

**DELAWARE ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE  
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**January 17, 2024**

**CALL TO ORDER**

The regular meeting of the Board of Directors of Delaware Electric Cooperative, Inc. was held at the Delaware Electric Cooperative headquarters in Greenwood, Delaware, on Wednesday, January 17, 2024, at 10:00 a.m. Chair Patricia S. Dorey called the meeting to order. The following directors were present: William J. Wells, Laura T. Phillips, Hunter Emory, William P. Haughey, Jr. (virtual), Charles L. Towles, Jr., Bruce R. Walton, Blaine M. Daisey, Michael K. Brown and Thomas Brown.

Also present at the meeting were Dwayne Street, Dawn Smart, Jesse Spampinato, Troy Dickerson, Dave Shapley, Kevin Yingling, Bruce Campbell, Kyle Bouika, Lauren Irby, Grace Malcom and Lucas Zlock for their part of the meeting and Lauren Freese, who recorded the minutes of the meeting.

**INVOCATION / PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Invocation was given by Director Michael Brown, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

**NEW EMPLOYEES**

Vice President Human Resources, Dawn Smart introduced Journeyman Lineman, Zachary Weishaar.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

The Minutes of the regular meeting of December 14, 2023, were approved.

**CORPORATE CALENDAR**

It was noted that the corporate calendar was part of this month's BoardEffect book and covered the period January through March 2024.

**INNOVATION TEAMS**

Innovation Team leaders reported on their team's progress over the last 9 months. Manager Public Relations & Community Affairs, Lauren Irby presented on the Member Experience, Data Scientist, Grace Malcom presented on Renewables & Battery Storage and Manager of Energy Services, Lucas Zlock presented on Electric Vehicles.

## **HUMAN RESOURCES REPORT**

Vice President, Dawn Smart updated the Board on open positions, litigation, union relations, grievances, training, and development. She also shared recent college degree achievements by Business Systems Administrator, Sylvia Textor, Network Administrator, Jared Wothers and Manager of Energy Services, Lucas Zlock.

## **FINANCIAL REPORT**

Vice President, Bruce Campbell, gave the Board an update on progress of DEC's accounting team to close out 2023 and information regarding the 2023 audit.

## **SPECIAL PROJECTS & INNOVATION REPORT**

Vice President of Innovation and Special Projects, Dave Shapley, gave updated information on the performance of DEC's existing renewable project portfolio and gave an update on the status of DEC's solar projects under development and grant application status.

Mr. Shapley also gave updated information regarding the cost-of-service study shared last month. He also reviewed changes to Tariff leaf's which included the wording "customer charge" proposing the wording be changed to "service charge". He also reviewed a new Tariff Addition – Agricultural Renewable Energy Generating System Rider – Schedule AG-NEM Leaf 111. All tariff leaf changes were approved by the Board.

## **ENGINEERING REPORT**

Vice President, Troy Dickerson reported on the performance of the engineering department relative to new services, jobs engineered and staked and un-staked work orders, and gave a transformer update.

## **OPERATIONS REPORT**

Vice President, Jesse Spampinato reported on five circuit outage events in December, construction statistics, system reliability (2023 is the best year yet), vegetation management, load control and Beat the Peak (load control) performance for the month.

Manager System Control, Brittany Wagner reported on Distribution Automation (DA).

## **TECHNOLOGY REPORT**

Vice President Technology, Kyle Bouika reported on DEC's network and application reliability in December and ongoing DEC efforts to address phishing, cybersecurity risks and vulnerability management improvements.

## **MEMBER SERVICES REPORT**

Vice President, Kevin Yingling reported on internal and external communications including the 1994 ice storm and DEC's work to rebuild the system as well as advances in technology since then. He gave updated call center statistics for the month and how DEC residential rates compared with other peer electric utilities.

## **POLICIES**

Vice President Human Resources, Dawn Smart reviewed changes to policies 200.02, 300.02, 400.03 and 400.07. All policy changes were approved by the Board.

## **ODEC REPORT**

Director Michael Brown reported on a recent special meeting held by the ODEC Board on January 15 which took the place of the regular Board meeting.

## **LEGISLATIVE REPORT**

Director Charles Towles reported the legislature went back into session on January 9 and the legislative luncheon would be held on January 18. He also touched on upcoming energy legislation.

## **NRECA REPORT**

There was no NRECA report.

## **VMD REPORT**

The VMD Board will be meeting on Monday, January 22 in Richmond, Virginia.

## **COO REPORT**

COO, Dwayne Street gave a recap of the innovation teams presented earlier in the meeting and shared that there would also be a metering innovation team in the future. He also shared the good response to open positions at DEC, as well as the upcoming strategic planning meeting, Standard & Poor's (S&P) meeting in early February and that a number of staff will be presenting at the NRECA annual meeting. He also thanked all the staff for working safely and quickly during the recent storms.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Having no other business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 3:18 p.m.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Chair Pat Dorey called for an Executive Session. The Board exited the Executive Session meeting at 5:10 pm and adjourned the board meeting at that time.

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Secretary

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Chairperson

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