

**New Mexico Renewable Energy Transmission Authority
Minutes of Meeting of the Board of Directors**

In-person Meeting

**Tuesday April 19, 2022
9:00 a.m. MDST**

Present Board Members

Robert (Bob) Busch, Chairman
Noah Long, Member
Douglas Howe, Member
Phoebe Suina, Member
Jeremy Lewis, Member
Louise Martinez, Member (Via Phone)

RETA Staff

Fernando Martinez, Executive Director
Lynn Mostoller, General Counsel, Sutin Thayer & Browne
Mariposa Padilla Sivage, General Counsel, Sutin Thayer & Browne (Via Phone)
Ginny Selvin, Financial Director
Valerie Moquino, Administrative Support

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

Chairman Busch called the meeting to order at 9:07 a.m. A quorum was present for the meeting. Chairman Busch welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2. Approval of Agenda

Chairman Busch asked if there were any comments or changes to the agenda presented. Due to time constraints, Member Long recommended rearranging the numeric order of items to the suggested agenda, beginning with the closed session, then voting items to follow. Member Long made a motion to approve the agenda as recommended. Member Lewis seconded the motion. There being no further discussion, Chairman Busch asked for a voice vote, and the motion passing unanimously.

3. Closed Session

Confidential discussion of the acquisition of real property as it relates to RETA projects, as permitted under NMSA 1978, § 10-15-1(H)(8) (meeting for the discussion of the purchase, acquisition or disposal of real property or water rights by the public body); confidential discussion of proprietary technical or business information related to a RETA project, as permitted under NMSA 1978, § 62-16A-16, see also, NMAC § 17.8.2.9; and a confidential, attorney-client privileged discussion pertaining to pending litigation in an administrative proceeding as it relates to a RETA project, as permitted under NMSA 1978, § 10-15-1(H)(7).

Member Long made a motion for the Board to go into closed session. Member Howe seconded the motion. There being no members opposed, the motion passed unanimously.

The Board went into closed session at 9:09 a.m.

Chairman Busch called for a motion to come out of closed session. Member Long made a motion to come out of closed session. Member Howe seconded the motion. There being no Board members opposed, the motion passed unanimously. The Board returned to its regular meeting at 9:52 a.m.

The Chairman announced that there was no other discussion held during the Closed Session other than what was on the agenda.

4. Review and Consider Approval of Resolution Regarding the Third Amendment to the Development, Acquisition, Lease and Sub-Easement Agreement between RETA and SunZia Transmission, LLC – Chairman Robert Busch and Lynn Mostoller

Chairman Busch called for a motion to approve the Resolution Regarding the Third Amendment to the Development, Acquisition, Lease and Sub-Easement Agreement between RETA and SunZia Transmission, LLC

Member Howe made motion to approve the resolution. Member Lewis seconded the motion. There was no further discussion. On a voice vote, the motion passed unanimously.

5. Review and Consider Approval of Resolution Regarding an Amendment to the Letter Agreement Identifying a Pattern Entity as RETA’s Agent for Certain Purchases for a RETA Project – Chairman Robert Busch and Lynn Mostoller

Chairman Busch called for a motion to approve the Resolution Regarding an Amendment to the Letter Agreement Identifying a Pattern Entity as RETA’s Agent for Certain Purchases for a RETA Project.

Member Long made motion to approve the resolution. Member Lewis seconded the motion. There was no further discussion. On a voice vote, the motion passed unanimously.

6. Review and Consider Approval of Resolution Regarding Signature Authority for Mora Line Transmission Project.

Chairman Busch called for a motion to approve the Resolution Regarding Signature Authority for Mora Line Transmission Project.

Member Howe made motion to approve the resolution. Member Long seconded the motion. There was no further discussion. On a voice vote, the motion passed unanimously.

7. Next Meeting

After brief discussion, the Board members agreed to tentatively hold the next Board meeting on May 24, 2022. The next Board meeting will be located at the State Capitol at 9:00am.

8. Review and Consider Approval of Draft Financial Statements for Period Ending March 31, 2022

Ginny Selvin, Financial Director, RETA

- Ms. Selvin gave a brief review of financial statements ending March 31, 2022. She highlighted financial activity and explained changes in accounting procedures.
- RETA will soon retain an accounting firm to help with accounting.

Chairman Busch called for a motion to approve the financial statements for the period ending March 31, 2022. Member Howe made a motion to approve the financial statements ending March 31, 2022. Member Suina seconded the motion. On a voice vote, the motion passed unanimously.

9. Approval of March 8, 2022, Board Meeting Minutes

Member Lewis made a motion to approve the March 8, 2022, Board Meeting Minutes as presented. Member Suina seconded the motion. Chairman Busch asked if there were any corrections, additions, or deletions to the minutes. There being no further discussion, on a voice vote, the motion passed unanimously.

10. Public Comments

A comment was given by one member of the public. He stated to the Board “RETA is doing a great job”. No other public comments were given.

11. Report of the Chairman

Chairman Busch reported on the following:

- Chairman Busch gave a brief update on RETA’s latest projects and continued work; Chairman Busch mentioned the completion and availability of the updated study brochure.
- Chairman Busch gave an update on the planning of RETA’s Utility Scale Storage Workshop. The plans will be for a two-day workshop, which will take place in Mid-October of 2022, with the location to be determined. He emphasized on how Storage is greatly misunderstood. He wants to bring awareness that RETA does more than just Transmission.

12. Report of the Executive Director

Executive Director Martinez reported on the following:

- Mr. Martinez stated RETA Staff’s work with developers is going well.

- RETA Staff are also currently connecting with potential new development partners. RETA has seen an increase in developers wanting to work in New Mexico.
- Streamline Permitting Processes at State and Federal levels: RETA Staff are continuing to work with federal agencies and the Biden administration staff on efforts to streamline the permitting process. Staff are continuing to speak with Legislative delegations about timeframes and deadlines for review processes.
- Regional Transmission Organization (RTO): Staff are continuing to strategize with Energy, Mineral and Natural Resources Department staff. Member Howe provided Board members with an overview of Independent System Operators and RTOs and explained the importance of transmission building for economic purposes.
- New Export Hub: Mr. Martinez gave a brief review of exporting energy out of New Mexico. He indicated that RETA is applying for federal funding through the Build Back America plan.
- Energy Storage Workshop: Mr. Martinez gave a brief overview of the workshop planning. Currently, Sandia National Laboratories and EMNRD have teams interested and willing to assist and participate. A location to host the workshop is still pending.
- New Study Brochure: Hard copies of the new Study brochure were provided to all Board members.
- Questions or Comments: Member Lewis suggested including a session in the Workshop geared toward RTO's and benefits. Member Suina added to the Board, the importance of providing education to the public on how all the components fit together. She feels the public gets mixed messages and suggested that a visual strategy is helpful.

13. SunZia Project Update

John Ryan, Executive Director of SunZia, NM

- General Review: Mr. Ryan gave the Board a brief update of the SunZia project, which has been in development for 14 years. Mr. Ryan emphasized that having RETA and Pattern Energy involved has been very helpful in improving development and its processes.
- Federal Permitting Update: Mr. Ryan gave an update on the status of the EIS permitting with the BLM. He stated it is on schedule, due to the Biden Administration placing a deadline. The draft EIS is expected by April 29th or the next week after, with a 90-day Public Comment period to follow. They expect the final EIS by January 2023.
- AZ Permit: Mr. Ryan explained the amendment for the Arizona permit and the stakeholder outreach they conducted in Arizona. They have a great deal of support with numerous counties and environmental groups regarding the river crossing and routing in both New Mexico and Arizona.

11. Adjournment

Member Howe moved to adjourn the meeting. Member Suina seconded. On a voice vote, the motion passed unanimously and the meeting was adjourned at 10:50 a.m.