MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF LOUISIANA ENERGY AND POWER AUTHORITY (LEPA) HELD AT THE OFFICES OF LEPA IN LAFAYETTE, LOUISIANA JULY 16, 2026

The members of the Board of Directors held a special meeting on July 16, 2026, 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):

Mr. Brady Broussard, Alternate Director, representing the City of Abbeville
Mr. Marcus Connella, Director, representing the City of Alexandria
Mayor Taylor Mencacci, Director, representing the Town of Erath
Mr. Ernest Brown, Alternate Director, representing the City of Houma/TPCG
Mayor Michael "Mike" Kloesel, Director, representing the City of Kaplan
Mr. Jeffrey Stewart, Director, representing the City of Lafayette
Mayor Ronnie Williams, Director, representing the City of Natchitoches
Mayor Theron Smith, Director, representing the City of New Roads
Mayor Charles "Chuck" Robichaux, Director, representing the City of Rayne
Mayor Jason Willis, Chairman, representing the City of St. Martinville
Mayor Buz Craft, Secretary/Treasurer, representing the Town of Vidalia
Mayor Karl Arceneaux, Director, representing the Town of Welsh
Mr. Jonathan Paul, Alternate Director, representing the City of Winnfield
Mayor Loria Hollins, Director, representing the Town of Jonesville

Absent:

Mayor Jude Reese, Director, representing the Town of Gueydan
Mayor Lee Dragna, Director, representing the City of Morgan City
Mr. John Freeman, Alternate Director, representing the City of Ruston
Mayor Bonnie Jo Bahnsen, Director, representing the Town of Vinton
Mayor Nick Cox, Director, representing the City of Minden
Mayor JB Barker, Director, representing the City of Plaquemine

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

Chairman Willis then recognized Mayor Levy of the City of Abbeville in attendance at the meeting.

On motion by Mayor Robichaux that was seconded by Mayor Hollins, the Board of Directors unanimously voted to approve the minutes of the May 21, 2026, meeting of the Board of Directors, copies of which were in Members' packets.

On motion by Mayor Kloesel that was seconded by Mayor Mencacci, the Board of Directors unanimously voted to ratify the final actions authorized by the Operating Committee at the meeting of such Committee held on April 16, 2026.

Chairman Willis then requested that the Board amend the Agenda to include a discussion about retaining a different accounting firm to conduct the annual audit. On motion by Mayor Robichaux that was seconded by Mayor Craft, the Board of Directors voted by roll call vote to amend the Agenda to discuss and consider retaining a different accounting firm to conduct the annual audit. The votes were as follows:

Ayes:

Mr. Brady Broussard, Alternate Director, representing the City of Abbeville
Mr. Marcus Connella, Director, representing the City of Alexandria
Mayor Taylor Mencacci, Director, representing the Town of Erath
Mr. Ernest Brown, Alternate Director, representing the City of Houma/TPCG
Mayor Michael "Mike" Kloesel, Director, representing the City of Kaplan
Mr. Jeffrey Stewart, Director, representing the City of Lafayette
Mayor Ronnie Williams, Director, representing the City of Natchitoches
Mayor Theron Smith, Director, representing the City of New Roads
Mayor Charles "Chuck" Robichaux, Director, representing the City of Rayne
Mayor Jason Willis, Chairman, representing the City of St. Martinville
Mayor Buz Craft, Secretary/Treasurer, representing the Town of Vidalia
Mayor Karl Arceneaux, Director, representing the Town of Welsh
Mr. Jonathan Paul, Alternate Director, representing the City of Winnfield
Mayor Loria Hollins, Director, representing the Town of Jonesville

Nays:

None

Thus, the vote was unanimous, and the Motion carried.

General Manager Bihm then reported on wholesale power costs and residential retail rates as set forth in the documents in Members' packets. He reported that the first sheet showed wholesale power costs for May 2026. The second sheet showed wholesale power costs for June 2025 through May 2026. He then reported on residential rates on the sheets.

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 $2.80/MMBTU, and the 12-month strip was $2.80/MMBTU. He further reported that a month ago, the price of natural gas was $3.06/MMBTU, and the 12-month strip was $3.06/MMBTU. He further reported that a year ago, the price of natural gas was $3.43/MMBTU, and the 12-month strip was $4.13/MMBTU. All of this information was in the documents in Members' packets.

Assistant General Manager Bergeron then gave a report on Rodemacher Unit No.2. He reported that there was an outage from June 30 through July 2 for a tube leak. He also reported that the annual fall outage has been rescheduled for November 1 through December 30.

General Manager Bihm then gave an update on the LEPA FRS Energy Prepay plan on the documents in Members' packets. He reported that the estimated savings over the initial 7-year period are projected to be $27,584,657.

General Manager Bihm then reported on a 2023 LEPA Member City Salary Survey on a spreadsheet in Members' packets. He stated that LEPA staff will be contacting the Members for updated 2027 salary information.

General Manager Bihm then reported that APPA held its national convention in Boston. LUS Director, Jeff Stewart was elected to the APPA Board of Directors.

The Board then took up the Amended Agenda item to discuss and consider retaining a different accounting firm to conduct the annual audit. Mayor Willis reported that several municipalities use Kolder Slaven & Co. as their auditing firm. General Manager Bihm reported that an RFP went out for 2024. The 2024 audit report from the selected auditing firm was not submitted until very late. He reported that the latest audit report came back on a timely basis. On motion by Mayor Mencacci that was seconded by Mayor Arceneaux, the Board of Directors then voted by roll call vote to retain Kolder Slaven to conduct the annual audit. The votes were as follows:

Ayes:

Mr. Brady Broussard, Alternate Director, representing the City of Abbeville
Mr. Marcus Connella, Director, representing the City of Alexandria
Mayor Taylor Mencacci, Director, representing the Town of Erath
Mr. Ernest Brown, Alternate Director, representing the City of Houma/TPCG
Mayor Michael "Mike" Kloesel, Director, representing the City of Kaplan
Mr. Jeffrey Stewart, Director, representing the City of Lafayette
Mayor Ronnie Williams, Director, representing the City of Natchitoches
Mayor Theron Smith, Director, representing the City of New Roads
Mayor Charles "Chuck" Robichaux, Director, representing the City of Rayne
Mayor Jason Willis, Chairman, representing the City of St. Martinville
Mayor Buz Craft, Secretary/Treasurer, representing the Town of Vidalia
Mayor Karl Arceneaux, Director, representing the Town of Welsh
Mr. Jonathan Paul, Alternate Director, representing the City of Winnfield
Mayor Loria Hollins, Director, representing the Town of Jonesville

Nays:

None

Thus, the vote was unanimous, and the Motion carried.

General Manager Bihm then reported on the potential creation of a new LEPA position for the 2027 Budget as set forth in the description in Members' packets. General Manager Bihm discussed the benefits of this new position and how helpful this could be to the Member Cities He will present more budgetary information about the position to the Board at the September Meeting.

General Manager Bihm then reported on a recommendation for a decision by LEPA on future power supply for Rodemacher Unit No. 2. He gave a history of the events that transpired, including a recent workshop conducted by LEPA regarding the future of the Unit. He also reported on the position taken by Lafayette Public Power Authority in the document in Members' packets.

Joe Rogers of Legend Consulting, LEPA's consulting engineer, then gave a presentation to the Board about the Future Fuel Supply for Rodemacher Unit 2, as set forth in the documents in Members' packets.

After considering the information presented, and the recommendations of LEPA's consulting engineer, on motion by Mayor Robichaux that was seconded by Mayor Craft, the Board of Directors then voted by roll call vote as to whether LEPA staff would advise the Joint Owners that LEPA's position is that the Unit should continue to burn coal as its primary fuel and remain operational through 2035. The votes were as follows:

Ayes:

Mr. Brady Broussard, Alternate Director, representing the City of Abbeville
Mr. Marcus Connella, Director, representing the City of Alexandria
Mayor Taylor Mencacci, Director, representing the Town of Erath
Mr. Ernest Brown, Alternate Director, representing the City of Houma/TPCG
Mayor Michael "Mike" Kloesel, Director, representing the City of Kaplan
Mr. Jeffrey Stewart, Director, representing the City of Lafayette
Mayor Ronnie Williams, Director, representing the City of Natchitoches
Mayor Theron Smith, Director, representing the City of New Roads
Mayor Charles "Chuck" Robichaux, Director, representing the City of Rayne
Mayor Jason Willis, Chairman, representing the City of St. Martinville
Mayor Buz Craft, Secretary/Treasurer, representing the Town of Vidalia
Mayor Karl Arceneaux, Director, representing the Town of Welsh
Mr. Jonathan Paul, Alternate Director, representing the City of Winnfield
Mayor Loria Hollins, Director, representing the Town of Jonesville

Nays:

None

Thus, the vote was unanimous and the Motion carried.

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

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Chairman Secretary