

**MINUTES OF LEPA OPERATING COMMITTEE MEETING OF
LOUISIANA ENERGY AND POWER AUTHORITY (LEPA)
HELD AT THE OFFICES OF LEPA IN LAFAYETTE, LOUISIANA ON
AUGUST 17, 2023.**

The members of the LEPA Operating Committee held a meeting on August 17, 2023 at the LEPA Administrative Building, 210 Venture Way, Lafayette, Louisiana after due notice of said meeting.

Present for the Operating Committee were:

Mayor Edwin “Ed” Reeves, Chairman, representing the City of Plaquemine
Mayor Charles “Chuck” Robichaux, Secretary-Treasurer, representing the City of Rayne
Mayor Jason Willis, representing the City of St. Martinville
Mayor Buz Craft, representing the Town of Vidalia

Absent:

Mr. Jeffery Stewart, Vice-Chairman, representing the City of Lafayette

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 Robichaux that was seconded by Mayor Craft, the Members of the Operating Committee unanimously voted to approve the minutes of the June 15, 2023 Operating Committee meeting, copies of which were in Members’ packets.

General Manager Bihm then reported on wholesale power costs as set forth in the documents in Members’ packets. He reported on the June 2023 rates as well as the rates for the last 12 months. He reported that on the day of the meeting, natural gas at the Henry Hub was \$2.55 and the 12-month strip was \$3.34/MMBTU. Natural gas at the Henry Hub a year ago was \$9.51/MMBTU and the 12-month strip for natural gas at the Henry Hub a year ago was \$7.55/MMBTU. That information was in the documents in Members’ packets.

Assistant General Manager David Bergeron then gave an update on Rodemacher Unit No. 2. He reported that the unit is available and has been online.

General Manager Bihm then reported on the status of the City of Ruston. He reported that he attended and addressed the City of Ruston Council at their regularly scheduled meeting on August 7, 2023. At that same meeting, the Ruston City Council voted unanimously to have a referendum on the City of Ruston’s November 18th ballot as to whether Ruston will join LEPA. The agenda for the meeting held in Ruston on August 7, 2023 was in Members’ packets. Also included in Members’ packets was a news article in the Ruston Daily Leader.

General Manager Bihm then reported on federal funding through the Department of Energy that is available for efficiency programs for low income residents as set forth in the document in Members’ packets.

General Manager Bihm then advised that LEPA was investigating training with the APPA for LEPA to perform electricity rate study services for LEPA members.

General Manager Bihm then reported on the announcement of a First Solar manufacturing facility at Acadiana Regional Airport as set forth in the document in Members' packets.

General Manager Bihm then reported on the updated 2023 Atlantic Hurricane Season Outlook as set forth in the document in Members' packets.

General Manager Bihm then sought approval for modification to Section 4.8 of the LEPA Policies and Procedures Manual to add the job title of Energy Operations Aide as set forth in the document in Members' packets. He reported that he was not requesting that a new job be created, but simply that the term be modified to conform with the duties of that person. On motion by Mayor Craft that was seconded by Mayor Robichaux, the Members of the Operating Committee unanimously approved the modified language.

General Manager Bihm then sought approval to add "Rule 17 — Ethical Standards for LEPA Employees" to the LEPA Policies and Procedures Manual as set forth in the document in Members' packets. On motion by Mayor Craft that was seconded by Mayor Willis, the Members of the Operating Committee unanimously approved the addition of Rule 17.

General Manager Bihm then sought approval to add "Rule 18 — Flag Etiquette and Guidelines" to the LEPA Policies and Procedures Manual as set forth in the document in Members' packets. On motion by Mayor Craft that was seconded by Mayor Willis, the Members of the Operating Committee unanimously approved the addition of Rule 18.

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

Chairman

Sec.-Treasurer