

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

**New Mexico State Capitol**

**Tuesday, September 13, 2022  
9:00 a.m. MT**

**Present Board Members**

Robert (Bob) Busch, Chairman  
Noah Long, Member  
Heather Benavidez, Member  
Jeremy Lewis, Member  
Louise Martinez, Member  
Phoebe Suina, 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 welcomed everyone to the meeting. Chairman Busch called the meeting to order at 9:04 a.m. A quorum was present for the meeting.

**2. Approval of Agenda**

Chairman Busch presented the recommended agenda to the Board. Member Long made a motion to approve the agenda as recommended. Member Benavidez seconded the motion. There being no further discussion, Chairman Busch took a roll call vote, with none opposed, the motion passed unanimously.

**3. Approval of July 14, 2022 minutes**

Chairman Busch asked if there were any comments or changes to the July 14, 2022 minutes as presented. Member Long made a motion to approve the minutes. Member Benavidez seconded the motion. There being no further discussion, Chairman Busch took a roll call vote, with none opposed, the motion passed unanimously.

**4. Public Comments**

Public member Jerry McBride, Assistant Manager with Electric Inc. Albuquerque addressed the Board about Developer Projects. Chairman Busch and members of the Board updated Mr. McBride on developer projects inquired on. Public Member Angela Gonzales, Pattern, was also in attendance, she echoed RETA's Board members' responses.

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

Chairman Busch reported on the following:

- **RETA Staff Position:** Chairman Busch provided a brief update on RETA's hiring for the open Project Development Specialist position.
- **Energy Workshop:** Chairman Busch briefed the Board on the status and planning of the upcoming Energy Storage Workshop scheduled on October 19-20, 2022, at the Downtown La Fonda. Chairman Busch provided a brief description of the concept of long-duration utility-scale storage.
- **Newly appointed Board Member:** Chairman Busch announced to the Board that the Governor recently appointed a new Board member, Dr. James Miller, Jr. He should be available for attend the next scheduled Board meeting.

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

Executive Director Martinez reported on the following:

- Executive Director Martinez followed up on Mr. McBride's public comments and gave further updates on the developer projects.
- Executive Director Martinez gave an update to the Board on the ongoing efforts of the Energy Storage Workshop scheduled for October 19-20, 2022. A final agenda was available for review and registration of Board members was encouraged, given 111 participants have already registered.
- Executive Director Martinez updated to the Board on presenting at the recent legislative interim Water and Natural Resources Committee on August 25, 2022 in Clovis. General Counsel Ms. Mostoller also attended. The presentation and meeting went well.

## 7. **Review and Consideration of Amendment to RETA Personnel Policies -Lynn Mostoller**

Chairman Busch called for a motion to approve the Amendment to RETA Personnel Policies.

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

## 8. **Review and Consideration of Amendment to RETA Financial Policies – Lynn Mostoller**

Chairman Busch called for a motion to approve the Amendment to RETA Financial Policies.

Member Long made motion to approve the Amendment to RETA Financial Policies. Member Benavidez seconded the motion. There was no further discussion. On a voice vote, the motion passed unanimously.

**9. Review of Preliminary Draft Financial Statements for the year ended June 30, 2022 – Ginny Selvin**

- Ms. Selvin gave a brief review of the financial statements for the past 12 months ending June 30, 2022. She highlighted financial activity, explaining RETA is in the midst of its annual audit, Ms. Selvin assured the audit was going well.
- RETA has engaged the services of an Accounting Firm, Zlotnick & Sandoval PC as of September 1, 2022.

Chairman Busch explained no vote was required from the Board considering the audit was not complete and should be ready for the next Board meeting.

**10. Closed Session**

**Confidential discussion of (1) limited personnel matters regarding the Executive Director’s Employment Contract, as permitted under NMSA 1978, § 10-15-1(H)(2) (limited personnel matters); (2) the acquisition of real property as it relates to several 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; (3) adjudicative proceedings related to RETA projects, as permitted under NMSA 1978, § 10-15-1(H)(7) (meeting for attorney-client privileged discussion of threatened litigation in which RETA may become a participant); and (4) the contents of competitive sealed proposals solicited for legal services, NMSA 1978, § 10-15-1(H)(6) (contents of sealed proposals solicited pursuant to the Procurement Code discussed during contract negotiations).**

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

The Board went into closed session at 9:48 a.m.

Member Long made a motion to come out of closed session. Member Suina seconded the motion. There being no Board members opposed, the motion passed unanimously. The Board returned to its regular meeting at 10:44 a.m.

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

**11. Review and Consider Approval of Executive Director Contract**

Chairman Busch called for a motion to approve the Executive Director’s Contract.

Member Long made motion to approve the Executive Director’s Contract. Member Benavidez seconded the motion. There was no further discussion. On a roll call vote, the motion passed unanimously.

**12. Review and Consider Approval of Resolution Regarding September 13, 2022 Letter Agreement Regarding Project Extensions**

Chairman Busch called for a motion to approve the Resolution Regarding September 13, 2022 Letter Agreement Regarding Project Extensions.

Member Long made motion to approve the Resolution Regarding September 13, 2022 Letter Agreement Regarding Project Extensions. Member Benavidez seconded the motion. There was no further discussion. On a roll call vote, the motion passed unanimously.

**13. Review and Consider Approval of Legal Services Contractor**

Chairman Busch called for a motion to approve the Legal Services Contractor.

Member Lewis made motion to approve the Legal Services Contractor. Member Benavidez seconded the motion. There was no further discussion. On a roll call vote, the motion passed unanimously.

**14. Next Meeting**

After brief discussion, the Board members agreed to hold the next Board meeting on October 31, 2022, located at the State Capitol building, commencing at 9:00am.

**15. Adjournment**

Member Long moved to adjourn the meeting. Member Lewis seconded. On a voice vote, the motion passed unanimously, and the meeting was adjourned at 10:52 a.m.