



*M-RETS efficiently tracks and verifies renewable energy generation in collaboration with stakeholders, facilitating renewable energy development in the public interest.*

## **Board Meeting Minutes**

Thursday, February 5, 2015

2:00 P.M. Central

Hyatt Place, Minneapolis, MN

### **Board Members**

#### *Present:*

- (1) Brian Rounds, **SDPUC**, *President*
- (2) Ron Franz, **Dairyland Power Cooperative**, *Vice President*
- (3) Andrew Kell, **WI-PSC**
- (4) Eric Schroeder, **GPI**, *Treasurer*
- (5) Dan Heim, **Exelon** (*via phone*)
- (6) Kari Clark, **Xcel Energy**, *Secretary*
- (7) Jeffery Cottes, **Manitoba Province Energy Division**
- (8) Eric Jensen, **IWLA**
- (9) Venkata Bujimalla, **IUB** (*via phone*)
- (10) Jeff Peters, **Missouri River Energy Services** (*joined via phone at 2:28 pm*)

*Absent:* None

#### *Others Present:*

- (1) Andy Kellen, **WPPI Energy**, (*via phone, left at 3:18 PM*)
- (2) Amy Fredregill, **M-RETS, Inc.**, *Executive Director*
- (3) April Thompson, **M-RETS, Inc.**, *Operations Manager*
- (4) Kurt Pulvermacher, **M-RETS, Inc.**, *Policy and Program Director*

## **PROCEEDINGS**

### **Open Session**

Brian called the meeting to order at 2:18 PM.

1. Approval of Agenda - The agenda was approved by unanimous consent.
2. Approval of Minutes - The December 8, 2014 minutes were approved by unanimous consent.
3. President's Report
  - a. Brian reviewed the board calendar and plans for the next two months
4. Operational Report
  - a. Updates to the written report were provided included an announcement that a long-time goal was achieved; staff now has the ability to make updates to the website thanks to new functionality shared with APX.
  - b. Amy discussed her NARUC and USAID-sponsored trip to Mexico with colleagues from the CA and NC Commissions to consult on the development of a Mexican national renewables tracking system.
  - c. Dates for the June board meeting were discussed.

5. Proposal for Variance Requests and Qualified Reporting Entity (QRE) Applications
  - a. To streamline processes and support the board's transition to a Strategic from a Working Board, Kurt presented Staff's request for authority on Operating Procedure Variance Requests and new QRE account applications.
  - b. Questions and ideas were discussed and fleshed out. More information will be brought back to inform a decision at the March meeting.
6. Digester Methane Destruction and Carbon Offsets Discussion
  - a. Because of the emphasis on carbon policies due to the 111 (d) proposed rules, Andrew flagged an emerging issue for board discussion. He reviewed articles included in the board packet regarding the industry-accepted practice of separating the methane destruction attribute from the REC as well as the M-RETS Operating Procedure definition that splits the methane destruction attribute from the REC. Generator owners, utilities, and the Wisconsin PUC are in agreement that this is an acceptable practice. The Colorado PUC also ordered in a docket several years ago that the methane destruction attribute could be separated from the REC.
  - b. Staff was asked to conduct research on the definitions and practices in other systems and states as part of our 111(d) research efforts. They will report back before the 111 (d) rule is finalized this summer.
7. Annual Board Calendar
  - a. In the interest of time, the calendar was tabled for approval in March.

**Closed Session – Board, Officers and Staff only at 3:18 pm**

8. Governance
  - a. The Governance Committee reported that they had reviewed Jeffery Cottes's nomination to continue serving on the board. MOTION by Eric S. for the board to approve the nomination through August 2015 from the Province of Manitoba for Jeffery Cottes to serve on the board, second by Ron. The motion passed on voice vote with Jeffery Cottes abstaining.
  - b. Ven, Brian and Amy provided an update on state government representation and board composition. As part of the Governance Committee 2015 workplan, ideas will be outlined for various models of state representation.
9. Outreach and communications
  - a. Staff showed a brief REC educational video recently produced by the Center for Resource Solutions. This type of resource is being incorporated to augment stakeholder outreach.
10. Financial Report
  - a. Kurt reviewed the revised dashboard, which was well received.
  - b. Eric S. provided the Treasurer's Report on the preliminary FY2014 Financials.

**Executive Session – the Board entered into executive session at 3:51 pm**

11. Adjourn
  - a. The meeting was adjourned by unanimous consent.

*The meeting was adjourned at 3:52 pm. Minutes submitted by Kari Clark.*