland, who are new to the team.
- Rob stated that the WEA team will visit Washington the week after Thanksgiving to meet with the Delegation to discuss energy priorities.
- Rob noted that since the July meeting, he has attended the PAW conference, the ERC meeting, the NASEO conference in New York, and the Governor's Business Forum. He has also presented at the Homeland Security Conference, the Rock Springs Chamber, and the Global Tech Summit in Jackson, Wyoming. Within the past week, he participated in a Webinar for the Business Alliance and did a radio interview.
- Rob noted that Kara Fornstrom has taken a role as a consultant and that the WEA will begin working with her in December.
- Rob also provided a brief update on litigation, asserting that keeping the contract with Brownstein in place is wise.
- Rob highlighted that the Energy Summit will be held on May 6 and May 7 over two half-days.

New Business:

Staff Reports

- John Jenks, Director of Energy Market Development, presented his background and goals for his role and detailed his travels since starting his position.
- The Director of Finance, Brayden Connour, presented his professional background and experience. He noted that one of his priorities is developing a Return on Investment spreadsheet demonstrating the economic benefit the State of Wyoming has experienced due to EMF funding.
- Kyle Wendtland, Director of Fossil Fuels Development, presented his extensive background.
- Rob Creager, Executive Director, presented on behalf of Patrick Millin, State Energy Manager. He noted that there were twenty-eight small business energy audit retrofit grant applications.
- Jami Blosmo, Accounting Manager, presented the budget overview and asked the finance committee to approve the audit.

MOTION: Mark motioned to approve the audit in person in January. The motion was unanimously approved.

Presentation to the Board: Luke Thompson of 8 Rivers presented information about the company and the company's most recent project.

Old Business:

Ken Miller presented three specific items related to the Policies and Procedures handbook.

MOTION: Ken moved to approve the Policies and Procedures Handbook. Kara seconded the motion. Approved.

Public Comment:

George Hruska of Oftedal Construction thanked the WEA for its role in Energy Development.

Christian Dick of Enbridge spoke about a solar project in Laramie County which will be operating by the end of the first quarter of 2026.

John Burrows of Wyoming Outdoor Council thanked the WEA and expressed his excitement for the Home Energy Rebate Program.

Other Board members' reports:

Holly highlighted a podcast called "Energy Frontier of Wyoming," developed by SER. She also highlighted SER's CREW report and said that monthly data would be posted on SER's website.

Lon offered an update from the EORI, emphasizing a new CO₂ project.

Tom offered some WOGCC updates, noting that oil and gas production has increased and we have had the highest oil production since 1989.

MOTION: Ken motioned to adjourn the meeting. Mark seconded.

Approved. The meeting adjourned at noon.

Recording Secretary

Mark Stege

cp