

**IOWA DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
UTILITIES DIVISION**

MINUTES OF THE UTILITIES BOARD

A meeting was held on March 15, 2016, commencing at 9:00 a.m. in the Iowa Utilities Board Hearing Room, 1375 East Court Avenue, Des Moines, Iowa. Board Members attending were Chair Geri Huser, Libby Jacobs, and Nick Wagner.

Chair Huser asked if there was any discussion on the consent items, including the previous month's meeting minutes, and being none, Board Member Jacobs motioned, Board Member Wagner seconded, and the Board unanimously approved the February 18, 2016, meeting minutes as well as the public notification of Board administrative actions and Board orders.

Board General Counsel staff Mary Whitman, discussed Docket No. E-22100, ITC Midwest LLC, and answered the Board members' questions on the draft Consideration of Appeal of Proposed Decision and Order in the docket. Board Member Jacobs made a motion to approve the order, Board Member Wagner seconded the motion, and the Board unanimously approved it.

Deputy Executive Secretary Judi Cooper provided the agency monthly financial report. Board Administrative Law Judge Amy Christensen updated the Board on the Iowa 111(d) Stakeholder Process following the United States Supreme Court stay of the Environmental Protection Agency's Clean Power Plan rules regulating carbon dioxide from existing power plants. Board General Counsel David Lynch discussed the written procedures and processes for open records requests to the Board. Chief Operating Officer Cecil Wright presented the timeline for a review of administrative rules. Board staff Kerri Johannsen presented potential changes being investigated for the agency's annual report, including means of making the calendar year docket summary information more consistent, easier to find, and available online after Board orders are issued.

Interstate Power and Light Company President Doug Kopp and Vice President of Regulatory Affairs Joel Schmidt presented information to the Board about electric rate design pertaining to residential customer distributed generation. Consumer Advocate Mark Schuling stated the Office of Consumer Advocate would like there to be collaboration between the parties in the Board's distributed generation notice of inquiry docket (NOI-2014-0001) as well as the possible consideration of a renewable energy pilot project prior to any particular utility rate design proposals being submitted to the Board.

Karl R. Rábago of Rábago Energy and the Environmental Law and Policy Center/Iowa Environmental Council provided a presentation about electric rate design considerations for residential customer distributed generation. He also noted the potential value of a pilot project in evaluating benefits and cost impacts.

Board Member Wagner and Chief Operating Officer Cecil Wright presented Years of Service Awards to Board staffers Jim Langenberg for 25 years, Dana Tate for 10 years, and Jane Whetstone for 15 years.

In public comments, Jeffrey James Shipley of Iowa Wind and Solar in Fairfield, Iowa, stated that Iowa should embrace small renewable electric generation sources of customers as part of the creation of a new and economical energy model.

The meeting adjourned at 11:36 a.m. Recorded by Rob Hillesland.

Approved at the April 21, 2016, Board meeting.

UTILITIES BOARD

/s/ Geri D. Huser

Chair

ATTEST:

/s/ Trisha M. Quijano

Executive Secretary, Designee