

Utilities District of Western Indiana REMC
Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors
February 24, 2025

The Board of Directors of the Utilities District of Western Indiana Rural Electric Membership Corporation met at the office of the corporation, Bloomfield, Indiana, at 6:30 p.m.

President W. Edward Cullison called the regular session meeting to order.

Ms. Hendrix gave the invocation.

The following directors reported present:

Todd Carpenter	W. Edward Cullison	Shawn Dugan
Melinda Hendrix (virtual)	David Kirkling	Terry McDaniel
Michael Williams		

Others present were CEO Douglas Childs; COO Shane Smith; CFO Michael Sullivan; Office Manager Lydia Campbell; Dispatch Manager Britt Miller; Amanda Craft of Crafted Communications; and member Richard Nichols.

Mr. Cullison called for additions or corrections to the meeting agenda. Hearing none, Mr. Williams made a motion to approve the agenda. Mr. Carpenter seconded, and the motion carried.

Mr. Cullison also called for additions or corrections to the minutes of the January 27, 2025, regular session board meeting. Mr. Dugan made a motion to accept the minutes as presented. Mr. McDaniel seconded, and the motion carried.

Crafted Communications continues to assist with both traditional and social media communications. Ms. Craft highlighted activities and resources with which her team is currently developing with UDWI.

For the next installment of the Board Education Series, Ms. Miller gave a presentation regarding Mayday (Emergency) Procedures. She explained how dispatchers receive distress calls from line/service trucks and the process by which to handle those situations. She spoke of the codes/signals used during a call as well as the after-hours processes.

Mr. Sullivan presented the financial reports.

From the Statement of Cash Flows, Contribution in Aid of Construction revenues were up over \$600,000 after fiber make-ready project payments. Electric Revenue and Power Bill number differentials showed an 8% sales volume increase from December 2023 and December 2024.

The Income Statement reflected those same sales volume differences. Operating Expenses increased due to pole testing fees, apprentice safety supplies, and heightened distribution fault anticipator work costs.

The 2024 Fourth Quarter Capital Budget was reviewed. New Construction figures are solely member-driven by new construction projects. Pole Replacements were up \$420,000 due to the major June 2024 storm. Also, Headquarters/Property Improvements showed significant increase due to pole yard improvements and HVAC system replacements.

The 2024 Fourth Quarter Variance Report was reviewed. Revenue increased by 0.2% than originally budgeted. Purchase Power was 0.8% over budget. Contractor Fees also increased from pole testing and outage restoration costs. An increase in Materials was seen due to new climbing gear for apprentices, updated first aid kits for trucks, and additional regulator and recloser control equipment.

The Financial Highlights report showed year-end statistics. Revenue graphs showed increases due to the PCA Tracker. 2024 sales volumes were 3% higher than 2023 figures.

Mr. Smith presented the operations department reports.

From the Operations and Engineering Report, he highlighted a few items. One employee announced their retirement. One journeyman lineman was promoted to Serviceman.

He provided an update on make-ready requests from fiber contractors. We currently have six contracted companies installing fiber lines in the system. Comcast has now submitted their request.

He also informed of a massive internal network upgrade on March 15th that will affect all electronic communications. Although, during this service disruption, members may report outages by calling the office.

Lastly, he reviewed the Outage Dashboard and Vegetation Management reports.

Mr. Childs presented the Manager's Reports.

He reported on HHM business. The Board of Directors met on February 19, 2025.

The January 2025 Hoosier Energy invoice was made available for review.

He also informed all the on-going contribution solicitation by political action committees, ACRE & FORE.

Mr. Childs shared notes of thanks and appreciation from members.

Mr. Cullison called for individual Director Committee reports. No committee met in the last four weeks.

District 2 Director Todd Carpenter reported on updates and events at Hoosier Energy.

The Board of Directors met on February 10, 2025.

Treasurer Michael Williams reported on updates and events at Indiana Electric Cooperative (IEC).

The Board of Directors met on February 19, 2025.

Mr. Cullison offered reminders for upcoming training and meetings.

The next three UDWI REMC board meetings were approved and scheduled for March 24, 2025, April 28, 2025, and May 19, 2025 (due to Memorial Day holiday).

Hoosier Energy CEO visit is scheduled for the March 24, 2025 meeting.

Hoosier Energy will be holding their 2025 Annual Meeting on April 3, 2025, at French Lick Conference Center.

The 2025 Annual Meeting of Member is scheduled for April 23, 2025, at UDWI headquarters.

The bi-annual Cooperative Difference Survey, provided by Hoosier Energy, will begin on April 28, 2025.

IEC will be hosting another Directors' Retreat. This year it is scheduled for July 25-26, 2025, at the Hilton Fort Wayne Grand Wayne Convention Center.

With no further business presented, Mr. Cullison adjourned the regular session meeting at 8:05 p.m. to convene into an executive session. The session included Mr. Childs, Mr. Smith, Mr. Sullivan, and all directors in attendance. Mr. Cullison officially adjourned the meeting at 9:47 p.m.

APPROVED:

W. Edward Cullison, President

Shawn Dugan, Secretary