



OVERTON POWER DISTRICT NO. 5

BOARD MEETING

February 19, 2025

3:00 P.M.

Mesquite, Nevada

PRESENT:

Seat 2 – Logandale,	Mr. Jack Nelson, Chairman	Mr. Mendis Cooper, General Manager
Seat 1 – Overton,	Mr. Richard Jones, Vice-Chair	Mrs. MeLisa Garcia, Interim General Manager
Seat 5 – Mesquite,	Mr. Mike Young, Sec / Treas	Mr. Kyle Leavitt, Line Operations Manager
Seat 4 – Bunkerville,	Mr. Robert Bunker, Trustee	Mr. Randall Ozaki, Engineering Services Manager
Seat 6 – Mesquite,	Mr. Dale Rust, Trustee <i>(Video)</i>	Mr. Keven Hansen, Substation Operations Manager
Seat 7 – At-Large,	Mr. Randy Laub, Trustee	Mrs. Becky LaGrow, Executive Assistant
Attorney	Mr. Byron Mills	Mr. Jonathan Denninghoff, Accounting Supervisor
		Mr. Steven Brown, IT Administrator

ABSENT: Mr. Scott Fullman, Administrative Services Manager
Mr. Chad Leavitt, Trustee, Seat 3 – Moapa

Note: The minutes of this meeting have been tape-recorded and will remain on file in the OPD5's main office for a period of one year for public examination.

A. CALL TO ORDER

At 3:04 p.m. Jack Nelson called the meeting of the Overton Power District No. 5 Board of Trustees to order. The agenda items were addressed in the following order:

B. PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

C. ACCEPTANCE OF THE AGENDA

A motion was made by Mike Young and seconded by Richard Jones to accept the OPD5 agenda as posted. The Board voted six (6) ayes and zero (0) nays in approval.

D. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

A motion was made by Mike Young and seconded by Randy Laub to approve the minutes of the January 22, 2025 Board Meeting. The Board voted six (6) ayes and zero (0) nays in approval.

G. CHAIR'S REPORT

Jack Nelson reported on a thank you letter from CCSD for the Roundup Program at Virgin valley High School.

H. ATTORNEY'S REPORT

Byron Mills had no report at this time.

I. MANAGER'S REPORTS

Administrative Services

Steven Brown reported on the following items:

- 💡 *Cyber Security Training* – 95% participation by employees in January. The topics included the importance of physical security measures and social engineering tactics
- 💡 *Information Technology* – In January, one employee clicked on internal spam email and was assigned extra training.
- 💡 *Servers* – All servers were up and running 100% of the time in January. All servers were successfully backed up and stored offsite in January.
- 💡 *Electricity Information Sharing and Analysis Center (E-ISAC)* – offers quality analysis and security information sharing in real time. This helps to mitigate complex and constantly evolving threats to the grid. Eighty-three (83) e-mails were reviewed this month by IT and the General Manager.
- 💡 *Customer Service Department* – The number of bill pay, e-bill, phone calls, and walk-in customers for the for the year end were reported.

Engineering Services

Randall Ozaki reported on the following items:


- 💡 *Tortoise – Gila Substations 138 kV Transmission Line* – The insulators will arrive in March to be ready for the project kickoff in April
- 💡 *Long Drive Switchyard* – It took the contractors two weeks to complete the last of the thirty (30) foundations
- 💡 *Raptor 138 kV Transmission Line* – The contractor started the twenty-two foundations for this week.
- 💡 *Tortoise Substation 3-pole Replacement (RG#1)* – The new poles are now standing and tied into the ring bus
- 💡 *Annual PV Report* – There were thirty-eight new solar installations in 2024. Bringing the grand total to five hundred thirty-three (533)

Line Operations


Kyle Leavitt reported on the following items:

Outages

January 2025

-  There were four (4) planned outages for maintenance. There were five (5) unplanned outages for the month.

Statistics



-  **January** - The unplanned outages affected seven hundred fifty-six (756) customers for approximately eight hundred fifty-nine (859) customer hours.

Service Installations –



-  **January** – Thirty-two (32) residential and zero (0) commercial service installations.

Jobs

Mesquite Team

-  Restore service after a RV fire in Bunkerville
-  Upgrading the trunkline near First South and Thistle

Overton Team

-  Upgrading the area out of Overton Substation going from overhead to underground on the boulevard in from of LaFonda towards the train tracks
-  Work progresses on the transmission line from Tortoise Substation to Gila Substation



Safety

-  **January Meeting** – The topic was Emergency Action Plan and Fire Extinguishers. Fifty-four (54) employees attended the meeting





SCADA & Substation Operations


Keven Hansen reported on the following items:

Capacitor Banks

-  The team has been installing the hardware that will link these and other equipment to the SCADA system
-  Aclara will be on-site on March 4th tie everything together

Transformers

-  The contractor has arrived and is testing and processing nine (9) transformers.
-  The oil is heated while being processed to remove contaminants and an anti-inhibitor is being added to reduce moisture
-  One of the bladders is being replaced at this time as well
-  Each transformer has to be de-energized, so a lot of switching has been happening to accommodate this process

-  **230 kV Ring Bus** – The Reid Gardner #1 line is being tied into the ring bus by a contractor. Randall discussed this in his engineering report.





Financial Services

Jonathan Denninghoff gave the financial report for February 2025, a copy of which is on file.






Interim General Manager

MeLisa Garcia reported on the following items:



NREA –

-  Board members met with BLM’s Fire Management Officer and staff and also NV Energy (NVE)
-  A memorandum has been issued by BLM regarding fire prevention and control in electric utility rights-of-way
-  The executive director of NREA highlighted the difference in size between member utilities and NVE. Vague language, investigation protocols and removal of assets were also discussed.
-  The BLM Nevada State Office will schedule a monthly call to improve operational efficiencies between BLM and utilities.




Public Power Day

-  This was held at the Nevada Legislature on February 12, 2025
-  OPD5 attendees were Mike Young, MeLisa Garcia, Kyle Leavitt, Randall Ozaki, and Vernon Robison.
-  Attendees were able to see the legislature in action and also to meet with state representatives
-  An NREA Board Meeting was also held. Items discussed and approved were voting delegates and the 2025 Best Practices conference
-  Interviews were held for the new Executive Director position. Lisa Levine accepted the position

Solar Projects




-  There are two solar projects in our service territory that are currently receiving their station power from NV Energy (NVE).
-  Negotiations with NVE are still ongoing with the help of Tenaska and Keven has been tracking the metering information. All contracts are reviewed by Byron before coming before the Board for approval

OPD5 Strategic Planning





-  Save the date of August 5-6.
-  The meeting will be all day Tuesday and ½ day on Wednesday.
-  Location is to be determined.

General Manager




Mendis Cooper reported on the following items:

-  **Director Gold** –MeLisa and Mendis presented Jack Nelson with his NRECA Director gold certificate for completing ten (10) extra classes
-  **Mine Project** – A public meeting is being held February 24th at the Moapa Rec Center. This is a potential 20 MW load
-  **NREA - Executive Director (ED)** –Mendis prepared a hiring process, timeline, interview questions and a scoring system for the interviews. He met with the selection committee to select semi-finalists and set up interviews for them. He participated in interviews for the three finalists. Lisa Levine, of Las Vegas, was chosen and has accepted the position

NREA Legislative Update

-  Eggs Bill – Approved the sale of Grade B non-free-range eggs passed unanimously
-  Station Power Bill – Lisa discussed the bill being sponsored by Valley Electric Association
-  Wildfire Liability Bill – Introduced by NV Energy due to the fact their exposure is sizable
-  Senate Growth & Infrastructure Committee – Carolyn Turner gave a presentation that was well received

CREDA

-  Mendis gave a water report. The water year, as of February 1st, is at 80%
-  The National Park Service has agreed to let the Bureau of Reclamation remove the pump below Glen Canyon Dam that will wash out the slough that has been for years
-  Mendis gave an update on the mandatory federal employees layoffs and how they are affecting the Bureau of Reclamation and Western Area Power Administration (WAPA)

H. REVIEW AND POSSIBLE APPROVAL OF OPD5 SCHOLARSHIP POLICY OPD-A-10.204 AND THE CREATION OF SUB-COMMITTEES TO AWARD 2025 SCHOLARSHIPS

In previous years, the Board has chosen to give back to the community by awarding scholarships and internships rather than participating in other community fundraisers.

Last year the Board approved eight (8) \$1,000 scholarships for Virgin Valley High School and eight (8) \$1,000 scholarships for Moapa Valley High School graduates. The Moapa Valley Education Foundation and Virgin Valley High School administer scholarships.

This practice is reviewed annually in accordance with OPD5 Scholarship Policy OPD-A-10.203 and if approved, the number of scholarships and the amount of each scholarship is determined by the Board. After discussion by the board, with a decision to put an emphasis on technical schools, a motion was made by Richard Jones and seconded by Randy Laub to award eight (8) \$1,000 scholarships to Virgin Valley High School students and eight (8) \$1,000 scholarships to Moapa Valley High School students.

Also, to appoint Trustees Randy Laub & Bob Bunker to determine 2025 VVHS recipients and to appoint Trustees Jack Nelson & Chad Leavitt to determine 2025 MVHS recipients.

And to approve OPD5 Scholarship Policy OPD-A-10.204 as presented.

The Board voted four (4) ayes and one (1) nay by Mike Young. The motion passed.

I. REVIEW AND POSSIBLE APPROVAL OF OPD5 TRAINING & EDUCATION POLICY OPD-P-07.201

OPD5 Training & Education Policy OPD-P-07.201 was established to set the rules and regulations for employees to participate in education opportunities at seminars and training courses. This policy is a companion to OPD5 Policy OPD-P-18.101.

Generally, seminars and training courses are offered through industry partners such as NRECA, APPA, CFC, NREA for example. Seminars and training courses typically focus on specific topics associated with our industry.

OPD5 expects each employee to attend seminars and training courses periodically to become more proficient in their roles and to stay current with laws, regulations, technology, and industry trends

After discussion by the Board, a motion was made by Bob Bunker and seconded by Mike Young to approve OPD5 Training & Education Policy OPD-P-07.201 as presented. The Board voted five (5) ayes and zero (0) nays in approval.

J. REVIEW AND POSSIBLE APPROVAL OF OPD5 LEGAL SERVICES POLICY OPD-A-03.101

OPD5 retains a law firm to provide legal services for OPD5 and to protect the interests of the company. OPD5 Legal Services Policy OPD-A-03.101 gives direction regarding legal services. The policy was last edited in 2009. Staff reviewed the policy and suggested updates and edits. After discussion by the Board, a motion was made by Mike Young and seconded by Randy Laub to approve OPD5 Legal Services Policy OPD-A-03.101 as presented. The Board voted five (5) ayes and zero (0) nays in approval.

K. PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

L. TRUSTEE COMMENTS

Mike Young

- 💡 After attending Public Power Day, it is valuable that OPD5 attends with prepared questions
- 💡 Board member trainings are important, and it is helpful to others that did not attend so that we share what we learned

M. APPROVAL OF THE NEXT BOARD MEETING

A motion was made by Richard Jones and seconded by Randy Laub to approve Wednesday, March 19, 2025, as the next Board Meeting date. The meeting will be held in the Overton Board Room at 3:00 p.m. The Board voted five (5) ayes and zero (0) nays in approval.

N. EXECUTIVE – CLOSED DOOR SESSION

There was no Executive Session

O. ADJOURNMENT

The Board voted unanimously to adjourn at 5:20 P.M.

Chair

Vice Chair

Secretary / Treasurer