

Minutes of the  
**EMPOWER NORTH DAKOTA COMMISSION**

July 7<sup>th</sup>, 2014  
Department of Commerce  
1600 E Century Avenue  
Bismarck, ND 58503

**Members present:**

Al Anderson, Ron Ness, Dale Niezwaag, Mark Nisbet, Mike Rud, Randy Schneider, Jay Skabo, David Straley, John Weeda, Tyler Hamman, proxy for Jason Bohrer

**Members present via phone:**

Mark Bring

**Ex Officio Members:**

Margaret Hodnik, Sandi Tabor,

**Others present:**

Justin Dever, Department of Commerce  
Mike Fladeland, Department of Commerce  
Sherri Frieze, Department of Commerce  
Sandy McMerty, Department of Commerce  
Andrea Pfennig, Department of Commerce  
Christian Heller, ND Petroleum Council  
Karlene Fine, Industrial Commission  
Deana Wiese, ND Ethanol Council  
Todd Kranda, Kelsch, Kelsch, Ruff & Kranda Law Firm  
John Olson, NextEra  
Gaylon Baker, Stark Development  
Carlee McLeod, Utility Shareholders of ND  
Jay Hesse, Geronimo Energy  
Andrea Stomberg, ND Transmission Authority  
Brady Pelton, NDAOGPC  
Jean Schafer, Basin Electric  
Warren Enyart, M-Power, LLC  
Emily McKay, BSC  
Justin Kringstad, NDPA  
Cory Fong, Odney Advertising  
Shane Goettle, Odney Advertising

**CALL TO ORDER/WELCOME**

Chairman Anderson called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. and welcomed Commission members and guests.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

A motion was made by Schneider and seconded by Niezwaag to approve the minutes of June 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup>. Motion carried unanimously.

**Edits to the EmPower ND Report  
EmPower Policy Updates and Recommendations**

Sandy McMerty, Commerce staff; and board members began discussion on the four key areas of Infrastructure, Workforce, Research and Development, Federal Regulatory Assessment and Energy Growth Incentives.

**Infrastructure**

Discussion began with this section, addressing the need to develop a long term plan for the infrastructure needs in the communities in Western ND. Language was changed on page 4 to reflect this discussion.

**Workforce**

Minor language changes.

**Research & Development**

Secondary oil and gas recovery language is to be edited by Ron Ness and Dale Niezwaag, and sent to Sandy for re-editing.

**Federal Regulatory Assessment**

No changes.

**Energy Growth Incentives**

Language on compressed natural gas (CNG) and liquid natural gas (LNG) equipment for use in commercial elevators and grain drying operations was taken out.

**Motion:** It was moved by Ness, seconded by Weeda and carried on a voice vote that the EmPower ND Commission supports the final edits and amendments made to the policy document.

