

New Mexico Renewable Energy Transmission Authority

**Minutes of Board Meeting
October 23, 2018
1:30 p.m.**

**NM State Capitol – Room 321
490 Old Santa Fe Trail
Santa Fe, New Mexico, 87501**

Present

Bob Busch, Chairman
Dr. James Miller, Member
Brian Moore, Member (via phone)
Jonathan Elms, Member
Louise Martinez, Designee for EMNRD Cabinet Secretary
Tim Eichenberg, NM State Treasurer (for earlier portion of meeting)
Julie Filatoff, Designee for NM State Treasurer (for later portion of meeting)

Absent

Robert Apodaca, Member

RETA Staff

Lynn Mostoller – General Counsel, Sutin Thayer & Browne
Ginny Selvin – Consultant
Mike D’Antonio – Director of Public Outreach
Gloria Castillo – Administrative Assistant

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

Chairman Busch called the meeting to order at 1:35 p.m. A quorum was present for the meeting.

2. Approval of Agenda

Member Elms made a motion to accept the agenda as presented. Member Martinez seconded the motion. There being no further discussion, Chairman Busch called for a vote and it passed unanimously.

3. Report of the Chairman

Chairman Busch introduced two new members of RETA’s contract staff. Gloria Castillo will serve as RETA’s administrative assistant, and Mike D’Antonio will serve as RETA’s Director of Public Outreach.

Chairman Busch informed the Board that he would be making a presentation before the Legislative Finance Committee (LFC) on October 24, 2018 where he will be briefing LFC on RETA projects and its financials. He indicated that he plans to request \$350,000

state funding for RETA to try to get it back to normal staffing. Chairman Busch explained that in the past, the Governor line-item vetoed RETA funding for three consecutive years.

Chairman Busch mentioned that he would also be giving a presentation to the NMFA Legislative Oversight Committee on either November 8th or 9th.

4. Approval of August 7, 2018 Board Meeting Minutes

Member Miller made a motion to accept the Board Meeting Minutes as presented. Member Elms seconded the motion. There being no additional discussion, corrections, additions, or updates to the minutes, Chairman Busch called for a vote and it passed unanimously.

5. Review and Consideration of Legal Services Contract

Chairman Busch asked for a motion to approve the Professional Services Agreement between NMRETA and Sutin, Thayer & Browne APC, General Counsel Services for RETA. Member Elms made a motion to approve the agreement as presented. Member Miller seconded the motion. There being no further discussion, Chairman Busch called for a vote and it passed unanimously.

6. Update on the Western Spirit Project

Chairman Busch introduced Ms. Kim Sachtleben, Senior Project Developer and Ms. Lisa Dodds, Manager of Right-of-Way Acquisitions with Pattern Energy. Ms. Sachtleben informed the Board that the stakeholder outreach process for the Western Spirit (WS) project is ongoing. In conjunction with the general public and community leaders from the Mountainair area, Pattern has implemented a re-route of the WS line approximately 10 miles to the south. The route is being refined and additional community engagement meetings will be held in affected counties/communities. The Rio Grande crossing and environmental reviews are still underway.

Ms. Dodds indicated that with the re-routing of the WS line south of Mountainair, the number of landowners and property tracts that are needed for the line approval have been reduced. She noted that good progress is being made east of the river and the environmental team can begin its Phase I surveys. A new group resistant to the project west of the river has been organized and Pattern plans to have more community meetings in this area.

7. Update on the SunZia Southwest Transmission Project

Mr. David Getts, General Manager of the SouthWestern Power Group, provided the Board with an update on the SunZia project. Mr. Getts mentioned that the NMPRC denied the Location Permit for the project without prejudice and is confident that once they provide more information to the PRC, SunZia will be able to obtain the Location Permit approval. They expect to have minor route changes moving forward and their

right-of-way acquisition continues to progress nicely. Mr. Getts noted that they still expect construction to start in mid-2019.

Mr. Getts further mentioned that Pattern Energy's Corona wind development, which is the anchor tenant for their development, has just signed another 200 MW offtake agreement making a total of 400 MW of agreements that will flow over the SunZia line.

8. Status of the 2018 Audit

Member Moore, Chairman of the Audit Committee, indicated that the 2018 Audit has been completed with no detrimental findings. He noted that once the State Auditor's Office approves the audit it will be posted on RETA's website.

9. Review and Consideration of Financial Statements for the Period Ending September 30, 2018

Ms. Selvin called the Board's attention to the September 30, 2018 financial statements.

10. Review and Consideration of the FY20 Budget

Ms. Selvin briefed the Board on the draft FY20 budget. Chairman Busch noted that he will be presenting the draft to the LFC at its October 24, 2018 meeting.

Chairman Busch called for a motion to approve the Financial Statements for the Period Ending September 30, 2018 ("Financial Statements") and to approve the FY 2020 Budget. Member Martinez made a motion to approve the Financial Statements and the FY 2020 Budget. Member Elms seconded the motion. There being no further discussion, Chairman Busch called for a vote and it passed unanimously.

11. Public Comments

There were no public comments.

12. Next Meeting

Chairman Busch indicated that the next board meeting will be scheduled in mid-February 2019, unless one is needed sooner. Gloria Castillo will work on scheduling the next Board meeting date.

13. Adjournment

Chairman Busch requested a motion to adjourn the meeting. Member Elms so moved, and Member Miller seconded. The Board voted unanimously to adjourn.