



**OVERTON POWER DISTRICT NO. 5
BOARD MEETING**

March 19, 2025

3:00 P.M.

Overton, 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. Randall Ozaki, Engineering Services Manager
Seat 4 – Bunkerville,	Mr. Robert Bunker, Trustee	Mr. Keven Hansen, Substation Operations Manager
Seat 6 – Mesquite,	Mr. Dale Rust, Trustee	Mrs. Becky LaGrow, Executive Assistant
Seat 7 – At-Large,	Mr. Randy Laub, Trustee	Mr. Jonathan Denninghoff, Accounting Supervisor
Attorney	Mr. Byron Mills	Mr. Steven Brown, IT Administrator
		Mr. Cody Hardy, MV Area Line Foreman
		Mrs. Krist Eames, Customer Service Supervisor

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

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 3:00 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 Dale Rust 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 Richard Jones to approve the minutes of the February 19, 2025 Board Meeting. The Board voted six (6) ayes and zero (0) nays in approval.

G. CHAIR'S REPORT

Jack Nelson had no report at this time.

H. ATTORNEY'S REPORT

Byron Mills had no report at this time.

I. MANAGER'S REPORTS

Administrative Services

Kristi Eames reported on the following items:

- 💡 *Cyber Security Training* – 96% participation by employees in February. The topics included the use of strong authentication, prevent tailgating, and disclose vulnerabilities
- 💡 *Information Technology* – In February, no employees clicked on internal spam email
- 💡 *Servers* – All servers were up and running 100% of the time in February. All servers were successfully backed up and stored offsite in February.
- 💡 *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-two (82) 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 January & February were reported.
- 💡 *Public Relations* - The number of Social Media interactions were reported.

Engineering Services

Randall Ozaki reported on the following items:

- 💡 *Moapa Loads* – A developer has funded the studies for large loads in Moapa. Staff will prepare the application and submit them to NV Energy. Staff have also given our engineering firm notice to proceed on their study to help determine what size projects can benefit the area . It is anticipated that the studies will take up to ninety (90) days to complete

SCADA & Substation Operations

Keven Hansen reported on the following items:

- 💡 *Intermittent Voltage Dip*
 - 💡 A residential customer called a power problem
 - 💡 The metering team deployed two recording meters at several locations
 - 💡 After troubleshooting, the problem was found to be a bad connection on the high-voltage riser pole.

💡 *Testing*

- 💡 The Sub Ops team has been conducting transformer, breaker and recloser testing in various substations that have transformers offline.
- 💡 A recloser failed the power factor test and was replaced. The feeder was fully tested and put back into service

💡 *Transformers*

- 💡 Three substation transformers have been purchased. Two for Arrowhead and one for Falcon Ridge Substations.
- 💡 A transmission transformer is being ordered and has a three (3) year lead time

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*

- 💡 Lisa Levine has been hired as the new Executive Director; she will be a great addition to the organization.
- 💡 She visited OPD5 in February and was given a tour of the system by Mendis and MeLisa

💡 *National and State Congressional Follow-Up*

- 💡 MeLisa and Vernon have been in contact with many state representatives as a follow-up to Public Power Day
- 💡 Contact has also been made with Congressional Representatives Susie Lee and Mark Amodei regarding their work and committees on a national level

💡 *Legislative Update*




💡 *Nevada (NREA Tracking)*

- 💡 AB44 – Banning Price Gouging. An amendment would include household utilities and telecommunication services, exempting utilities regulated by the PUC. The AG's office has been notified to include NREA in any future conversations. There has been no movement yet on this bill
- 💡 AB70 – Would require NV DOE to consider written comments by a Board of County Commissioners upon receipt of applications for partial abatement of taxes by renewable energy facilities. Rural utilities should have a input in the process



💡 *Congress (NRECA Tracking)*

- 💡 H.R. 20273 – Defending Our Dams Act. Defends the Lower Snake River Dams (LSRD) from spillage and breaching operations without prior approval of Bonneville Power Administration (BPA)
- 💡 H.R. 2074 – Would prohibit breaching of federally operated dams if it would negatively affect carbon emissions, impact navigation for commerce or increase the cost of goods




Committees

-  Employees have been seated in the newly reorganized committees
-  There are nine committees that have employees and mentors to oversee them
-  Melisa has begun meeting with the committees and discussing expectations

Emergency Operations Center (EOC)


-  A team met with the Mesquite Fire Chief and his staff in February at the EOC. This gave staff the opportunity to tour the facility and discuss processes before an actual emergency.
-  Discussions were held on arranging trainings and tabletop exercises to better understand each organizations process and procedures during an emergency and the resources available

NRECA Power Xchange & Tech Advantage





-  This year's event was held in Atlanta Georgia
-  Melisa attended a preconference workshop entitled Connecting Governance Theory with Action. The course focused on the culture of communication, constructive dialog and a working relationship between the Board and the CEO
-  Melisa also attended breakout sessions from Federated Insurance on one-year policies, another was on identifying disruptions in the industry and how to be proactive instead of reactive. She also attended the NRECA Resolutions and Women in Power meetings

General Manager



Mendis Cooper reported on the following items:

 *NREA* - Executive Director (ED) – Friday, March 28th is Carolyn's last day. Lisa started on March 3rd and the transition has gone well

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 – May be 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. As of today the snowpack is at 88%. The Colorado river basin has received plentiful snowfall, but the mid and lower Colorado River basins are extremely dry.
-  Due to federal cutbacks WAPA has lost a great employee due to federal layoffs, but they are working to fill the gap

H. REVIEW AND POSSIBLE ACCEPTANCE OF THE ANNUAL AUDIT REPORT BY HAFEN, BUCKNER, EVERETT & GRAFF

Each year, an independent auditor is hired to perform a review of OPD5's finances. The accounting firm Hafen, Buckner, Everett and Graff conducted the audit of OPD5's 2024 financial data. A report was given to the Board by Jenna Sheehan the auditor to discuss their findings.

After discussion by the board, and a brief private discussion with the auditor, a motion was made by Mike Young and seconded by Dale Rust to accept the annual audit report from Hafen, Buckner, Everett and Graff as presented. The Board voted six (6) ayes and zero (0) nays in approval.

I. REVIEW AND POSSIBLE APPROVAL OF OPD5 SCHOLARSHIP POLICY OPD-A-10.205

The Board last reviewed the scholarship policy in February 2025. As a follow-up to last month’s discussion, it has been suggested that each scholarship applicant should submit a 200-word essay about the teacher, mentor, or other person that was most influential in helping the applicant with their studies and education. If approved by the Board, OPD5 staff may then provide a \$100 check to that person in recognition of their work, if that person lives or works in the OPD5 service territory. Additionally, Staff has taken this opportunity to make edits that reorganize and provide more detail to the policy.

After discussion by the Board, a motion was made by Richard Jones and seconded by Mike Young to approve OPD5 Scholarship Policy OPD-A-10.205 as presented with the edits discussed. The Board voted six (6) ayes and zero (0) nays in approval.

J. 2025 CAPITAL PROJECTS UPDATE

Each year OPD5 staff identifies priority projects for the coming year or years. These projects are typically large projects that provide additional capacity, improve reliability, and may include building new substations and power lines. They require planning, coordination, and often require time and large amounts of funding. Staff provided an update on some of the current projects including their associated timelines and budgets. This item was for discussion only; no action was taken.

K. MENDIS’ FINAL THOUGHTS

The outgoing GM/CEO, Mendis Cooper, shared some thoughts, highlighted trends, and discussed key metrics with the Board of Trustees upon his impending retirement. He gave a synopsis of where OPD5 was when he took the reins until now. This item was for discussion only; no action was taken.

L. PUBLIC COMMENTS

All Public Comments are recorded and are available at the OPD5 website (www.opd5.com) for a period of one year.

M. TRUSTEE COMMENTS

Mike Young

- 💡 Commended Mendis on his work. OPD5 has come a long way and is in good shape now.
- 💡 Power Xchange – Attended the Compensating the CEO class. This class delved into the different smart goals to focus on when compensating your CEO

Randy Laub

- 💡 Power Xchange - Started his Board Leadership Certificate classes. He learned the importance of the financial statement and transparency.

Jack Nelson

- 💡 Power Xchange – The class Pat Mangan gave on artificial intelligence was excellent. Data centers are buying rural land due to its affordability
- 💡 Since being on the Board, Jack is thankful for the opportunity to travel to many places with Mendis and learned about his leadership style. Thank you for the great Job Mendis.

Richard Jones

- 💡 Power Xchange – Attended the cyber security class. OPD5 already does many of the recommendations they gave. We must remain vigilant and continue moving forward to keep up with advancing technology
- 💡 Mendis and Rich have been best friends for 60 years. It has been a wonderful opportunity working with Mendis for 40+ years

Bob Bunker

- 💡 Thanks to Mendis for the great presentation. It gave great insight on the future and showed us where we came from. It is a great guide to the Board and staff.

Byron Mills

- 💡 Mendis had been a great general manager, always executing business the correct way by calling for advice first. That is the way a company should be run.

N. APPROVAL OF THE NEXT BOARD MEETING

A motion was made by Richard Jones and seconded by Mike Young to approve Wednesday, April 16, 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 six (6) ayes and zero (0) nays in approval.

O. EXECUTIVE – CLOSED DOOR SESSION

A motion was made to enter executive session

A motion was made to exit executive session

P. ADJOURNMENT

The Board voted unanimously to adjourn at 6:30 P.M.

Chair

Vice Chair

Secretary / Treasurer