

# **New Mexico Renewable Energy Transmission Authority**

**Minutes of Board Meeting  
June 13, 2019  
1:00 p.m.**

**NM State Capitol – Room 317  
490 Old Santa Fe Trail  
Santa Fe, New Mexico, 87501**

## **Present**

Robert (Bob) Busch, Chairman  
Dr. James Miller, Member  
Brian Moore, Member  
Jonathan Elms, Member (via phone)  
Noah Long, Member  
Louise Martinez, Designee for EMNRD Cabinet Secretary  
Yovanne Lucero, Designee for Tim Eichenberg

## **RETA Staff**

Lynn Mostoller and Mariposa Padilla-Sivage – General Counsel, Sutin Thayer & Browne  
Ginny Selvin – Consultant  
Gloria Castillo – Administrative Assistant

### **1. Call to Order and Roll Call**

Chairman Busch called the meeting to order at 1:05 p.m. A quorum was present for the meeting.

### **2. Approval of Agenda**

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

### **3. Approval of May 1, 2019 Board Meeting Minutes**

Member Long made a motion to accept the May 1, 2019 Board Minutes as presented. Member Miller 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.

### **4. Report of the Chairman**

Chairman Busch reported on the following:

- RETA received funding from the legislature for a Transmission and Storage Study. Chairman Busch and Ms. Mostoller are working on the RFP to solicit proposals for the Study. In addition, an advisory committee is being formed to

assist with the Study. Chairman Busch and Ms. Mostoller met with the State Land Office to discuss the Study and other ways of working together on renewable energy issues.

- The Personnel Committee received and screened applications for RETA's Executive Director vacancy. The Committee met prior to the Board meeting to review applications. Members on the Personnel Committee are Members Long (Chairman), Member Martinez and Chairman Busch. The Committee will reach out to a few applicants to do a second screening and RETA hopes to have an Executive Director on Board by the end of July or beginning of August.

**5. Review and Consider Approval of FY2020 Budget – Ginny Selvin**

Ms. Selvin presented the proposed FY2020 Budget. She noted that the budget was substantially higher because RETA had gotten an appropriation this year from the legislature. In addition, contractor expenses were up because of activity.

Member Moore made a motion to approve the FY2020 Budget. Member Long seconded the motion. There being no further discussion, Chairman Busch called for a vote and it passed unanimously.

**6. Review and Consider Approval of Financial Statements for the Period Ending May 31, 2019 – Ginny Selvin**

Ms. Selvin presented the financial statements for the period ending May 31, 2019 to the Board

Member Long made a motion to approve the financial statements for the period ending May 31, 2019. Member Moore seconded the motion. There being no further discussion, Chairman Busch called for a vote and it passed unanimously.

**7. Update on the Western Spirit – Adam Renz**

Mr. Renz updated the Board on the Western Spirit project. He noted that they are targeting completion of land acquisition by the end of 2019. Biologists and engineers are in the field and they have started the pre-engineering.

Member Long suggested that RETA also attend Western Spirits Open House.

**8. Public Comment**

Stephanie McCleary stated that she represented approximately 100 Valencia County residents and raised concern that their voices are not being heard by Western Spirit.

**9. Closed Session**

Chairman Busch called for a motion at 1:30 p.m. to go into closed session to hold confidential discussion of pending docket before the PRC regarding reliability determination and real estate acquisition status for the Western Spirit Project, *see* § 10-15-1(H)(7) (meeting subject to the attorney-client privilege pertaining to threatened or pending litigation in which the public body is or may become a participant); § 10-15-1(H)(7) (meeting for the discussion of the purchase, acquisition or disposal of real property or water rights by the public body); § 62-16A-16 (protecting the proprietary

technical or business information obtained by the authority as confidential); *see also* NMAC § [17.8.2.9](#) (same).

Member Long made a motion to go into closed session. Member Miller seconded the motion. There being no further discussion or comments, Chairman Busch called for a vote and it passed unanimously.

Chairman Busch announced that the Board would now go into closed session.

Chairman Busch called for a motion for the RETA Board to come out of closed session. Member Long made a motion for the Board to come out of closed session. Member Moore seconded the motion. There being no further discussion, Chairman Busch called for a vote and it passed unanimously.

The Board returned to its regular meeting at 2:15 p.m. Chairman Busch announced that the only matter discussed in closed session was the item on the agenda set forth above and that no action or vote was taken.

#### **10. Next Meeting**

Chairman Busch suggested that a tentative date be set for Thursday, September 5, 2019 at 1:00 pm for a regular RETA Board meeting.

#### **11. Adjournment**

Chairman Busch called for a motion to adjourn the Board meeting.

Member Miller made a motion to adjourn. Member Moore seconded the motion. The Board voted unanimously to adjourn. The RETA Board meeting adjourned at 2:25 p.m.