

EMPOWER NORTH DAKOTA COMMISSION LEGISLATIVE SESSION WEEKLY MEETINGS

February 17, 2021 4:00 p.m.
Microsoft TEAMS video conferencing platform

Members present:

James Leiman (proxy for Shawn Kessel), Jason Bohrer, Al Christianson, Ron Ness, Jay Skabo, David Straley, Danette Welsh, Jeff Zueger

Ex Officio Members present:

Lt. Governor Sanford, Stacey Dahl

Others present:

Public invited via TEAMS video conferencing

CALL TO ORDER/WELCOME

James Leiman called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. Roll call was taken, and guests were welcomed.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion made by Welsh and seconded by Christianson to approve the February 3, 2021 minutes. Motion carried.

RFP for ESG

Legislative bills will be brought forth at each weekly meeting for review.

James Leiman, proxy for Shawn Kessel, discussed the Request for Proposal (RFP) contract the state is using to seek an Environmental, Social and Corporate Governance (ESG) consultant to assist in understanding industry challenges as well as opportunities for the State of ND. This RFP will help prepare North Dakota in the areas of energy and agriculture sectors, locating federal opportunities to leverage ND as a beta for clean energy production. James reiterated the importance of engagement from the EmPower ND Commission members to help move this RFP along.

February 17th discussion of TRACKED BILLS

HB 1425 – Relating to the legacy infrastructure loan fund and the state investment board, budget stabilization fund advisory board, to provide a continuing appropriation.

HOUSE PASSED

HB 1452 – Clean sustainable energy authority and a clean sustainable energy fund. An exemption from procurement services for energy programs; to provide a continuing appropriation.

HOUSE PASSED

SENATE INTRODUCED

SB2065 – Relating to the authority of the board of university and school lands to lease lands under its control for the underground storage of oil or gas and the jurisdiction of the industrial commission to regulate the permitting and amalgamation of the underground storage of oil or gas.

PASSED SENATE

HOUSE INTRODUCED

SB 2152 – Relating to a sales and use tax exemption for carbon dioxide used for secure geologic storage; and to provide an effective date.

PASSED SENATE

HOUSE INTRODUCED

SB 2313 – Relating to electric power reliability and price transparency; and to repeal chapter 17-01 of the NDCC, relating to the 25x25 initiative.

PASSED SENATE

SB 2317 – Relating to the establishment of a coal mine reclamation trust utilizing private assets; and to provide for a transfer.

PASSED SENATE

HOUSE INTRODUCED

SCR 4012 – Concurrent resolution to establish state policy to support the reliability and resilience of the electric grid, ensure price transparency to consumers in electric markets, and incentivize carbon capture utilization and storage as an alternative to preserve dispatchable thermal electric generation and its associated benefits.

PASSED SENATE

SCR 4013 – Concurrent resolution urging Congress to pass the ND Trust Lands Completion Act.

PASSED SENATE

PUBLIC COMMENT

No comments

FUTURE MEETING

The EmPower ND Commission will not meet February 24th, due to the start of legislative session crossover. Commission members will meet again via TEAMS on March 3rd. The EmPower ND Commission Quarter One (Q1) meeting, scheduled for March 3rd will be rescheduled to a later date

ADJOURNMENT

Motion made by Christianson, seconded by Zueger to adjourn the meeting. With no further discussion, the meeting was unanimously adjourned at 4:45 p.m.

James Leiman

03.03.21

James Leiman (proxy for Interim Chairman Kessel)
Date

Sherri Frieze

03.03.21

Sherri Frieze, Boards & Commissions E.A. Date

EMPOWER NORTH DAKOTA COMMISSION LEGISLATIVE SESSION WEEKLY MEETINGS

February 17, 2021 4:00 p.m.
Microsoft TEAMS video conferencing platform

**All other TRACKED BILLS with updates as of
2/17/2021**

HB 1095 – Siting of a repowered wind conversion facility that has not previously been issued a certificate of site compatibility & relating to the definition of a repower for a wind facility and waivers or extension for light mitigation technology systems.

HOUSE PASSED

SENATE INTRODUCED

HB 1245 – Relating to public employee uniform group insurance plans; to provide for application; and to declare an emergency.

HOUSE PASSED

HB 1268 – Relating to a financial technology sandbox program for innovative financial products and services and criminal history background checks.

HOUSE DEFEATED

HB 1292 – Electric energy conversion facility retirement, status report requirements, limitations for recovery costs associated with electric generation built to replace a retiring electric energy conversion facility, and site reclamation and bond.

HOUSE WITHDRAWN

HB 1412 – Relating to allocation of the coal conversion facilities privilege tax and the lignite research tax; to provide an effective date and to provide an expiration date.

HOUSE PASSED

SENATE INTRODUCED

HB 1431 – Relating to a water infrastructure revolving loan funded and bonded debt repayments, and community water development fund and infrastructure revolving loan fund within the resources trust fund.

HOUSE PASSED

SENATE INTRODUCED

HB 1455 – Retirement of an electric energy conversion facility and site reclamation and bonding.

HOUSE PASSED

SENATE INTRODUCED

HB 1458 – Grants for grid reliability and resiliency resources. Supplemental wind generation tax, to provide a continuing appropriation, and to provide an effective date.

HOUSE WITHDRAWN

SB 2137 – Sales and use tax exemption for enterprise information technology equipment and computer software purchased for use in a qualified data center; to provide an effective date, and to provide an expiration date.

SENATE PASSED

SB 2155 – Relating to a sale and use tax exemption for enterprise information technology equipment and computer software purchased for use in a qualified data center; to provide an effective date; and to provide an expiration date.

SENATE DEFEATED

SB 2285 – Relating to fees chargeable by an abstractor.

SENATE DEFEATED

SB 2291 - Social investments made by the state investment board and the boycott of energy or commodities companies, to provide for a department of commerce study of the implications of complete divestment of companies that boycott energy or commodities, and to provide for reports to legislative management and to declare an emergency.

SENATE PASSED

SB 2301 – Relating to providing a definition of a local worker, application for certificate, and factors to be considered when evaluating an application and designation of sites, corridors, and routes.

SENATE DEFEATED

SB 2328 – Relating to a credit for oil produced from a well site using a onsite flare mitigation system; to provide for application and to provide an expiration date.

SENATE PASSED

HOUSE INTRODUCED