



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

March 20, 2024

3:00 P.M.

Overton, Nevada

PRESENT:

Mrs. Judy Metz, Chair

Mr. Jack Nelson, Vice Chair

Mr. Mike Young, Secretary / Treasurer

Mr. Robert Bunker, Trustee

Mr. Chad Leavitt, Trustee

Mr. Richard Jones, Trustee

Mr. Dale Rust, Trustee

Mr. Byron Mills, Attorney

Mr. Mendis Cooper, General Manager

Mr. Scott Fullman, Administrative Services Manager

Mr. Keven Hansen, Substation Operations Manager

Mr. Brett Gale, Engineering Supervisor

Mrs. MeLisa Garcia, Financial Services Manager

Mr. Corey Dalley, Line Operations Manager

Mrs. Becky LaGrow, Executive Assistant

ABSENT:

Mr. Randall Ozaki, Engineering Services 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 3:03 p.m. Mrs. Judy Metz 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 Mr. Dale Rust and seconded by Mr. Mike Young to accept the OPD5 agenda as posted. The Board voted seven (7) ayes and (0) nays in approval.

D. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

A motion was made by Mr. Mike Young and seconded by Mr. Chad Leavitt to approve the minutes of the February 21, 2024 Board Meeting. The Board voted seven (7) ayes and (0) nays in approval.

E. CHAIR'S REPORT

Mrs. Judy Metz reported a card was received from Assemblyman Toby Yurek. She also shared an article with the other Trustee's regarding the pros and cons of solar.

F. ATTORNEY'S REPORT

Mr. Byron Mills had no report at this time.

G. MANAGER'S REPORTS

Administrative Services

Mr. Scott Fullman reported on the following items:

- 💡 *Cyber Security Training* – 98% Participation by employees in February.
- 💡 *Information Technology* – This month no employees clicked an 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.
- 💡 *Customer Service Department* – The number of bill pay, e-bill, phone calls, and walk-in customers for the months of January and February were reported.
- 💡 *Public Relations* - The number of Social Media interactions were reported.

Engineering Services

Mr. Brett Gale reported on the following items:

- 💡 *Reid Gardner 230 kV Line* – The project is proceeding and is expected to be completed in May. Due to temperature and loads, the OPD5 portion of the project will not be able to be completed until October or November 2024.
- 💡 *Raptor Substation* – The block wall portion of the project is almost complete. The bids for the steel have come in and are under review.
- 💡 *Long Drive Switchyard* – The shoo fly detour will start soon for traffic to safely flow around the construction area. The retaining and block wall construction will begin soon.
- 💡 *Tortoise – Gila 138 kV Line* – Portions of the line road have been built to allow drilling for soils testing of fourteen (14) structures.

Line Operations

Mr. Corey Dalley reported on the following items:

- 💡 *Hook-ups* –
 - 💡 February – fifty-six (56) residential and four (4) commercial hookups.
 - 💡 Year-to-Date – One hundred eight (108) total hook-ups for 2024

💡 *Line Locates & Inspections*

- 💡 February Locates – Two hundred fifty-four (254)
- 💡 February Inspections – One hundred twenty-five (125)
- 💡 February System Audits – Six hundred forty-four (644)

💡 *Outages*

💡 *February 2024*

- 💡 There were seventeen (17) planned outages for maintenance. There were three (3) unplanned outage for the month.
- 💡 The unplanned outages affected four hundred twenty-seven (427) customers for approximately three hundred seventy-four (374) customer hours.
- 💡 In the month of February , OPD5 customers had power for 99.997% of the time.

💡 *Safety*

- 💡 *February Safety Topic* – CPR & Automated External Defibrillator (AED) Training
- 💡 *Since Last Lost Time Accident* – Six (6) years, five (5) months, seven (7) days

💡 *Jobs:* In addition to their many jobs this month, the crews worked on:

- 💡 *Monthly Department Meeting & Training* – These are held following safety meetings. This month the apprentices worked through previous job-site scenarios that the crew has encountered in the past.
- 💡 *Tortoise Substation* – Changed a 69kV breaker inside the substation while the line was energized. Due to clearance issues, hot sticks were used to remove the jumpers.
- 💡 *Overton Outage* – A tree branch broke at the base and fell into the energized lines causing the outage
- 💡 *Pole Change* – The pole was changed on a Saturday so as not to interfere with business hours of John's Diesel and other businesses across the street.
- 💡 *Pole Change* – This pole was on Mesquite Blvd at the Valley Inn Motel. There was an air switch on the pole and was on the maintenance list to be changed out.

SCADA & Substation Operations

Mr. Keven Hansen reported on the following items:

- 💡 *Recloser Change Outs* – The Sub Ops crew along with the Line Ops team has replaced two (2) Oil Circuit Reclosers (OCR) with vacuum style reclosers. The new vacuum style requires little maintenance.
- 💡 *Bunkerville Substation* – The Sup Ops team is conducting the transformer testing while the equipment is de-energized.
- 💡 *Substation Security* – Work continues on finding physical and early intrusion detection systems for our substations.

General Manager

Mr. Mendis Cooper reported on the following items:

- 💡 *NRECA Director Gold* – Mr. Mendis Cooper and Mrs. MeLisa Garcia presented Mrs. Judy Metz with her second Director's Gold certificate.

- 💡 *NREA* – A Board meeting was held in Las Vegas at the Aliante Hotel & Casino. A contract has been executed for the Aliante to host the 2024 Annual Meeting in October.
- 💡 *Hiring* – Final interviews have been completed and a candidate was offered the Mesquite customer service representative position. She started working on Monday.
- 💡 *NRECA Power Xchange & Tech Expo* – This year was held in San Antonio Texas, there were excellent speakers with a focus on technology and artificial intelligence. Also available were breakout sessions on grassroots efforts, economic and supply chain updates. This was a convenient opportunity to meet with many leaders and vendors
- 💡 *Joint Action Agency (JAA)* – This group currently has members from OPD5, Colorado River Commission (CRC) and Valley Electric Association (VEA), with four (4) other Nevada Rural Electric Association (NREA) members showing interest to possibly join at a later date. CRC is applying for a startup grant for the organization.

Financial Services

Mrs. MeLisa Garcia reported the financial report for February 2024, a copy of which is on file.

H. PRESENTATION ON RATES BY COOPERATIVE FINANCE CORPORATION (CFC)

Staff requested OPD5's financing organization, the Cooperative Finance Corporation (CFC), to perform a Revenue Requirements Study (RRS) and a Cost-of-Service Study (CSS) for OPD5. The information from the RRS and CSS can be used in a Rate Design Process to update and adjust the District's rates. These studies are vitally important as OPD5 negotiates a new purchase power agreement with a change in power cost.

The Rate Design process is a meticulous and often lengthy process. However, CFC performed rate design work for OPD5 in 2018-19. CFC found that OPD5's current rates are still within the desired parameters set during the last study. This simplified and shortened the work needed this year.

Present at the meeting was the CFC team, Mr. Jason Strong, Mr. Nick DiSanti and Mr. Omar Abdallah that completed the studies for OPD5 and presented their findings and recommendations to the Board. This item was for discussion only. No action was taken.

I. REVIEW AND POSSIBLE APPROVAL OF A MUTUAL AID AGREEMENT WITH OTHER NEVADA RURAL ELECTRIC ASSOCIATION (NREA) PARTICIPANTS

The Nevada Rural Electric Association (NREA) formed a committee to develop a mutual aid agreement (MAG) several years ago. After years of work, the MAG was developed using models from neighboring states and by incorporating the most practical arrangements and practices for Nevada rural electrics. The MAG also includes suggested provisions from Federated Insurance, the insurance underwriter for NREA members. The MAG is an opt-in opportunity that allows participants to work together under a common set of rules when emergencies occur. The MAG will not be administered through NREA. In accordance with the MAG, a slate of officers will be elected leaders from participating NREA organizations to oversee mutual assistance requests and activities.

After discussion by the Board, a motion was made by Mr. Chad Leavitt and seconded by Mr. Jack Nelson to approve the Mutual Aid Agreement and authorize the GM/CEO to sign the agreement as presented. The Board voted seven (7) ayes and zero (0) nays in approval.

J. **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

There were no public comments.

K. **BOARD COMMENTS**

Mr. Mike Young gave a brief synopsis of the NRECA Power Xchange Conference in San Antonio. He took the refresher course and brought up a couple of items he wanted to share.

1. A board member should attend an employee safety meeting at least once per year
2. Community meetings or town halls are a great way to communicate with customers to provide information on topics like rates, solar power or energy saving ideas

L. **APPROVAL OF THE NEXT BOARD MEETING**

A motion was made by Mr. Mike Young and seconded by Mr. Dale Rust to approve Wednesday, April 17, 2024, as the next Board Meeting date. The meeting will be held in the Mesquite Board Room at 3:00 p.m. The Board voted seven (7) ayes and (0) nays in approval.

M. **EXECUTIVE – CLOSED DOOR SESSION**

A motion was made to enter Executive Session
A motion was made to exit Executive Session

N. **ADJOURNMENT**

The Board voted unanimously to adjourn at 7:00 P.M.

Chair

Vice Chair

Secretary / Treasurer