

Utilities District of Western Indiana REMC  
Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors  
March 24, 2025

The Board of Directors of the Utilities District of Western Indiana Rural Electric Membership Corporation met at the office of the corporation, Bloomfield, Indiana, at 6:30 p.m.

President W. Edward Cullison called the regular session meeting to order.

Mr. Childs gave the invocation.

The following directors reported present:

Todd Carpenter  
Melinda Hendrix

W. Edward Cullison  
David Kirkling (virtual)

Shawn Dugan  
Michael Williams

Others present were CEO Douglas Childs; COO Shane Smith; CFO Michael Sullivan; Director of Member Services & Projects Britt Miller; Office Manager Lydia Campbell; Hoosier Energy CEO Donna Walker, Hoosier Energy COO & VP of Operations Rob Horton; member Richard Nichols; and Patti Danner of GCDW.

Member Richard Nichols addressed the Board of Directors with a series of questions, following up on a few items of previous inquiry. Mr. Cullison, Mr. Childs, and Mr. Smith responded accordingly.

Mr. Cullison called for a motion to excuse the absence of Mr. McDaniel. Ms. Hendrix made the motion, Mr. McDaniel seconded, and the motion carried.

Mr. Cullison called for additions or corrections to the meeting agenda. Hearing none, Ms. Hendrix made a motion to approve the agenda. Mr. Carpenter seconded, and the motion carried.

Mr. Cullison also called for additions or corrections to the minutes of the February 24, 2025, regular session board meeting. Mr. Dugan made a motion to accept the minutes as presented. Ms. Hendrix seconded, and the motion carried.

Crafted Communications continues to assist with both traditional and social media communications. The report stood as previously presented.

Continuing the Board Education Series, guest speakers Hoosier Energy CEO Donna Walker and Executive VP & COO Rob Horton presented their annual member cooperative report on trending topics affecting the electric industry.

Mr. Sullivan presented the financial reports.

From the Statement of Cash Flows, revenue, power bill disbursements, and tax payments increased due to higher sales volumes in February compared to 2024 figures. Also, purchased inventory, construction work, and contribution revenues increased, due to fiber make-ready projects. The report also reflects expenditures totaling \$97,000 on essential IT network and firewall upgrades.

The Income Statement reflected a \$750,000 increase in revenue and \$530,000 increase in purchased power costs. The report also showed a \$50,000 reduction in other expenses due to a timing issue with receiving an invoice from the software provider.

The Financial Highlights report showed year-end statistics. Revenue graphs showed kWh sales volumes have increased 9% over the last 5 years. YTD kWh sales were 6% higher than in 2022. YTD revenue was 10% over budget.

The quarterly Appendix A Rate Adjustment Schedule was presented for approval by the Board. The appendix shows the PCA Tracker rate for member billings effective from April 1, 2025, through

June 30, 2025. The new rate calculation is \$.01438 per kWh, a slight decrease from the previous quarter. Ms. Hendrix made a motion to accept and approve the new rate. Mr. Carpenter seconded the motion, and the motion was carried out.

Mr. Smith presented the operations department reports.

From the Operations and Engineering Report, he highlighted a few items. Rob Firestone announced his retirement date. Zane Anderson was promoted to second-year apprentice status. The co-op currently has five apprentice linemen. Britt Miller and Austin Pitts completed Emergency Medical Responder training.

Mr. Sutton gave a presentation regarding fiber optic make ready processes. He explained the term “make-ready” refers to the process of preparing a utility pole to receive a new attachment. The process follows six basic steps from submission, analyzation, communication, make-ready, attachment, to closure. He shared some concerns the co-op has experienced with current contractors and stressed the importance of safety.

He stood on the Outage Dashboard and Vegetation Management reports.

Mr. Smith spoke briefly of the effect the impending tariffs will have on the cooperative. He also shared letters from supply vendors.

Mr. Childs presented the Manager’s Reports.

He reported on HHM business. The Board of Directors met on March 19, 2025.

The February 2025 Hoosier Energy invoice was made available for review.

Hoosier Energy (H.E.) received government community grant money. H.E. is likely (depending upon the final regulation language) to award \$20,000 per year for five years. At UDWI, the funds will be added to the cooperative’s current grant program.

He also provided an economic development update regarding the Prometheus Energetics facility construction beginning mid-2025.

Mr. Childs shared notes of thanks and appreciation from members.

Mr. Cullison called for a review and revision of cooperative and board policies and bylaws.

The Wholesale Net Metering Rider “WNM” Distributed Generation Rider “DGR” Schedules was presented for revision. The schedule is reviewed once per year and is applied to excess energy produced by member-owned generation. The tariff rate increased to \$.04755 per kWh and took effect on April 1, 2025.

The Distributed Generation Rider Schedule “DGR” was also presented for revision. The schedule is reviewed once per year and is applied to excess generated energy intended to be redirected to the distribution grid. The tariff rate increased to \$.04755 per kWh and took effect on April 1, 2025.

Ms. Hendrix made a motion to approve the updates to the two schedules. Mr. Dugan seconded and all approved. The motion carried.

Mr. Cullison called for individual Director Committee reports. Ms. Hendrix reported that the Community Fund committee will meet on March 26, 2025, to review 16 grant applications.

District 2 Director Todd Carpenter reported on updates and events at Hoosier Energy. The Board of Directors met today, March 24, 2025.

Treasurer Michael Williams reported on updates and events at Indiana Electric Cooperative (IEC). The Board of Directors did not meet in March.

Mr. Cullison offered reminders for upcoming training and meetings.

The next three UDWI REMC board meetings were approved and scheduled for April 28, 2025, May 19, 2025 (due to Memorial Day holiday), and June 23, 2025.

Hoosier Energy will be holding their 2025 Annual Meeting on April 3, 2025, at French Lick Conference Center. Ms. Childs, Mr. Carpenter, Mr. Cullison, and Mr. Dugan are registered to attend.

The 2025 Annual Meeting of Member is scheduled for April 23, 2025, at UDWI headquarters.

The bi-annual Cooperative Difference Survey, provided by Hoosier Energy, will begin on April 28, 2025.

IEC will be hosting another Directors' Retreat. This year it is scheduled for July 25-26, 2025, at the Hilton Fort Wayne Grand Wayne Convention Center.

With no further business presented, Mr. Cullison adjourned the regular session meeting at 9:09 p.m. to convene into an executive session. The session included Mr. Childs, Mr. Smith, Mr. Sullivan, and all directors in attendance. Mr. Cullison officially adjourned the meeting at 9:40 p.m.

APPROVED:

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W. Edward Cullison, President

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Shawn Dugan, Secretary