

Minutes of the
EMPOWER NORTH DAKOTA COMMISSION

September 29, 2015
Great River Energy
1611 E Century Avenue
Bismarck, ND

Members present:

Al Anderson, Mark Nisbet, Mike Rud, Randy Schneider, Jay Skabo, John Weeda, Jason Bohrer, Ron Day, Ron Ness, Dale Niezwaag, David Straley, Terry Goerger

Ex Officio Members:

Mark Bring, Julie Voeck, Margaret Hodnik

Others present:

Justin Dever, Department of Commerce
Mike Fladeland, Department of Commerce
Sherri Frieze, Department of Commerce
Sandy McMerty, Department of Commerce
Justin Kringstad, NDPA
Karlene Fine, Industrial Commission
Cory Fong, Odney Advertising
Shane Goettle, Odney Advertising
Deana Wiese, ND Ethanol Council
Todd Kranda, Kelsch Kelsch, Ruff & Kranda
Tom Erickson, EERC
Carlee McLeod, USND
Jay Hess, Geronimo Energy

CALL TO ORDER/WELCOME

Chairman Anderson called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m. and welcomed Commission members and guests.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Schneider and seconded by Day to approve the minutes of August 4th. Motion carried unanimously.

Combining of documents

Spotlight on ND Energy & EmPower ND Policy Updates & Recommendations

Chairman Anderson opened the meeting for discussion amongst members, asking them to focus on future topics that the commission can get the greatest impact on and also help alter policy to enhance all industries.

Mike Fladeland reviewed Century Code Chapter 17-07-01 of the Energy Policy Commission to the members, outlining the purpose of the ND EmPower Commission.

[Appendix A](#)

Discussion continued with members describing the greatest challenges within their industries.

Key topics included:

- EPA Clean Power Plan
- Future of renewables
- Availability of water
- Capturing CO2
- Strategizing for technology
- Planning and Zoning
- Future workforce

Possible EmPower ND Commission Process

Chairman Anderson and Sandy McMerty discussed a process that Commerce would prepare, send to members for their review, and finalize at the next meeting.

[Appendix B](#)

FUTURE MEETINGS

October 27th or 28th was proposed for the next meeting. Sherri will follow up with the members for the best available date.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned unanimously at 4:00 p.m.

Al Anderson _____ Date
Chairman

Sherri Frieze _____ Date
Recording Secretary

CHAPTER 17-07
ENERGY POLICY COMMISSION
17-07-01. Energy policy commission.

1. The energy policy commission is composed of:
 - a. The commissioner of commerce;
 - b. A representative of the agriculture community appointed by the governor;
 - c. A representative recommended by the lignite energy council appointed by the governor;
 - d. A representative recommended by the North Dakota petroleum council appointed by the governor;
 - e. A member from the biodiesel or green diesel industry appointed by the governor;
 - f. A member from the biomass industry appointed by the governor;
 - g. A member from the wind industry appointed by the governor;
 - h. A member from the ethanol industry appointed by the governor;

- i. A representative recommended by the North Dakota petroleum marketers association appointed by the governor;
 - j. A member from the North Dakota investor-owned electric utility industry appointed by the governor;
 - k. A member from the generation and transmission electric cooperative industry appointed by the governor;
 - l. A member from the lignite coal-producing industry appointed by the governor;
 - m. A member from the refining or gas-processing industry appointed by the governor; and
 - n. Additional nonvoting members appointed by the governor.
2. Each member of the commission shall serve for a term of two years, beginning July first, may be reappointed for additional terms, and serves at the pleasure of the governor.
 3. The commissioner of commerce is chairman of the commission.
 4. The commission shall meet at least four times per biennium or as often as the chairman deems necessary. The commission shall hold at least two public hearings per biennium, at which time interested parties may present testimony regarding issues

pertinent to the state's comprehensive energy policy. The department of commerce shall provide staffing for the commission.

5. The legislative assembly shall develop a comprehensive energy policy for the state.

The commission shall monitor progress made toward the goals outlined in the energy policy and make recommendations to the energy policy as needed. The commission shall report biennially to the legislative management.

6. The members of the commission who are not state employees are entitled to mileage and expenses as provided by law for state officers and employees. Unless otherwise provided in this subsection, the expenses of appointed members are to be paid by the department of commerce. A state employee who is a member of the commission must receive that employee's regular salary and is entitled to mileage and expenses, to be paid by the employing agency.

Possible EmPower ND Commission Process

Issue Identification

1. EmPower ND Commission Members submit written information to Commerce Staff.
 - a. A brief overview of their industry's current situation
 - b. Opportunities for their industry
 - c. Threats to their industry
 - d. Issues that need legislation or action
2. Members provide a 6 minute presentation
3. Commerce Staff provide an overview of the information, identifying areas that are common among industry
4. Commission adopts key issues for review during the interim

Assemble a briefing paper of opportunities, threats, and legislative issues

Detailed explanation of the legislative issues to:

- a. The Governor
- b. The Energy Development & Transmission Committee

Ask the Governor and ED&T Committee:

- a. Which issue they would like to focus on
- b. If they want to draft legislation or if representatives of EmPower ND should do it

Once draft legislation is developed, provide a detailed explanation of the legislation to the Governor and the ED&T Committee.

Ask the Governor and the ED&T Committee if they want to:

- a. Run the bill under their authority
- b. Have the bill submitted as an EmPower ND Commission supported bill sponsored by the Department of Commerce
- c. Have industry gather sponsors and run the bill individually