

**EMPOWER NORTH DAKOTA COMMISSION**

June 9, 2021

10:30 a.m. – 12:15 p.m. CST

Enerplus Office 10270 18<sup>th</sup> Street NW Mandaree, ND

Onsite and via TEAMS meeting

**Members present:**

James Leiman, Jason Bohrer, Al Christianson, Ron Ness, Dale Niezwaag, Mike Rud, Jay Skabo, David Straley, Jeff Zueger.

**Ex Officio Members:**

Lt. Governor Sanford, Wade Boeshans, Stacey Dahl, Julie Voeck

**Public present:**

Call in via Microsoft TEAMS platform

**CALL TO ORDER/WELCOME**

Chairman James Leiman called the meeting to order at 10:30 a.m., welcoming members and guests at the Enerplus office in Mandaree, ND, located on the Fort Berthold Indian Reservation of the Mandan, Hidatsa, and Arikara Nation.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

A motion was made by Ness and seconded by Straley to approve the minutes of December 2, 2020. Motion carried unanimously.

**WELCOME FROM ENERPLUS**

**Terry Eichinger, Senior Manager of Engineering and Operations in Denver, CO**

Mr. Eichinger, spoke to the commission via conference call from Denver, CO, giving a brief background of the company history and operations in the Williston Basin, Marcellus Shale, and the Canadian Waterfloods regions. He stressed the importance of the company’s strategy, “Best in Basin” existing with the best in safety, culture, technology, operation performance, relationship, and partnership.

**WELCOME and LEGISLATIVE UPDATE**

**Senator Dale Patten**

Senator Patten discussed the opportunities North Dakota is poised to collect from the past legislative session. He referred to various bills including HB

1452, Clean Sustainable Energy Fund, establishing the Clean Sustainable Energy Authority and SB 2328, Credit for Flare Mitigation System, setting the stage for ND to be a clean, sustainable, carbon-neutral environment.

**STRATEGY DEVELOPMENT**

**James Leiman**

Industry’s input is greatly needed to move the needle for North Dakota’s narrative change regarding the energy sector and how that message needs to be communicated to the world. A concentric map of four circles, is in the process of design; encompasses industry input with side-by-side investment strategy. Leveraging the new hire of an ESG consultant may advance conception of an ESG approval system as companies look to North Dakota for their operation.

**INVESTMENT STRATEGIES**

**WORKING GROUPS**

**James Leiman**

Less than a quorum of the commission members will come together to conduct a strategic investment strategy working group that will focus their discussions around three objectives: 1.) policy implications within each industry, 2.) communication done more effectively, as the world moves into the clean energy spectrum, and 3.) aligning most effectively on a systems level regarding program commitment to public, state, and federal measures.

**Strategic Working Groups**

**Lead Person Industry**

Jason Bohrer	Coal and Utilities
Ron Ness	Oil and Gas
Julie Voeck	Renewables

The Commerce Department is working to hire a replacement for the previous energy developer

Minutes of the  
**EMPOWER NORTH DAKOTA COMMISSION**

position held within the ED&F division, along with the reworking of another ED&F position. This rework will position the department to be more robust in the energy division within Commerce.

**FUTURE MEETINGS**

- **Q3** – September 8, 1:30 3:30, location TBD
- **Q4** – December 8, 1:30 – 3:30, location TBD

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Geoff Simon of the Western Dakota Energy Association (WDEA) mentioned a couple future meetings for informational purpose.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Motion carried by Straley and seconded by Ness to adjourn the meeting. Meeting was adjourned unanimously at 12:00 p.m.

<u>James Leiman</u>	<u>September 8, 2021</u>
James Leiman, Chairman	Date

<u>Sherri Frieze</u>	<u>September 8, 2021</u>
Sherri Frieze, Boards and Commissions E.A.	Date