



Regular Board of Directors
Meeting Minutes
March 5, 2025

Board of Directors:

	Vacant, Barton		Vacant, Lyndon
X	John Dasaro, Enosburg	X	Scott Johnstone, Morrisville
P	Sarah Braese, Hardwick	X	Stephen Fitzhugh, Northfield
X	James Weber, Jacksonville	X	John Morley, Orleans
X	Erik Bailey, Johnson	X	Bill Sheets, Swanton
	Chris Recchia, Ludlow	P	James Gibbons, BED

X indicates attendance in person, P indicates attendance by phone.

Alternate Directors present:

Penny Jones, Morrisville (P)	Lynn Paradis, Swanton (P)
Abbey Miller, Enosburg (P)	Denis Fortin, Barton ()
Emily Stebbins-Wheelock, BED (P)	Ken Mason, Lyndon (X)

Others present:

Ken Nolan, VPPSA (P)	Grace Sawyer, VPPSA (X)	Heather D’Arcy, VPPSA (X)
Garth Dunkel, VPPSA (X)	Morgan Williams, VPPSA (X)	Amanda Simard, VPPSA (P)
Steve Farman, VPPSA (X)	Kylie Bray, VPPSA (P)	Amy Parah, VPPSA (X)
Reg Beliveau, Guest (X)	Josh Bancroft (P)	John Abbott, VPPSA (X)

Numbers in bold type correspond with agenda item numbers:

1. Vice Chairman Dasaro called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m.
2. Vice Chairman Dasaro asked if there were requests for changes and or/modifications to the current agenda. There were no changes.
3. Vice Chairman Dasaro asked if there were public comments and/or individuals who would like to address the Board. There was no public comment.
4. Director Morley made a motion to accept the minutes of the Board of Directors meeting held February 5, 2025. The motion was seconded by Director Weber. The motion was approved.
5. Director Sheets made a motion to approve the preliminary Monthly Financial reports for the period ending January 31, 2025. The motion was seconded by Director Johnstone.



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Ms. Sawyer, VPPSA's Controller provided a summary of the operational revenue vs expenses for the period ending January 31st, 2025. Ms. Sawyer summarized the budget to actual variance of the various projects. There was a brief discussion.

The motion was approved.

6. Director Mason provided an overview of the issues Lyndon is having with Consolidated Communications related to tree trimming and pole setting. Other members reiterated they were having the same issues. A few suggestions were made including opening a docket with the Public Utility Commission. The General Manager suggested that the Board establish a negotiating committee, with VPPSA providing admin support as needed and potentially acting as the signatory if that is determined to be beneficial. After lengthy discussion the Board asked Chairman Fitzhugh to draft a letter to Consolidated Communications on behalf of the VPPSA membership expressing a desire to resolve the identified issues as a first step.

7. Chairman Fitzhugh introduced Reg Beliveau as the new Public Power Independent Director on the VELCO Board. The VPPSA Board and others in attendance introduced themselves including John Abbott, the new Regulatory Specialist for VPPSA. Mr. Beliveau filled the Board in on the work he's doing for the State of Vermont. Mr. Beliveau opened the floor for discussion. Board members discussed their various concerns with VELCO governance and identified specific issues of concern. Mr. Beliveau thanked the Board for their information and indicated he would like to meet with the Board on a regular basis to stay in communications.

8. Chairman Fitzhugh noted that with Jon Elwell's departure from Lyndon there is an open seat on the NEPPA Board to be filled by the Vermont Public Power utilities and opened the floor for discussion. The seat is available to utilities that are not part of VPPSA and this is an opportune time to re-establish a process to fill vacancies. A brief discussion ensued. It was decided to bring this to the April Board meeting for further discussion. No decision is needed until just before the August NEPPA Board meeting, VPPSA will be sending out notification to the applicable public power utilities seeking nominations

9. Ms. Sawyer, Mr. Farman and Director Johnstone briefed the Board on the recent DPS award of IJJA grant funding specifically targeted at improving grid resiliency. Noting that applications are due by April 28th due to the competitive status of the grant. A discussion ensued on whether VPPSA should play a role or if the individual utilities would move forward on their own behalf. The Board indicated their preference would be for VPPSA to coordinate the effort on their behalf.

10. Ms. Sawyer provided an update on the status of several key areas in the Advanced Metering Infrastructure project; including but not limited to the DCU deployment, Meters and First Article Testing (FAT), various integrations, Water Meters, AclaraOne, and public outreach. A brief discussion ensued around the rollout timeline for members in other Tranches.

11. Heather D'Arcy, VPPSA's Manager of Power Resources, provided an overview of the power supply markets, the primary driving factors related to power costs, actual and future energy prices, and the budget vs actual for each member. A discussion followed on how the new tariffs might affect the prices of natural gas and wholesale electricity going forward.

Chair Fitzhugh recessed the meeting for lunch 12:20 pm
Meeting reconvened 12:45 pm

12. Steve Farman, VPPSA's Manager of Planning and Support, provided the Board with a brief review of the EVT Triennial Plan, the recent EV Rate PUC workshop, Bellawatt and Grid Resilience. Discussion ensued on the forthcoming EV Rate. Garth Dunkel, VPPSA's Legislative Communications Specialist provided an overview of the legislative landscape and gave a high-level review of emerging issues. The

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core areas the presentation addressed were related to the Standard Offer program, Clean Heat Standard, Community Solar, Net Metering changes, and efforts to repeal the Renewable Energy Standard and the Global Warming Solutions Act.

13. Chairman Fitzhugh opened the floor to allow VPPSA representatives from both the Vermont System Planning Committee (VSPC) and the VELCO Operating Committee to brief the Board of Directors on items of interest and receive feedback on general VPPSA positions. Chairman Fitzhugh noted Bill Jordan, DPS Chief Engineer, requested that utilities review the DPS "Electric Risk Assessment and Mitigation Report" and provide any feedback prior to the March VELCO Operating Committee meeting. He also noted that EVT was participating in the VSPC load management committee that was reviewing Flexible Load Management. There was a brief discussion. Chairman Fitzhugh suggested appointing Director Johnstone to the VELCO Operating Committee, and he would step into the Alternate seat.

14. Grace Sawyer, VPPSA's Controller reviewed the Executive Meta Scrum (EMS) backlog and the current organizational prioritization for discussion.

15. Board Member Updates: Director Johnstone mentioned Morrisville, Enosburg and Swanton filed for the Hydro Grant request in aggregate and individually. Director Morley shared his frustration with the slow process of the Orleans Rate Case and requested a ruling but has heard nothing from the Public Utility Commission. A brief discussion ensued.

16. Director Sheets made a motion to enter Executive Session, under the provisions of 1 V.S.A. §313(a) to discuss the Global Foundries, Strategic Memberships, and VPPSA Personnel pertaining to contractual negotiations and personnel issues. The motion was seconded by Director Johnston. The motion was approved.

The Board entered the Executive Session at 1:21 pm

Director Morley made a motion to return to the Regular Session, seconded by Director Johnstone. The motion was approved.

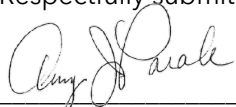
The Board returned to Regular Session at 1:42 pm. No action was taken.

17. Other business: N/A

Director Sheets made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Director Johnstone. Motion approved.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:42 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Amy Parah, Assistant Secretary