



Wisconsin Public Utility Institute
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON

WPUI Board Meeting

July 16, 2019

Location: Michael Best, 1 S Pinckney St, Ste 700, Madison, WI 53703

Minutes (approved November 25, 2019)

Next WPUI Board Meeting November 25, 2019

Brian Rude called the meeting to order at 12:09 pm.

Present: Brian Rude, Dairyland Power; Deb Erwin, Xcel Energy; Dave Siebert, WI DNR; Brian Penington, Alliant Energy; P.J. DiStefano, Deloitte; Rep. Mike Kuglitsch, WI State Legislature; Rep. Beth Meyers, WI State Legislature; Sarah Justus, ATC; Lawrie Kobza, Boardman Clark; Tom Content, CUB; Kristin Gilkes, Customers First; Frank Greb, Slipstream; Carrie Templeton, PSCW; Ronda Ferguson, WEC Energy; John Sumi, MGE; Paul Wilson, UW-Madison COE; Mary Blanchard, WEI; Lori Sakk, WPUI

Phone: Jordan Hemaïdan, Michael Best & Friedrich; Paul Harris, Ranger Power

Also Present: Rebecca Larson, UW-Madison BSE; Sara Langmack, WPUI

Excused Earl Gustafson, WI Paper Council; Jem Brown, Great Lakes Utilities; Kira Loehr, Perkins Coie; Cheryl Parrino, Parrino Strategic Consulting Group

Introductions

Board members and guest speaker introduced themselves.

Meeting Agenda and March 21, 2019, Minutes

- A meeting agenda was provided to board members in advance of the board meeting.
- P.J. DiStefano moved to approve the March 21, 2019, minutes. Sarah Justus seconded. The motion carried.

Executive and Nominations Committee

- Brian Rude announced the electronic ballot results confirming seven board members to a three-year term (July 1, 2019 – June 30, 2022): Brian Penington, Alliant; Deb Erwin, Xcel Energy; Jem Brown, Wisconsin Rapids Water Works & Lighting Commission (GLU); Dave Siebert, DNR; Rep. Mike Kuglitsch, Wisconsin State Legislature; Earl Gustafson, WI Paper Council; Jordan Hemaïdan, Michael Best
- P.J. DiStefano moved to approve the confirmation of Brian Rude as chair of the board, and Jordan Hemaïdan as vice-chair. Rep. Kuglitsch seconded. The motion carried.

Special Guest Presentation

Rebecca Larson, UW-Madison, Biological Systems Engineering, gave a presentation on Biogas.

Financial Update

- Lori Sakk gave an update on current numbers for 2019 and reviewed 2019 budget projections. She also updated the board on additional expected expenses that were not included in the 2019 budget projection.
- Lori Sakk presented the cost estimate for the April 20-22, 2020, RTO program.
- The board discussed WPUI's structural deficit and programming challenges.

Charter

- Lori Sakk reviewed the various proposed changes.
- Mary Blanchard proposed some edits for clarification.
- Rep. Beth Meyers moved to accept the proposed changes, as well as the additional edits discussed in the meeting. Sarah Justus seconded. The motion carried.

Programming

- Lori Sakk reviewed the programming for the remainder of 2019.
- The board discussed ways to advertise broadly to reach the largest audience.
- Board members were asked to encourage their organizations' staffs to attend WPUI programs.

General Overview

- Lori Sakk gave a general overview of WPUI's activities and goals since the last board meeting.
- At the March meeting, Jordan Hemaïdan had asked about adding Google Analytics to the WPUI website. Lori Sakk updated the board about the progress in making that happen.

Committee Updates

Executive & Nominations

- Executive Committee members continue to hold monthly conference calls with Lori Sakk.

Membership

- Lori Sakk updated the board on 2019 WPUI memberships.
- Lori Sakk discussed with the board an intent to send the initial membership letter for the 2020 membership drive in late August/early September. This will be sent electronically and include a request for 2020 programming ideas.

Program Advisory

- Lori Sakk updated the board on the program committee's 4/12/19 teleconference meeting.
- The board also discussed increased competition from outside entities and about cutting back on the 1-day programs to focus instead on fewer, multi-day, high quality programs.

Compensation and Performance

- Frank Greb reported that it is time for the committee to meet again.

New business

- It was determined that there was none.

Executive Session

- It was determined that none was needed.

P.J. DiStefano moved to adjourn the meeting. Rep. Kuglitsch seconded. Brian Rude adjourned the meeting at 2:01pm.

Next board meeting will be on November 25, 2019.