



OVERTON POWER DISTRICT NO. 5

BOARD MEETING

September 18, 2024

3:00 P.M.

Overton, Nevada

PRESENT:

Seat 7 – At-Large, Mrs. Judy Metz, Chair

Seat 2 – Logandale, Mr. Jack Nelson, Vice Chair

Seat 5 – Mesquite, Mr. Mike Young, Sec / Treas

Seat 1 – Overton, Mr. Richard Jones, Trustee

Seat 3 – Moapa, Mr. Chad Leavitt, Trustee

Seat 4 – Bunkerville, Mr. Robert Bunker, Trustee

Seat 6 – Mesquite, Mr. Dale Rust, Trustee

Mr. Mendis Cooper, General Manager

Mrs. MeLisa Garcia, Financial Services Manager

Mr. Scott Fullman, Administrative Services Manager

Mr. Randall Ozaki, Engineering Services Manager

Mr. Kyle Leavitt, Line Operations Manager

Mr. Keven Hansen, Substation Operations Manager

Mrs. Becky LaGrow, Executive Assistant

Mr. Jonathan Denninghoff, Accountant

Mr. Byron Mills, Attorney

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. 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 Mike Young and seconded by Dale Rust 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 Jack Nelson and seconded by Mike Young to approve the minutes of the August 21, 2024 Board Meeting. The Board voted seven (7) ayes and (0) nays in approval.

E. CHAIR'S REPORT

Judy Metz read the thank you note received from one of the 2024 scholarship recipients. She read a thank you letter from today's newspaper about Corey's retirement. Another article everyone should read is regarding the inverter fire at the Gemini Solar facility. Judy also shared that the Clark County Election Department needs workers at the polls.

F. ATTORNEY'S REPORT

Byron Mills had no report at this time.

G. MANAGER'S REPORTS

Administrative Services

Scott Fullman reported on the following items:

- 💡 *Cyber Security Training* – 100% participation by employees in June and 96% in July. The topics included the potential dangers of outdated technology and protecting personal information.
- 💡 *Information Technology* – In August, no employees clicked on internal spam email.
- 💡 *Servers* – All servers were up and running 100% of the time in August. All servers were successfully backed up and stored offsite in August.
- 💡 *Customer Service Department* – The number of bill pay, e-bill, phone calls, and walk-in customers for the months of June, July and August were reported.
- 💡 *Public Relations* – The Social Media statistics were reported.

Engineering Services

Randall Ozaki reported on the following items:

- 💡 *Pre-Construction Meeting* – The meeting and drive through was held September 17th. The projects are:
 - 💡 Tortoise Ring Bus Expansion, and 69kV Bay
 - 💡 Long Drive Switchyard, Raptor Substation, and Raptor 138kV transmission line
 - 💡 Tortoise to Gila 138kV transmission line, Tortoise 138kV Bay, and Gila 138kV Connection

Line Operations

Kyle Leavitt reported on the following items:

- 💡 *Service Installations* –
 - 💡 August – Thirty-nine (39) residential and zero (0) commercial hookups.

💡 Outages

💡 August 2024

💡 There were twelve (12) planned outages for maintenance. There were three (3) unplanned outages for the month.

💡 Year-to-Date

💡 *August* - The unplanned outages affected six hundred fifty-two (652) customers for approximately one thousand eighty-three (1,083) customer hours.

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

💡 *Underground Feeders* –The crews work on the vaults and switches, also the rigging and equipment used to install the high voltage underground cables.

💡 *Tree Trimming* – Our contractor is working diligently to address essential properties with trees getting close to the lines. Their safe work practices, professionalism are great representatives of OPD5

💡 *Fire mitigation* – Once again the tree trimming contractor is address brush at the river crossings in the service territory. Plans are in the works for a sterilization program in these high-risk areas.

💡 Safety

💡 *August Safety Topic* – Personal Protection Equipment (PPE), FR Body Protection and Job Briefings with fifty-six (56) employees in attendance

SCADA & Substation Operations

Keven Hansen reported on the following items:

💡 *Mesquite Substation* – Visited Lehi Power in Utah to evaluate the compact design they have in their control building for OPD5's potential future use.

💡 *Control Buildings* – Visited the plant where they are assembling the control buildings for Raptor Substation and Long Drive Switchyard. The Raptor building will be delivered on September 25th and the Long Drive building is scheduled to arrive towards the end of October.

💡 *SCADA Interface* – Tenaska Power Services is now receiving live data from our system in preparation for the start of the new contract.

💡 *Tortoise Substation* – The 60 MVA transformer was delivered on Monday and will be dressed and tested on October 4th.

💡 *Reid Gardner Line* – End to end testing has been completed. After the breakers have been tested and the completion of the bus work, NV Energy will do a final test to make sure everything is operating correctly.

💡 *Estuary Solar Transformer* – OPD5 is storing a Virginia Transformer for Estuary Solar. Virginia Transformer personnel had to come and pressurize and put the oil for warranty purposes.

Assistant General Manager

Melisa Garcia reported on the following items:

💡 *NREA Manager's Meeting* - The meeting was in Las Vegas. The morning speaker was from ACES Power and spoke on scheduling and the different power markets in the western United States. Representatives from CAISO spoke in the afternoon about the Extended Day Ahead Market (EDAM) and changes resulting from the Energy Imbalance Market (EIM)

- 💡 *Potential Loads in Moapa* – Multiple meetings have occurred with a potential investor and NV Energy regarding bringing sizeable loads to Moapa. Discussions have included capacity needs, studies required, and infrastructure.
- 💡 *NREA August Board Meeting* - The meeting was attended by Mendis, MeLisa and Jack and was held at Mt. Wheeler Power in Ely, NV. A speaker from the Nevada Mining Association spoke on the things in common between our two industries. There was also a speaker from Utah Rural Electric Association (UREA) discussing different power related bills in the Utah legislature.
- 💡 *Key Accounts* – MeLisa and Kristi have been meeting with the fifteen largest customers and the schools in the service area. The main goal for both parties is to update contact information.

General Manager

Mendis Cooper reported on the following items:

- 💡 *Summer Peak* – The summer peak this year was 124.76 MW which is up from the peak in 2023 of 116.02 MW. This statistic is mainly weather driven.
- 💡 *Mead Substation* – One of the 500 kVA transformers caught on fire and was a total loss. Luckily, the Bureau of Reclamation has a spare transformer to put in while waiting possibly years for a replacement.
- 💡 *CREDA Meeting* – The meeting was held in Page Arizona and included a tour of the Glen Canyon Dam, the bypass tunnels operation, and a river tour with National Park Service biologists.
- 💡 *Data Centers* – Tenaska Power Services also helps in finding locations for data center they can serve and expressed an interest in working with OPD5 to provide something in our area.

Mike Young requested an updated fact sheet for Trustees convenience.

Financial Services

Jonathan Denninghoff gave the financial report for August 2024, a copy of which is on file.

H. REVIEW AND POSSIBLE APPROVAL OF THE 2025 EMPLOYEE HEALTH & LIFE INSURANCE PLAN

OPD5 currently uses the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA) for its employee health and life insurance program. NRECA bids for health insurance with large health care providers annually. Each August, NRECA provides insurance costs for the next year and insurance renewal must be completed each September. Staff work on adjusting coverage to keep costs down. The fiscal impact is expected to be \$1,417,687.88, with adjustments made for retirements and new hires this is an increase of \$70,626.24 in 2025.

The 2025 insurance proposal increases the deductibles from 1600/3200 to 1650/3300 due to the new IRS minimum requirements while maintaining the same coverages that were part of last year's insurance program. The employees will continue to contribute the same amounts to insurance through regular payroll deductions.

After discussion by the Board, a motion was made by Jack Nelson and seconded by Judy Metz to approve the 2025 Health Insurance Plan through NRECA as presented. The Board voted seven (7) ayes, zero (0) nays in approval.

I. REVIEW AND POSSIBLE ACCEPTANCE OF THE CEO/GENERAL MANAGER'S RETIREMENT LETTER

The General Manager/Chief Executive Officer (GM/CEO) entered into an employment contract with the OPD5 Board on September 21, 2022. The contract specified a three-year term, ending on October 1, 2025. The contract allows for termination of the agreement with six (6) months' prior written notice. The GM/CEO intends to retire during the month of April 2025, a retirement letter was submitted to the Board in August 2024, in accordance with the provisions of the employment contract. There is no fiscal impact associated with this action item.

After discussion by the Board, a motion was made by Mike Young and seconded by Jack Nelson to accept the GM/CEO's retirement letter as presented. The Board voted seven (7) ayes and (0) nays in approval.

J. REVIEW AND POSSIBLE APPROVAL OF INTERIM CEO/GENERAL MANAGER CONTRACT AND SALARY AND RATIFICATION OF INTERIM CEO COMPENSATION

At the February 2024 board meeting, the Board selected MeLisa Garcia to fill the Assistant General Manager position. At the August 2024 board meeting, the current CEO/General Manager issued official notification of retirement and the Board appointed MeLisa Garcia to the Interim CEO position.

Following the August meeting, the current CEO set the Interim CEO salary at \$187,452. Board approval is needed to ratify this compensation.

Since the August meeting, an Interim CEO employment contract has been developed for the Board's consideration. The contract term is for a 12-month period beginning April 11, 2025, with a salary of \$212,446. Prior to the end of the first year of the contract, the Board of Trustees shall determine during a board meeting whether to continue to employ MeLisa Garcia as the CEO/General Manager for an additional three-year extension.

After discussion by the Board, a motion was made by Mike Young and seconded by Chad Leavitt to approve the Interim CEO/General Manager employment contract and associated salary, and to ratify the Interim CEO compensation after the contract is changed to all dollar amounts being rounded up to the nearest ten dollar (\$10) as presented. The Board voted seven (7) ayes and (0) nays in approval.

K. PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

L. TRUSTEE COMMENTS

Mike Young – Voiced his dissatisfaction with an article in the newspaper stating that Mesquite has no representation on the Board of Trustees, when in fact there are two Mesquite seats and one for Bunkerville

M. APPROVAL OF THE NEXT BOARD MEETING

A motion was made by Bob Bunker and seconded by Mike Young to approve Wednesday, October 16, 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, zero (0) nays in approval.

N. EXECUTIVE – CLOSED DOOR SESSION

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

O. ADJOURNMENT

The Board voted unanimously to adjourn at 5:15 P.M.

Chair

Vice Chair

Secretary / Treasurer