



## OPPDP BOARD OF DIRECTORS

### BOARD MEETING MINUTES

April 16, 2020

The regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the Omaha Public Power District (“OPPDP” or “District”) was held via Webex audio and video conference on Thursday, April 16, 2020 at 4:02 p.m.

Present via Webex conferencing were Directors A. E. Bogner, M. J. Cavanaugh, T. W. Gay, A. L. McGuire, J. M. Mollhoff, C. C. Moody, E. H. Williams and R. M. Yoder. Also present via Webex were T. J. Burke, President and Chief Executive Officer, and Mr. S. M. Bruckner, General Counsel for the District. Chair C. C. Moody presided and M. F. Hinners, Senior Corporate Governance Specialist, recorded the minutes. Other members of management present via Webex were: K. W. Brown, J. A. Comstock, L. J. Fernandez, M. J. Fisher, S. M. Focht, K. S. McCormick, L. A. Olson, M. L. Sedky and T. R. Via. Additionally, a number of OPPD employees and customer-owners were present via Webex conferencing.

Chair Moody gave a brief opening statement, including instructions on using Webex audio and video conferencing features. Due to technical issues, meeting attendees were instructed to use the “call me option” to connect to audio.

#### ***Board Agenda Item 1: Safety Briefing***

Mr. Burke provided the safety briefing, including a reminder from the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services entitled “10 Actions for Every Nebraskan to be Taking Now to Slow Spread of COVID-19.”

#### ***Board Agenda Item 2: Chair Opening Statement***

Chair Moody then presented the guidelines for the conduct of the meeting and instructions on using Webex audio and video conferencing features.

#### ***Board Agenda Item 3: Roll Call***

Ms. Hinners took roll call of the Board. All members were present.

#### ***Board Agenda Item 4: Announcement regarding public notice of meeting***

Ms. Hinners read the following:

*“Notice of the time and place of this meeting was publicized by notifying the area news media; by publicizing same in the Outlets newsletter and on OPPD.com; by displaying such notice on the Arcade Level of Energy Plaza since April 10, 2020; and by e-mailing such notice to each of the District’s Directors on that same date.*”

*A copy of the proposed agenda for this meeting has been maintained, on a current basis, and is readily available for public inspection in the office of the District's Corporate Secretary.*

*Additionally, a copy of the Open Meetings Act is available for inspection on oppd.com."*

**Board Consent Action Items:**

- Item 5. Ratification of the Decision to Conduct the April Board Meetings Virtually Due to the COVID-19 Public Health Situation
- Item 6. Approval of the January and February 2020 Comprehensive Financial and Operating Reports, March 2020 Meeting Minutes and the April 16, 2020 Agenda
- Item 7. Line of Credit Increase – Resolution No. 6368
- Item 8. Nebraska City Station Unit 2 Catalyst Replacement 2021 Materials Contract Award – Resolution No. 6369

It was moved and seconded that the Board approve the consent agenda items.

Chair Moody noted the Board discussed the consent agenda items at the Committee meeting on April 14, 2020.

Chair Moody then asked if any members of the public had any comments on the consent agenda items. There was no comment from the public.

Thereafter, the vote was recorded as follows: Bogner – Yes; Cavanaugh – Yes; Gay – Yes; McGuire – Yes; Mollhoff – Yes; Moody – Yes; Williams – Yes; Yoder – Yes. The motion carried (8-0).

**Board Agenda Item 9: Suspension of the Assessment of Late Payment Charges – Resolution No. 6370**

Ms. Hinnners read the following:

*"NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Directors of the Omaha Public Power District to approve the temporary suspension of the assessment of late payment charges for all customers taking service under all Rate Schedules beginning on the date of declaration of the first COVID-19 Directed Health Measure declared on March 19, 2020 and continuing until 30 days after the expiration of the last COVID-19 Directed Health Measure of any county within the District's service territory."*

It was moved and seconded that the Board approve this action item.

Director Bogner began the discussion by noting that all members of the community have been impacted in some way by the COVID-19 pandemic. As an essential service provider, OPPD continues to work around the clock to provide reliable electric service. Director Bogner stated

that during the April 14 All Committee meeting, management presented OPPD's Customer First Solutions Package, which outlined several actions that OPPD is taking to help customers during this difficult time. One of the items is to temporarily suspend the assessment of late payment charges. Director Bogner explained that because the late payment charge is contained in the rate schedules approved by the Board of Directors, Board approval is necessary to temporarily suspend the assessment of late payment charges.

J. A. Comstock, Vice President – Customer Service, then discussed in more detail OPPD's Customer First Solutions Package for all customers, residential customers and business customers. Solutions include, among others, suspending field collection and disconnections for non-payment, increasing flexible bill payment options, and preventing cancellation of level payment programs. Ms. Comstock stated that a dedicated team will continuously monitor trends and data to adjust and add solutions as needed. She also explained that the customer relief solutions would extend 30 days beyond the expiration of the last Directed Health Measure. Ms. Comstock concluded by reiterating that Board of Directors approval was required to temporarily suspend the assessment of late payment charges.

Chair Moody asked for Board comments.

Director Williams expressed appreciation for OPPD employees for continuing to provide essential electric service and providing these customer relief solutions. He asked Ms. Comstock for the financial impact of suspending late payments. Ms. Comstock noted the District collects approximately \$360,000 per month in late payment charges.

Director McGuire expressed appreciation for the OPPD staff and encouraged customers to proactively contact OPPD to arrange payment plans. She inquired about the Energy Assistance Fund. Ms. Comstock noted the current balance was over \$100,000, and that OPPD is transitioning to a new fund administrator, Dollar Energy.

Director Yoder expressed appreciation for the Customer First Solutions program. He also commented upon this moment being an opportunity to improve energy efficiency in homes and businesses. Ms. Comstock noted energy efficiency education would be part of the Customer First Solutions promotional campaign.

Chair Moody expressed appreciation to the OPPD staff for developing these customer solutions.

Director Cavanaugh questioned the financial impact of suspending the late payment charge and the number of disconnects since November 2019. Director Cavanaugh expressed support for suspending disconnections at this time, but is concerned about suspending the assessment of late payment fees.

Chair Moody then asked for public comments. He reiterated that this action item is specifically for the suspension of the assessment of late payment charges. There was no comment.

Thereafter, the vote was recorded as follows: Bogner – Yes; Cavanaugh – No; Gay – Yes; McGuire – Yes; Mollhoff – Yes; Moody – Yes; Williams – Yes; Yoder – Yes. The motion carried (7-1).

**Board Agenda Item 10: Interlocal Agreement for Cooperative Use of the Wireless Area Network – Resolution No. 6371**

Ms. Hinnners read the following:

*“NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Directors of the Omaha Public Power District that Management is hereby authorized and directed to execute an Interlocal Agreement for Cooperative Use of the Wireless Area Network among OPPD, Douglas County, Pottawattamie County, Sarpy County, Washington County and Fremont/Dodge County, with the final form of the agreement to be reviewed and approved by OPPD’s General Counsel.”*

It was moved and seconded that the Board approve this action item.

Director Mollhoff commented upon the importance of the cooperation among the five counties and various agencies to maintain the ability of first responders to communicate.

Chair Moody asked for Board comments. There was no additional comment.

Chair Moody then asked for public comments. There was no comment.

Thereafter, the vote was recorded as follows: Bogner – Yes; Cavanaugh – Yes; Gay – Yes; McGuire – Yes; Mollhoff – Yes; Moody – Yes; Williams – Yes; Yoder – Yes. The motion carried (8-0).

**Board Agenda Item 11: President’s Report**

Mr. Burke presented the following information:

- March Baseload Generation
- March Peaking Generation
- March Renewables
- Honor Our Community activities and events
- Infectious Disease Preparedness related to COVID-19
- Modifications to Employee Policies related to COVID-19
- Business Continuity Plan update
- United Way of the Midlands COVID-19 Fund
- OPPD Strategic Planning Update

Director Williams commented upon the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Earth Day, which this year will be held virtually because of the COVID-19 pandemic. He commented upon the environmental initiatives OPPD has been conducting over the past few years and will continue to do.

**Board Agenda Item 12: Opportunity for comment on other items of District Business**

Chair Moody asked for comments from the public.

David Corbin, 1002 North 49<sup>th</sup> Street, Vice Chair of the Nebraska Sierra Club, expressed appreciation for the seriousness of how OPPD has treated the COVID-19 pandemic and for the

efforts the District has undertaken to conduct the April Board meetings virtually and open for public comment. He also expressed appreciation for suspending disconnects during the pandemic.

There was no additional comment from the public.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 5:28 p.m.

*/s/ M. J. Fisher*

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M. J. Fisher  
Assistant Secretary

*/s/ M. F. Hinnars*

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M. F. Hinnars  
Assistant Secretary of the Meeting