

**MINUTES OF LEPA OPERATING COMMITTEE MEETING OF  
LOUISIANA ENERGY AND POWER AUTHORITY (LEPA)  
HELD AT THE OFFICES OF LEPA IN LAFAYETTE, LOUISIANA ON  
DECEMBER 20, 2023.**

The members of the LEPA Operating Committee held a meeting on December 20, 2023 at the LEPA Administrative Building, 210 Venture Way, Lafayette, Louisiana after due notice of said meeting.

Present for the Operating Committee were:

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

Mayor Edwin "Ed" Reeves, Chairman, representing the City of Plaquemine

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 Craft that was seconded by Mayor Robichaux, the Members of the Operating Committee unanimously voted to approve the minutes of the October 19, 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 October 2023 rates as well as the rates for the last 12 months. He then reported on residential rates as set forth in the documents in Members' packets. He then discussed the rates being charged by the Town of Erath.

He reported that on the day of the meeting, natural gas at Henry Hub was \$2.46/MMBTU and the 12-month strip was \$2.59/MMBTU. Natural gas at Henry Hub a year ago was \$5.26/MMBTU and the 12-month strip for natural gas a year ago was at \$4.89/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 on the coal being purchased by the joint owners.

General Manager Bihm then reported on the House Resolution 155 Study Group Meeting regarding reducing barriers to broadband deployment on December 15, 2023, as set forth in the document in Members' packets. Mr. Stewart then reported on his experiences with the study group. General Manager Bihm then reported on a draft under review, a copy of which was in Members' packets.

General Manager Bihm then reported that CLECO has announced the sale of its wholly owned subsidiary, CLECO Cajun LLC to Atlas Capital Resources as set forth in the document in Members' packets.

General Manager Bihm then reported that the citizens of the City of Ruston had voted in November to approve joining LEPA by a 71% margin.

General Manager Bihm then reported that Jason Bergeron was elected as Mayor/Parish President of Houma/Terrebonne Parish. He further reported that Mayor Craft was re-elected in Vidalia without opposition.

General Manager Bihm then discussed a request for consideration for approval to authorize the LEPA Chairman to execute a personnel action for a salary increase for the LEPA General Manager effective June 1, 2024, commensurate with the LEPA 2024 budgets approved at the November meeting of the LEPA Board of Directors. On motion by Mayor Robichaux that was seconded by Mayor Craft, the Members of the Operating Committee voted to approve the request. The votes were as follows:

Ayes:

Mr. Stewart  
Mayor Robichaux  
Mayor Craft  
Mayor Willis

Nays:

None

Thus, the motion passed unanimously.

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.

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Chairman

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Sec.-Treasurer