

**ILLINOIS PUBLIC ENERGY AGENCY
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
DECEMBER 6, 2023**

A meeting of the Board of Directors of the IPEA was held pursuant to proper notice at the IMEA headquarters building, 3400 Conifer Drive, Springfield, Illinois, on December 6, 2023. Chairman Bob Coble called the meeting to order at 12:00 p.m. Roll call was taken which showed a quorum was present.

Mike Ryder made a motion to approve the minutes of August 23, 2023, seconded by Shannon Risley. The roll call vote showed all in favor.

Opportunity for Public Comment: Chairman Coble stated that pursuant to the Open Meetings Act, any one in attendance in person shall be permitted an opportunity to comment. He then asked if anyone would like to make a comment and hearing none, the meeting continued.

Treasurer's Report - The Treasurer's Report for September 2023 was presented by Tia Horn. She reported that the cash balance was \$589,165 compared to \$525,597 last September. She also stated that gas revenue for September had decreased by 51% from the previous year, the price per Dth average had decreased by \$3.31 from the previous year and Dth sales had decreased by 3.5% from the previous year. With there being no questions, Mike Ryder made a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report, seconded by Shannon Risley. The roll call vote showed all in favor.

President & CEO Report – CEO Gaden welcomed Katherine Nelson as the new Staff Accountant. Katherine has previous experience in tax accounting at a local accounting firm, received her Master of Accountancy degree one year ago and is currently sitting for CPA exams. Katherine will take Tia's current position when Tia replaces Cindy Evans as Senior Accountant when Cindy retires in the spring of 2024. He stated that interviews for the Energy Services Representative position are ongoing with the second round of interviews scheduled next week. This person will take Sean McCarthy's current position as Sean transitions to Manager of Electric Operations.

CEO Gaden reported that the IPEA and Constellation teams recently hosted a webinar for members to assist with the scheduling/nomination process and the timing of hedging. This process allows members to better utilize storage, have alternate pipeline delivery options and utilize spot gas purchases. He thanked the Constellation team for their efforts. Gaden then recognized the loss of Mayor Tom Martin at Roodhouse and his many accomplishments. He stated that the City Council of Roodhouse had not named a new Board Member to represent the City.

CEO Gaden stated that the Michigan legislature had passed a zero-carbon electric plan by 2040. He discussed that this could impact gas flows on certain pipes and reminded members to check storage and transport rights to meet the Maximum Daily Quantity. He reported that the USDOE had granted the State of Massachusetts \$50 million to install Generac home generators to ensure reliability in case the grid goes down. Gaden also noted that Commissioner James Danly had not been reappointed and President Biden has not nominated a replacement. FERC may preside with only 3 of 5 commissioners.

Resolution #23-12-190 – Approving Baker Tilly US, LLP to Perform Audit of Fiscal Year Ending April 30, 2024 – Tia Horn stated that the letter agreement has been received from Baker Tilly to provide next fiscal year's audit for a cost of \$10,250 which is an increase of 5.1% over last year. Baker Tilly will

perform the audit of IMEA at the same time as IPEA subject to the approval of both Boards. Joe Fosdyck moved to approve Baker Tilly to perform the audit of fiscal year ending April 30, 2024, seconded by Shannon Risley. The roll call vote showed all in favor.

Market Update – CEO Gaden reported that the market is expecting a mild winter with strong production output and sufficient storage inventories. Regarding weather forecasts, he stated that chances of significant cold in the Northeast, Texas and Midwest are low, with this winter expected to be the 5th warmest on record. He stated it's predicted that a strong El Nino will keep the cold weather in Canada and presented the next 3 months of forecasted temperature ranges. Gaden also presented a yearly comparison of NYMEX natural gas prices from 2018 to current.

Legislative & Regulatory Update – Staci Wilson stated that HB 2474 ends the moratorium on new construction of nuclear power plants. She explained that this is in response to the Governor Veto of a similar bill in the spring (SB 76). This legislation limits construction to 300MW or smaller and adds State regulatory oversight at the IEMA Homeland Security. She reported that the Utah Association of Municipal Power had pulled out of the first planned small modular reactor project due to significant cost increases. Wilson discussed SB 1699. The Governor amendatorily vetoed HB 3445 which authorized a Right of First Refusal (ROFR). This would have allowed incumbent electric transmission owners to have the first right to build, maintain and own certain transmission lines (over 100 kilovolts) unless they forfeit that right. Wilson stated that the Governor had vetoed only the ROFR portion of the bill by an amendatory veto. She reported that the veto was not considered for a vote, but the legislature passed SB 1669 to require policy studies on various technologies. These studies include ICC workshops on thermal energy networks and on Illinois Power Agency (IPA) studies on off-shore wind, a procurement plan for investor-owned utilities to purchase energy storage credits and the high voltage direct current (SOO Green) studies which are due on March 1, 2024. Wilson explained that the first draft of the study is expected on January 21, 2024 for public comment and the IPA has engaged Levitan & Associates to undertake the modeling and analysis.

Regarding a Federal update, Wilson reported that a two-step stopgap funding bill had passed that avoids a government shutdown for the year. Wilson stated that the APGA submitted comments on the Safety of Gas Distribution Pipelines proposed rule. She explained that this rule addresses mandates from the PIPES Act of 2020 directly related to the 2018 incident in Merrimack Valley, Massachusetts. Wilson stated that the Pipeline & Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA) proposals address a wide range of pipeline safety regulatory requirements and the APGA offered comments focused on statutory requirements to conduct a risk assessment that identifies costs and benefits with a proposed standard and recommended that implementation timelines should align with the magnitude of the change necessary. Wilson noted that PHMSA will plan a Gas Pipeline Advisory Committee meeting to discuss the proposed rule in late 2024.

Interstate Transmission Pipeline Delivery Charges – Mike Genin reminded the Board that Panhandle Eastern Pipeline (PEPL) had filed for a 300-400% rate increase in late summer of 2019 impacting Bushnell, Edinburg and Roodhouse. Since that time, these municipalities have been paying new transportation rates, subject to refund. These refunds were issued to these 3 IPEA towns totaling over \$2 million.

Member Competitive Position – Genin stated that AmerenIL had filed a \$6-\$7/month residential natural gas distribution rate increase and Nicor had filed a \$9/month residential natural gas distribution increase, both starting in 2024. The AmerenIL amount has been reduced by the ICC by about 50% and Nicor was reduced by about 30%. He explained that the investor-owned utilities will begin implementing discounted rates for certain low-income LIHEAP-eligible customers and, based on an ICC ruling, will raise rates for other rate classes to cover that discount. Genin reported that the ICC directed AmerenIL to implement these discounts by October 2024 and other gas and electric IOUs will have similar discounts. The ICC also directed a study to expand this discount to non-residential customers. He reported that almost all IPEA members are hedged into the 2023-2027 time period with one member on a Discount to Index program. IPEA/Constellation will be sending updates regularly with price quotes.

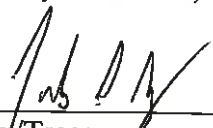
Vacancies on IPEA Executive Board – CEO Kevin Gaden announced that there is a vacancy on the Executive Board due to the passing of Mayor Tom Martin from Roodhouse. He stated that there is a provision in the IPEA Bylaws that allows for the Chairman to appoint a member of the IPEA Board to fill a vacancy on the Executive Board subject to Board approval. Chairman Coble named Jake McCoy from Rantoul as Secretary/Treasurer on the IPEA Executive Board and Mr. McCoy indicated his willingness to accept the position. Shannon Risley moved to approve Jake McCoy as Secretary/Treasurer to fill the vacancy on the IPEA Executive Board, seconded by Joe Fosdyck. This Motion was approved by unanimous roll call vote except for the abstention of Jake McCoy from Rantoul.

CEO Gaden explained that due to Jake McCoy transitioning to the Secretary/Treasurer position, this also created a vacancy for a Member-at-Large position. Chairman Coble named Todd Shaffner from Martinsville and Mr. Shaffner indicated his willingness to accept the Member-at-Large position. Cory Sheehy moved to approve Todd Shaffner as a Member-at-Large to fill the vacancy on the IPEA Executive Board, seconded by Shannon Risley. This Motion was approved by unanimous roll call vote.

Vacancy on IPEA Nominations & Awards Committee – CEO Kevin Gaden reported that due to the passing of Mayor Tom Martin from Roodhouse, a vacancy was created on IPEA's Nominations & Awards Committee. He stated that there is a provision in the IPEA Bylaws that allows for the Chairman to appoint a member of the IPEA Board to fill a vacancy on IPEA committees subject to Board approval. Chairman Coble named Cory Sheehy from Marshall and Mr. Sheehy indicated his willingness to accept a position on the IPEA Nominations & Awards Committee. Joe Fosdyck moved to approve Cory Sheehy to fill the vacancy on the IPEA Nominations & Awards Committee, seconded by Shannon Risley. This Motion was approved by unanimous roll call vote except for the abstention of Cory Sheehy from Marshall.

At that time, CEO Gaden wished everyone a very Merry Christmas. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 12:54 p.m. by a motion from Cory Sheehy. Joe Fosdyck seconded the motion and it was carried unanimously by voice vote.

Respectfully submitted,


Secretary/Treasurer

**ILLINOIS PUBLIC ENERGY AGENCY
BOARD OF DIRECTOR'S MEETING
December 6, 2023**

MEMBERS PRESENT

Bethany	Shannon Risley
Bushnell	Joe Fosdyck
Flora	Bob Coble
Greenup	Mike Ryder
Marshall	Cory Sheehy
Rantoul	Jake McCoy
Sullivan	Mike Kirk

MEMBERS ABSENT

Casey	Shelby Biggs
Edinburg	Mike Lebshier
Fairfield	Mayor Gary Moore
Martinsville	Todd Shaffner
Roodhouse	Vacant

OTHERS PRESENT

IPEA	Kevin Gaden
IPEA	Troy Fodor
IPEA	Mike Genin
IPEA	Staci Wilson
IPEA	Tia Horn
IPEA	Chris Wise
IPEA	Rodd Whelpley
IPEA	Sean McCarthy
IPEA	Katherine Nelson
IPEA	Danny Chung
IPEA	Tammy Hall