



2022 Annual WIEB Board Meeting Minutes

June 30, 2022

Western Interstate Energy Board (WIEB) Member Representatives Present: David Bobzien (NV), Janine Benner (OR), Marissa Warren (ID), Michael Furze (WA), Andrew McAllister (CA), and Sarah Cottrell Propst (NM)

State and Provincial Representatives: Betsy Li Alward (AB), Kate Mapes (representing OR on behalf of, and with proxy of, Megan Decker), John Chatburn (ID), Grace Andersen (CA), Dan Lloyd (MT), Alan Zelenka (OR), Bryce Freeman (WY), Amy Sopinka (BC), Steve Olea (AZ), and CD McLean (CA)

WIEB Staff Present: Maury Galbraith, Gia Anguiano, Eric Baran, Lisa Brohaugh, Thomas Carr, Elaine Hsu, Bonnie Lamond, Woori Lee, Laura Rennick, Melanie Snyder, Jake Hofgard and Evan Savage.

Others Present: Christina Hayes (Berkshire Hathaway)

Board Actions

- I. Approved the WIEB FY 2023 Business Plan and Budget with the following authorizations:
 - 1) Authorize the acceptance of funds in the areas of radioactive waste, regional electricity cooperation, transmission planning, distributed energy resources, and emerging energy markets;
 - 2) Authorize the Executive Committee (Chair, First Vice Chair, Second Vice Chair, and Treasurer) to approve, between meetings of the Board, the acceptance of funds in other areas, upon the written advice of members of the Board;
 - 3) Authorize the Executive Committee to approve merit increases and a cost-of-living increase for employees based on the increase in the consumer price index for the representative cities in the West;
 - 4) Adopt a funding reserve target equal to 2 times the annual core expense of the Western Interstate Energy Board;
 - 5) Reauthorize WIEB's Reserve Expenditure Plan with a funding limit of \$125,200 for FY 2023;
 - 6) Approve the following selection criteria for Reserve Expenditure Plan projects:
 - a. Does the project address an important energy issue in the West?
 - b. Does the issue have multi-state/province implications?
 - c. Is the issue being examined by other organizations?
 - d. Are other organizations better situated to examine the issue?
 - e. Are there opportunities to productively partner with other organizations to examine the issue?

- f. Will work on the issue provide practical information regarding energy projects in the west?
 - g. Is there an opportunity to leverage additional funding to support the work on the issue?
 - h. Will work on the issue "enhance the economy of the West and contribute to the individual and community well-being of the region's people?"
- 7) Authorize the Executive Director and Treasurer to act as financial agents of the Western Interstate Energy Board.

II. Elected the following officers of the Western Interstate Energy Board and the Western Interstate Nuclear Board for FY2023

- David Bobzien (NV) – Chair, WIEB and WINB
- Sarah Cottrell Propst (NM) – Vice-Chair, WIEB and WINB
- Janine Benner (OR) – Second-Vice Chair, WIEB
- Brian Goretzki (AZ) – Treasurer, WIEB and WINB

Welcome and Introductions

David Bobzien (NV), WIEB Board Chair, called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. (MDT), welcomed his fellow WIEB Board Members and other guests, and asked new WIEB Board Members (Marissa Warren (ID), Michael Furze (WA), Betsy Li Alward (AB)) to introduce themselves.

David conducted roll call and then had Laura Rennick, Director of State, Federal, and International Affairs at WIEB, introduce the WIEB Staff.

FERC Notice of Proposed Rule Making (NOPR)

David turned to Christina Hayes, Vice President of Federal Regulatory Affairs at Berkshire Hathaway Energy, to provide an overview and perspectives on the current FERC NOPR (Docket RM21-17) "Building for the Future Through Electric Regional Transmission Planning and Cost Allocation and Generator Interconnection".

WIEB Reserve Expenditure Plan Projects

David next turned to Tom Carr and Eric Baran (WIEB Staff) for an update on WIEB's Reserve Expenditure Plan (REP) Program. Tom provided a background of WIEB's REP Program, and a timeline of completed, ongoing, and future project.

REP Project Status



REP Project: “Renewable Clean Energy Policies”

Tom also demonstrated the new Inventory of Renewable Clean Energy Policies webpage created to display the policy information gathered in an interactive, portable format, and reviewed the plans for the next phase of that project. Janine Benner (OR) was interested if the states should provide data for the Clean Energy Policies Inventory page to ensure the data presented stays current. Tom explained that the states were involved in the initial information compilation and that WIEB will continue to engage with the states on a regular basis and encourage their participation.

Eric Baran then gave a presentation on an REP Project titled “Electricity Demand Response: Policy in the West.”

REP Project: “Electricity Demand Response: Policy in the West”

- I. Purpose: Survey Western States to learn from one another regarding how to increase the effectiveness of demand response programs to help with the energy transition.
- II. Research Questions:
 - a. What have Western states done to encourage demand response programs to be implemented by their utilities within their states?
 - b. What lessons can be learned from the experience of western states that can be shared to improve demand response-related policies?
- III. Results of the Survey:
 - a. The biggest changes in policy motivation have been environmental benefits, like decreasing greenhouse gas emissions. Market performance was not a big motivator.
 - b. All states in the west have demand response programs. Where states have a mandated demand response program is based on state politics.
 - c. The number of demand response customers and dynamic pricing customers within a state has been increasing.
- IV. Conclusions: Since all states have demand response programs, the mandates may or may not be the reason for why the increase in programs is happening, it may be the utility. The incentive is

maintaining reliability. Some of the programs in the west are looking to advance their technology and build out their technology.

Eric finished with a timeline of next steps for this project, including sending the report to the WIEB Board Members for approval, then making the report available online once approved. Andrew McAllister (CA) commented that California is aware of the urgency of studying demand response in the sense of supply resource and price-base behavior change. Andrew also noted that this will be an ongoing project with a lot of developments over the next few years and was curious if WIEB would continue to be a platform for these discussions, possibly quarterly. Eric hopes to continue conducting outreach and hopes WIEB can continue studying demand response and following up with states on their demand response programs.

WIEB Business Plan and Budget

David next asked Maury Galbraith (WIEB Executive Director) and Lisa Brohaugh (WIEB Director of Finance and Administration) to provide a brief overview of key components of the WIEB FY 2023 Business Plan and Budget.

FY 2023 Budget and Work Plan

Maury opened by introducing Lisa who gave an overview of the FY 2023 budget. Lisa summarized WIEB's current and projected income and expenses. Lisa indicated that for FY 2023 there was a budget increase of 249% from 2022, and expenses are projected to exceed income by \$57,300. Lisa noted the major drivers behind the FY 2023 budget increase:

- New DOE-WIPP five-year cooperative agreement with a total budget of \$9,333,776; passthrough funding to nine state agencies totals \$8,864,011; WIEB budget for management of the cooperative agreement totals \$469,765.
- Renewal and new DOE-NE-HLRW five-year cooperative agreement with a total budget of \$1,404,250; an increase of \$404,250 from previous agreement.
- New WRAP-COSR budget of \$80,200 allocated in FY23.
- New three-year office lease resulting in a decrease in rent expense of \$89,400 in FY23.
- Indirect rate decrease of 16%; from 113% in FY22 to 97% in FY23; driven by decrease in rent expense.
- FTEs remain unchanged at 10.

Lisa also provided information on WIEB's current and projected financial reserves. She stated the FY2023 budget indicates that WIEB is in a strong financial position.

David concluded the budget overview by asking the WIEB Board to approve the proposed FY2023 budget based on the seven authorizations, listed below.

- 1) Authorize the acceptance of funds in the areas of radioactive waste, regional electricity cooperation, transmission planning, distributed energy resources, and emerging energy markets;
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Andrew McAllister (CA) moved to approve the proposed FY 2023 budget with the seven budget authorizations listed above. Sarah Cottrell Propst (NM) seconded the motion. The Board unanimously approved the motion.

Election of Officers

David then handed the virtual gavel to Michael Furze (WA) to chair the meeting during the election of the WIEB Board Officers. Michael first noted that the WIEB by-laws provide that the elected WIEB Chair, First Vice-Chair, and Treasurer have traditionally also served as the chairs of the Western Interstate Nuclear Board (WINB) and asked if there were any objections to this practice. There were no objections to continuing this practice.

Michael indicated the following board members were willing to serve as officers in the upcoming year:

- David Bobzien (NV) – Chair (WIEB and WINB)
- Sarah Cottrell Propst (NM) – First Vice-Chair (WIEB and WINB)

- Janine Benner (OR) – Second Vice-Chair (WIEB)
- Brian Goretzki (AZ) – Treasurer (WIEB and WINB)

Andrew McAllister (CA) moved to approve the slate of officers for FY 2023. Marissa Warren (ID) seconded the motion. The Board unanimously approved the motion.

David congratulated the newly elected members of the WIEB Executive Committee. David thanked Michael for conducting the election and the Board Members for their support.

Adjourn

David thanked the WIEB Board Members for their participation and staff for their assistance.

David adjourned the meeting at 3:46 PM (MDT).