

**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 JULY 17, 2024.**

The members of the Board of Directors held a meeting on July 17, 2024, 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 Roslyn White, Director, representing the City of Abbeville  
Mr. Scott Bernard, Alternate Director, representing the Town of Erath  
Mr. Ernest Brown, Alternate Director, representing the City of Houma  
Mayor Theron Smith, Director, representing the City of New Roads  
Mr. Jonathan Paul, Alternate Director, representing the City of Winnfield  
Mr. Gary Moreland, Director, representing the City of Minden  
Mayor Charles "Chuck" Robichaux, Director, representing the City of Rayne  
Mr. Jeff Stewart, Director, representing the City of Lafayette  
Mayor Loria Hollins, Director, representing the Town of Jonesville  
Mayor Marcus Renfrow, Director, representing the Town of Vinton  
Mayor Karl Arceneaux, Director, representing the Town of Welsh  
Ms. Natasha Johnson, Director, representing the City of Plaquemine  
Mayor Michael "Mike" Kloesel, Director, representing the City of Kaplan  
Mayor Jason Willis, Director, representing the City of St. Martinville  
Mr. Andrew Halbrook, Director, representing the City of Ruston

Absent:

Mr. Alainna Mire, Alternate Director, representing the City of Alexandria.  
Mayor Lee Dragna, Director, representing the City of Morgan City  
Mayor Jude Reese, Director, representing the Town of Gueydan  
Mr. Matt Anderson, Director, representing the City of Natchitoches  
Mayor Buz Craft, Director, representing the Town of Vidalia

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

On motion by Mayor Robichaux that was seconded by Mayor White, the Board of Directors unanimously voted to approve the final actions authorized by the Operating Committee at the meeting of such Committee held on April 18, 2024.

On motion by Mayor Kloesel that was seconded by Mayor White, the Board of Directors unanimously voted to approve the minutes of the May 16, 2024, meeting of the Board of Directors.

General Manager Bihm then reported on a request for approval of an ordinance to accept the City of Ruston as a member of the Louisiana Energy and Power Authority. He reported that Act 180, a copy of which was in Members' packets, was approved by the Louisiana Legislature and signed by the Governor. Act 180 amended the LEPA enabling act to provide that only a majority vote, instead of a unanimous vote, of existing LEPA Member would be needed to accept an eligible municipality as a new LEPA Member. He gave a history of the legislation. He reported that the

Governor approved the Act on May 23, 2024. He reported that the documents associated with Ruston's membership included a resolution approved by the City of Ruston Council and the oaths of office by its Director and Alternate Director, all which were in Members' packets. Mayor White then made a motion that was seconded by Mayor Kloesel to vote to admit the City of Ruston as a member municipality.

The votes were as follows:

Yeas:

Mayor Roslyn White, Director, representing the City of Abbeville  
Mr. Scott Bernard, Alternate Director, representing the Town of Erath  
Mr. Ernest Brown, Alternate Director, representing the City of Houma  
Mayor Theron Smith, Director, representing the City of New Roads  
Mr. Jonathan Paul, Alternate Director, representing the City of Winnfield  
Mr. Gary Moreland, Director, representing the City of Minden  
Mayor Charles "Chuck" Robichaux, Director, representing the City of Rayne  
Mr. Jeff Stewart, Director, representing the City of Lafayette  
Mayor Loria Hollins, Director, representing the Town of Jonesville  
Mayor Marcus Renfrow, Director, representing the Town of Vinton  
Mayor Karl Arceneaux, Director, representing the Town of Welsh  
Ms. Natasha Johnson, Director, representing the City of Plaquemine  
Mayor Michael "Mike" Kloesel, Director, representing the City of Kaplan  
Mayor Jason Willis, Director, representing the City of St. Martinville  
Mr. Andrew Halbrook, Director, representing the City of Ruston

Nays:

None

Thus, the Board voted to accept the City of Ruston into LEPA membership.

General Manager Bihm then reported on wholesale power costs as set forth in the documents in Members's packets. He reported on the wholesale power cost from May 2024 and for June 2023-May 2024. He also reported on residential rates as set forth in the documents in Members's packets.

General Manager Bihm then reported on the price of natural gas, as set forth in the documents in Members' packets. He reported that on the day of the meeting, the price at the Henry Hub was \$2.09/MMBTU, and the 12-month strip was \$2.92/MMBTU. He further reported that a month ago, the price of natural gas was \$2.74/MMBTU, and the 12-month strip was \$3.34/MMBTU. He further reported that a year ago, the price of natural gas was \$2.50/MMBTU and the 12-month strip was \$3.11/MMBTU. All this 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 there was an outage from June 19 through June 24 for repairs and maintenance. He reported that there is plenty of coal in inventory.

General Manager Bihm then reported on the Doxo Bill Pay Service. Mayor White of Abbeville then reported on her city's experience with Doxo as set forth in the documents in Members's packets.

General Manager Bihm then reported on a draft of an ordinance for proposed standards of electrical service that was in Members's packets.

Mr. Greg Labbe and Mr. Jason Miller of Lafayette Utilities System ("LUS") then gave a presentation on hurricane preparedness with mutual aid as set forth in the documents in Members's packets.

General Manager Bihm then presented a plaque to Mr. Greg Labbe of LUS in recognition of his many years of distinguished service to the organization through his efforts in mutual aid provided to the LEPA Member Cities.

General Manager Bihm then reported on consideration of scheduling an AMI workshop for LEPA members. There then ensued a general discussion among board members about that subject and scheduling.

General Manager Bihm then reported on consideration by the board to enter into an executive session pursuant to La. R.S. 42:16 and La. R.S. 42:17 with regard to litigation addressing expropriation, and an electric utility servitude, which could have a future reflect on LEPA member cities. On motion by Mayor Robichaux that was seconded by Mayor White, the Board voted to go into executive session.

The votes were as follows:

Yeas:

Mayor Roslyn White, Director, representing the City of Abbeville  
Mr. Scott Bernard, Alternate Director, representing the Town of Erath  
Mr. Ernest Brown, Alternate Director, representing the City of Houma  
Mayor Theron Smith, Director, representing the City of New Roads  
Mr. Jonathan Paul, Alternate Director, representing the City of Winnfield  
Mr. Gary Moreland, Director, representing the City of Minden  
Mayor Charles "Chuck" Robichaux, Director, representing the City of Rayne  
Mr. Jeff Stewart, Director, representing the City of Lafayette  
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Mayor Marcus Renfrow, Director, representing the Town of Vinton  
Mayor Karl Arceneaux, Director, representing the Town of Welsh  
Ms. Natasha Johnson, Director, representing the City of Plaquemine  
Mayor Michael "Mike" Kloesel, Director, representing the City of Kaplan  
Mayor Jason Willis, Director, representing the City of St. Martinville  
Mr. Andrew Halbrook, Director, representing the City of Ruston

Nays:

None

Thus, the Board unanimously voted to go into executive session.

The Board then returned from executive session, and on motion by Mayor Robichaux that was seconded by Mayor Hollins, the Board voted to come out of executive session.

The votes were as follows:

Ayes:

Mayor Roslyn White, Director, representing the City of Abbeville  
Mr. Scott Bernard, Alternate Director, representing the Town of Erath  
Mr. Ernest Brown, Alternate Director, representing the City of Houma  
Mayor Theron Smith, Director, representing the City of New Roads  
Mr. Jonathan Paul, Alternate Director, representing the City of Winnfield  
Mr. Gary Moreland, Director, representing the City of Minden  
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Ms. Natasha Johnson, Director, representing the City of Plaquemine  
Mayor Michael "Mike" Kloesel, Director, representing the City of Kaplan  
Mayor Jason Willis, Director, representing the City of St. Martinville  
Mr. Andrew Halbrook, Director, representing the City of Ruston

Nays:

None

Thus, the Board unanimously voted to come out of the executive session.

Once out of executive session, on motion by Mayor Arceneaux that was seconded by Ms. Johnson, the Board voted to authorize LEPA staff and counsel to file an amicus curiae brief supporting the position of Lafayette Consolidated Government and its expropriation litigation concerning an electric utility servitude on East Butcher Switch Road.

The votes were as follows:

Ayes:

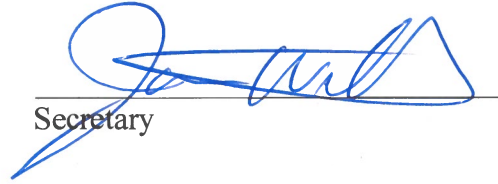
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Mayor Michael "Mike" Kloesel, Director, representing the City of Kaplan  
Mayor Jason Willis, Director, representing the City of St. Martinville  
Mr. Andrew Halbrook, Director, representing the City of Ruston

Nays:

None.

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

  
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Chairman

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary

