

**MINUTES OF LEPA OPERATING COMMITTEE MEETING OF  
LOUISIANA ENERGY AND POWER AUTHORITY (LEPA)  
HELD AT THE OFFICES OF LEPA IN LAFAYETTE, LOUISIANA ON  
APRIL 18, 2024.**

The members of the LEPA Operating Committee held a meeting on April 18, 2024 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, Chairman, representing the City of Lafayette  
Mayor Charles “Chuck” Robichaux, Vice-Chairman, representing the City of Rayne  
Mayor Jason Willis, Secretary-Treasurer, representing the City of St. Martinville  
Mayor Buz Craft, representing the Town of Vidalia

Absent:

Mayor Karl Arceneaux, representing the Town of Welsh

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

General Manager Bihm then reported on the upgrades installed in the boardroom and those remaining to be installed. He reminded the Committee that the upgrades were budgeted at \$18,000, but that a new hire for the LEPA Energy Control Center is also trained in A/V systems and performed the design and installation work, saving budgeted money.

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 February 15, 2024, 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 February 2024 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 reported that on the day of the meeting, natural gas at the Henry Hub was \$1.51/MMBTU and the 12-month strip was \$2.77/MMBTU. Natural gas at the Henry Hub a year ago was \$2.23/MMBTU and the 12-month strip for natural gas at the Henry Hub a year ago was \$3.10/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 a spring outage was scheduled for March 18 through March 24. Some work was delayed until the fall outage. He also reported that there was a brief outage from March 9 through March 11. General Manager Bihm then reported on the progress of a memorandum of understanding (MOU) from Cleco with comments being made. He reported that the final version should be presented at the May meeting of the Board of Directors.

General Manager Bihm then reported on the APPA Lineworker Rodeo. He reported on an article summarizing the event that was in Members' packets and a summary of awards presented to LUS apprentices. A video prepared by LUS was then played. Mr. Stewart then gave a summary of the event.

General Manager Bihm then gave an update on the Town of Erath's substation project.

General Manager Bihm then reported on LEPA Wholesale Rate Stabilization and the Winnfield Experiment as set forth in the documents in Members' packets. There then ensued a general discussion among the Members and General Manager Bihm regarding wholesale rate stabilization.

General Manager Bihm then reported on SB 410 proposing to modify La. R.S. 33:4545.4(E), copies of which were in Members' packets. He reported that the intent was to modify the votes necessary to admit a new member of the LEPA Board of Directors and accompanying municipality. He further reported on the progress of the bill.

General Manager Bihm then reported on the LUS Electric Utility Storm Response and Recovery Summit described in the document in Members' packets. Mr. Stewart also reported on the details associated with the Summit.

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