

EMPOWER NORTH DAKOTA COMMISSION

August 24, 2020

ND Department of Commerce
TEAMS Conference Meeting

Members present:

Vawnita Best, Jason Bohrer, Al Christianson, Ron Day, Ron Ness, Dale Niezwaag, Mark Nisbet, Mike Rud, Jay Skabo, David Straley, Jay Skabo, David Straley, Danette Welsh

Ex Officio Members present:

Stacey Dahl, Julie Voeck, Wade Boeshans

Public present:

Call in only via Microsoft TEAMS Platform

CALL TO ORDER/WELCOME

James Leiman, proxy for Chairman Kommer, called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m., welcoming members and guests.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion made by Welsh and seconded by Skabo to approve the July 20, 2020 minutes. Motion carried.

REMARKS

Lt. Governor Brent Sanford

Lt. Governor Sanford thanked the commission members and requested their continued collaboration to achieve the needed growth and development with the legislature.

REVIEW OF DRAFT REPORT with DISCUSSION

James Leiman

BUSINESS FRIENDLY ENVIRONMENT

Discussion held on possibly telling the story backwards in supporting all the above energy first to grow the pie. If we grow the pie first, then the support for all the above energy, will come next. The need for a business-friendly atmosphere will allow for ND to grow the pie more methodically. The pie may be too small, therefore the greater need to adjust the atmosphere of thinking.

INDUSTRIAL PARK and VALUE-ADDED ENERGY

Petrochemical Facility, Biomass Facility, Datacenter, Carbon Market (selling carbon)

James walked members through updates made to each section and asked members for their input whether discussed during the meeting or sent via email to him.

PUBLIC EDUCATION and COMMUNICATION

James provided a proposed timeline that will be used to prepare for legislative session, execute a strategy, prepare talking points for public and lastly visit and educate cities around ND via in person or by a social media campaign.

ENVIRONMENTAL, SOCIAL, CORPORATE GOVERNANCE

ONEOK, Inc. Presentation

Ashley Zickefoose, Director ESH and Sustainability

- ESG Initiatives and Practices
- ESG Related Recognition
- ESG Efforts
- Responding to COVID-19

EOG Resources Presentation

Eric Dille, Director Government Relations

- Rise of Responsible Investing
- New Demands from Investors
- ESG Assets Under Management Growing Rapidly
- ESG Disclosure and Performance
- ESG Rating Frameworks
- EmPower Commission to drive ESG Performance

PUBLIC COMMENT

No comments

TIMELINE AND MOVING FORWARD

Presentation to the Interim Energy Development & Transmission Committee will take place October 6th. The next meeting of the EmPower ND Commission is proposed for the third week of September.

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting was adjourned unanimously at 3:30 p.m.



James Leiman, Proxy for Michelle Kommer 9/22/20
Date



Sherri Frieze, Boards & Commissions E.A. 09.16.20
Date