



Wisconsin Public Utility Institute

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON

WPUI Board Meeting Minutes

March 6, 2026

**Location: UW-Madison Campus, Mechanical Engineering Building,
1513 University Ave., Rm 2188, Madison WI, and Online**

Next Board meeting: July 13, 2026

Tour of HSX Lab, 1450 Engineering Hall, Rm 1550, UW-Madison Campus

- 11:00 AM-12:00 PM

Board Meeting, 2188, Mechanical Engineering

Sarah Justus called the meeting to order at 12:15 p.m.

Present at Mechanical Engineering, Rm 2188:

Lori Sakk, WPUI; Mary Blanchard, University of Wisconsin-Madison, WEI; Tom Content, CUB; Kristin Gilkes, Customers First!; Sarah Justus, kp environmental; Lawrie Kobza, Boardman Clark; Jeff Kuhn, WRWWLC, GLU; Robin Lisowski, Slipstream; Kira Loehr, Perkins Coie; Kara Pennoyer, PSCW; Joyce Peppin, Dairyland Power Cooperative; Greg Pils, DNR; Erik Sonju, Power System Engineering; Todd Stuart, WIEG; Rep. Lisa Subeck, WI State Assembly; Carrie Templeton, proxy for Becky Valcq, Alliant Energy; Orrie Walsvik, Michael Best; Paul Wilson, UW-Madison COE; Tyrel Zich, Xcel Energy

Present via Webex/phone: Andy Koors, Deloitte; Matthew Spencer, MGE; Nicole Domokos & Mike Happel, proxy for Rep. Steffen, Office of Rep. David Steffen, WI State Assembly; Ryan Wardin, Ranger Power

Also present at Mechanical Engineering, Rm 2188: Sara Langmack, WPUI

Excused: John Garvin, ATC; Joel Haubrich, WEC Energy Group

Board Administrative Items

- After introductions, Sarah Justus reviewed the March 6, 2026, board meeting agenda.
 - A meeting agenda was provided to board members in advance of the meeting.
- November 24, 2025, board meeting minutes
 - Draft minutes were provided to board members in advance of the meeting.
 - Tyrel Zich moved to approve; Kira Loehr seconded. Motion carried.

Executive Committee

- Introduction of Ryan Wardin, Ranger Power, whom the board approved via email vote to complete the remainder of Drew Vielbig's board term ending June 30, 2027.

Financial Update

- Lori Sakk provided estimated final 2025 numbers and a 2026 update.

Executive Committee

- Succession Planning

- Sarah Justus' term as chair will end June 30, 2026. Per WPUI charter, Kira Loehr will become the new chair after July board vote to confirm. Sarah asked board members to consider volunteering for vice chair.

Membership Committee

- Lori Sakk reviewed membership amounts received thus far as well as the current membership list.
- Sarah Justus encouraged board members to tell Lori Sakk of any organizations you think might be interested in WPUI membership.

Program Advisory Committee

- Lori Sakk offered a recap of Part 1 of this year's Grid Under Pressure online series. Part 1 was held on March 3, 2026.
- Lori requested the board review the current agendas for Part 2 (Sept. 22) and Part 3 (Nov. 4) which are linked on the WPUI website.
- Lori reviewed the upcoming WPUI programs and 2 WPUI-hosted programs for 2026.

Compensation and Performance Committee

- Kira Loehr provided an update the board's annual evaluation and compensation for Lori Sakk and Sara Langmack.

General Overview of WPUI Activities

- Lori Sakk provided an overview of WPUI activities, the progress with learning the new UW financial system and the new campus program registration system. Also, along with dozens of other campus websites, WPUI will be standing up a new website before the end of 2026.

New Business

- No new business.

Executive Session

- None needed.

Robin Lisowski moved to adjourn; Lawrie Kobza seconded. Meeting adjourned at 1:00 p.m.

Next WPUI Board Meeting: July 13, 2026