

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

**State Capitol Building - Room 317  
In-person Meeting**

**Tuesday May 24, 2022  
9:00 a.m. MT**

**Present Board Members**

Robert (Bob) Busch, Chairman  
Noah Long, Member  
Douglas Howe, Member  
Heather Benavidez, Member  
Jeremy Lewis, Member  
Louise Martinez, Member

**RETA Staff**

Fernando Martinez, Executive Director  
Lynn Mostoller, General Counsel, Sutin Thayer & Browne  
Ginny Selvin, Financial Director  
Valerie Moquino, Administrative Support

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

Chairman Busch called the meeting to order at 9:01 a.m. A quorum was present for the meeting. Chairman Busch welcomed everyone to the meeting and gave a warm welcome to member Louise Martinez for her return in-person.

**2. Approval of Agenda**

Chairman Busch presented the recommended agenda to the Board. Member Howe made a motion to approve the agenda as recommended. Member Long seconded the motion. Chairman Busch asked if there were any comments or changes to the agenda presented. Ms. Mostoller indicated agenda items 5 (The Winds of Change Presentation) & 8 (Invenergy Project Presentation) would be postponed until further notice. Chairman Busch asked members for approval to amend the agenda, removing items 5 and 8. There being no further discussion, Chairman Busch asked for a voice vote, and the motion passing unanimously.

**3. Approval of April 19, 2022, Board Meeting Minutes**

Member Long made a motion to approve the April 19, 2022, Board Meeting Minutes as presented. Member Benavidez 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.

#### **4. Public Comments**

A question was asked by one member of the public. He inquired on the cancelation of Invenergy presentation. The Board advised him of a COVID-19 issue prevented the presenter from traveling and attending the meeting.

#### **5. Report of the Chairman**

Chairman Busch reported on the following:

- Chairman Busch gave a brief general update on RETA's latest projects and continued work; Chairman Busch mentioned the completion and availability of the updated study brochure and how it gives accurate baseline information. He also stating he was very pleased with where things are with RETA.
- Chairman Busch announced RETA Executive Director Martinez will brief the Board on RETA's open staff position, budget and more on the upcoming plans of RETA's Utility-Scale Storage Workshop.

#### **6. Report of the Executive Director**

Executive Director Martinez reported on the following:

- Energy Storage Workshop: Mr. Martinez gave a brief overview of the workshop planning and stated the workshop will be an important focus on over next two months. Currently, RETA has reached out to Sandia National Laboratories, EMNRD and other nationally interested groups for participation. Chairman Busch gave a few scenarios on the magnitude of storing 500 megawatts, stating the workshop intent is to provide a useful and educational experience for participants. Mr. Martinez included how this will tie in with the Biden administration and RETA's needs for energy storage solutions. A location for the workshop is still pending.
- Streamline Permitting Processes at State and Federal levels: Mr. Martinez stated RETA staff are continuing to aggressively work with federal agencies, Biden administration staff, and legislative delegations on efforts to streamline the permitting process. Mr. Martinez updated the Board on a soon-to-be scheduled meeting with the Federal Permitting Streamlining Committee and will report back to the Board with any results.
- RETA Staff Position: Mr. Martinez updated the Board on the open RETA staff position, currently being advertised and promoted for interested candidates.
- Questions or Comments: Member Long suggested sponsorship for RETA's workshop. Members of the Board agreed it would be beneficial to host a recurring annual workshop.

**7. Review and Consider Approval of Draft Financial Statements for Period Ending April 30, 2022**

Ginny Selvin, Financial Director, RETA

- Ms. Selvin gave a brief review of financial statements ending April 30, 2022. She highlighted financial activity and briefed on an anticipated letter ruling from Taxation & Revenue Department.
- RETA is continuing to meet with an accounting consultant.

Chairman Busch called for a motion to approve the financial statements for the period ending April 30, 2022. Member Long made a motion to approve the financial statements ending April 30, 2022. Member Howe seconded the motion. On a voice vote, the motion passed unanimously.

**8. Review and Consider Approval of Draft FY23 Budget**

Ginny Selvin, Financial Director, RETA

- Ms. Selvin presented to the Board a draft of the proposed FY23 Budget. Ms. Selvin highlighted that the proposed budget shows no governmental appropriations, indicating RETA is fully sustainable. She also presented changes in estimated annual expenses.

Chairman Busch called for a motion to approve the proposed draft FY23 Budget. Member Long made a motion to approve the proposed draft FY23 Budget. Member Lewis seconded the motion. On a voice vote, the motion passed unanimously.

**9. Closed Session**

**Confidential discussion of the acquisition of real property as it relates to a RETA project, 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.**

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 9:44 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 Benavidez seconded the motion. There being no Board members opposed, the motion passed unanimously. The Board returned to its regular meeting at 10:18 a.m.

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

**12. Next Meeting**

After brief discussion, the Board members agreed to tentatively hold the next Board meeting on July 14, 2022 located at the State Capitol building, commencing at 9:00am.

**13. Adjournment**

Member Long moved to adjourn the meeting. Member Howe seconded. On a voice vote, the motion passed unanimously and the meeting was adjourned at 10:22 a.m.