

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
OF LOUISIANA ENERGY AND POWER AUTHORITY (LEPA) HELD AT  
THE OFFICES OF LEPA IN LAFAYETTE, LOUISIANA ON MAY 16, 2019**

The members of the Board of Directors held a meeting on May 16, 2019, at the LEPA Administrative Building, 210 Venture Way, Lafayette, Louisiana after due notice of said meeting.

There were present the following directors (or alternate directors where indicated):

Mayor Mark Piazza, Director, representing the City of Abbeville  
Mr. Michael Marcotte, Director, representing the City of Alexandria  
Mr. Ernest Brown, Alternate Director, representing the City of Houma  
Mayor Michael Kloesel, Director, representing the City of Kaplan  
Mr. Jeffrey Stewart, Alternate Director, representing the City of Lafayette  
Mayor Frank "Boo" Grizzaffi, Director, representing the City of Morgan City  
Mr. Charles Brossette, Director, representing the City of Natchitoches  
Mayor Edwin "Ed" Reeves, Director, representing the City of Plaquemine  
Mayor Charles "Chuck" Robichaux, Director, representing the City of Rayne  
Mayor Melinda Mitchell, Director, representing the City of St. Martinville  
Mayor Buzz Craft, Director, representing the City of Vidalia

Absent:

Mr. Hiram Evans, Director representing the Town of Jonesville  
Mr. Michael Fluhr, Alternate Director, representing the City of Minden  
Mayor Cornell Dukes, Director, representing the City of New Roads  
Mayor Kenneth Stinson, Director, representing the Town of Vinton  
Mayor Carolyn Louviere, Director, representing the City of Welsh  
Mayor George Moss, Director, representing the Town of Winnfield

Non-Voting Member Present:

Mr. Cordell Grand, General Manager

The meeting was called to order and the presence of a quorum was noted. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

On Motion by Mayor Grizzaffi that was seconded by Mayor Piazza, the Board of Directors unanimously voted to approve the Minutes of the March 14, 2019 Board Meeting, copies of which were in Members' packets.

General Manager Cordell Grand then gave an update on wholesale power costs for the last year in calendar months, copies of which were in Members' packets. He reported that the costs for April were at 53 mills with energy costs at 33.3 mills. He further reported that in the following month, there should be a one to two mill decline in costs. He reported that the twelve month strip for natural gas was at \$2.85 a year ago, and the present strip is at \$2.73. He further reported that he does not foresee any spike in the coming months barring a hurricane.

Assistant General Manager Kevin Bihm then gave an update on disposition of the Rodemacher Unit No. 2. He reported that there had been a two day outage to repair a leak. There was another two day outage to repair economizers.

General Manager Grand then reported that that may be his last board meeting. He reported that he had been with LEPA for 35 years. He thanked the Board. Mayor Reeves congratulated him for his service.

On motion by Mr. Marcotte that was seconded by Mayor Mitchell, the Board of Directors unanimously voted to ratify the final actions authorized by the Operating Committee at the meetings of such Committee on March 14, 2019 and April 18, 2019.

Assistant General Manager Bihm then gave an update on LEPA Unit No. 1 operations. He reported that there had been a two day outage to change some suppressor sensors. He also reported that the Unit is producing 66 megawatts. He further reported that GE and its ex-employees have been assisting and troubleshooting.

General Manager Grand then reported on a request for approval of the Operating Committee's recommendation of selecting Legend Consulting Group Limited as LEPA's consulting engineer. General Manager Grand reported that the Operating Committee had recommended that Legend Consulting Group Limited be selected. There then ensued a discussion about the scope of services to be covered by the contract. On motion by Mr. Marcotte that was seconded by Mayor Reeves, the Board of Directors unanimously voted to authorize LEPA staff to execute the proposed contract with Legend Consulting Group Limited, with the proviso that the contract provide for a twelve month limitation.

The Board then considered entering into an Executive Session, pursuant to La. R.S. 42:16, for an interview of Kevin Bihm, a copy of whose resume' was in Members' packets, to discuss and better ascertain his character and professional competence, as it relates to the upcoming vacancy in the LEPA General Manager position. On motion by Mayor Piazza that was seconded by Mr. Marcotte, the Board of Directors unanimously voted to go into Executive Session.

Chairman Craft then asked for any public comments. There were none. The Board then went into Executive Session.

After the Executive Session, the Board returned to the board room. On motion by Mayor Robichaux that seconded by Mayor Reeves, the Board of Directors unanimously voted to return to the regular session.

The Board of Directors then took up the matter of a discussion of a determination of the future course of action for the upcoming vacancy of the LEPA General Manager position.

On motion by Mayor Reeves that was seconded by Mayor Robichaux, the Board of Directors then unanimously voted to allow an amendment to Item 6 (e) such that it applied only to Kevin Bihm with respect to the General Manager position.

After much discussion, on motion by Mayor Reeves that was seconded by Mayor Robichaux, the Board of Directors unanimously voted to appoint Kevin Bihm as General Manager as of July 1, 2019. The votes were as follows:

Mr. Brossette, yea  
Mr. Stewart, yea  
Mayor Mitchell, yea  
Mayor Kloepel, yea  
Mayor Piazza, yea  
Mr. Brown, yea  
Mayor Reeves, yea  
Mayor Craft, yea  
Mayor Robichaux, yea  
Mayor Grizzaffi, yea  
Mr. Marcotte, yea

Mayor Robichaux then requested that LEPA staff try to schedule a special Board meeting to take place after the upcoming Operating Committee meeting scheduled for June 20, 2019 for a potential Executive Session to interview David Bergeron to better ascertain his character and professional competence as it relates to LEPA's Assistant General Manager position. General Manager Grand reported that under the rules and protocol, the General Manager is the person who actually appoints the Assistant General Manager. Nevertheless, all agreed that it would be helpful to the Board for it to interview Mr. Bergeron.

There being no further business to come before the Board, on motion by Mayor Reeves that was seconded by Mayor Robichaux, the Board of Directors unanimously voted to adjourn the meeting.



Chairman



Secretary