

**MINUTES OF LEPA OPERATING COMMITTEE MEETING OF  
LOUISIANA ENERGY AND POWER AUTHORITY (LEPA)  
HELD AT THE OFFICES OF LEPA IN LAFAYETTE, LOUISIANA ON  
OCTOBER 20, 2022.**

The members of the LEPA Operating Committee held a meeting on October 20, 2022, at the LEPA Administrative Building, 210 Venture Way, Lafayette, Louisiana after due notice of said meeting.

Present for the Operating Committee were:

Mayor Buz Craft - Chairman, representing the City of Vidalia  
Mayor Edwin "Ed" Reeves – Vice Chairman, representing the City of Plaquemine  
Mr. Jeffrey Stewart - Secretary-Treasurer, representing the City of Lafayette  
Mayor Charles "Chuck" Robichaux, representing the City of Rayne  
Mayor Karl Arceneaux, representing the City of Welsh

Absent:

None.

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

On motion by Mayor Reeves that was seconded by Mayor Arceneaux, the Members of the Operating Committee unanimously voted to approve the minutes of the July 21, 2022 Operating Committee meeting.

General Manager Bihm then reported on wholesale power costs and residential rates as set forth in the documents in Members' packets. General Manager Bihm then gave the history of the co-ops and pricing regarding residential rates. He further reported that the 12-month strip for natural gas was at \$5.16.

Assistant General Manager David Bergeron then gave an update on Rodemacher Unit No. 2. He reported that the unit is online and fully available. There is coal in inventory and contracts for delivery of coal for the year 2023.

General Manager Bihm then reported that LEPA staff has been working with the Town of Erath to transition delivery of electricity. At this time, Entergy owns the sub-station and CLECO owns the mobile transformer. CLECO will extend its contract but not renew it. CLECO wants to maintain ownership of its mobile transformer. LEPA is working with Erath to build its own substation. He reported that the Town of Gueydan is in a similar position except that Gueydan owns its substation. Gueydan has offered to terminate its contract with CLECO and buy a transformer. Next week, staff will meet with the City of Ruston about Ruston possibly joining LEPA.

On motion by Mayor Reeves that was seconded by Mayor Robichaux, the Members of the Operating Committee unanimously voted by roll call to go into Executive Session to discuss actions taken by LEPA staff to implement financial security and cybersecurity procedures. The members voted that all Members of the Committee, General Manager Bihm, Assistant General Manager Bergeron, Patrick Wartelle, LEPA Board Members and Alternate Board Members be allowed to attend the executive session. The Committee then went into Executive Session. The attendees then returned to the conference room. On motion by Mayor Reeves that was seconded by Mayor Robichaux, Members of the Operating Committee unanimously voted by roll call to come out of Executive Session.

General Manager Bihm then reported on proposed Full Requirements and Rodemacher budgets, copies of which were in Members' packets. He reported that that the variable costs in the proposed Full Requirements budget were down due to the decrease in the price of natural gas. The fixed costs for the proposed Rodemacher budget were higher, based in part, on remediation of the fly ash ponds.

Further reported that additional costs for outside services related to auditing are included in the Full Requirements budget. At this time, staff is not recommending cost of living adjustment for employees. On motion by Mayor Reeves that was seconded by Mayor Arceneaux, the Members of the Operating Committee unanimously voted to recommend adoption of the budgets by the Board of Directors.

General Manager Bihm then reported on a proposed Meeting Calendar for 2023, copies of which were in Members' packets. On motion by Mayor Reeves that was seconded by Mayor Robichaux, the Members of the Operating Committee unanimously voted to adopt the proposed calendar.

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

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Chairman

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Sec.-Treasurer