Ohio Energy Project Board Meeting

Date: April 4, 2019 Time: 1:30 p.m.

**Location: Ohio Energy Project offices,**

**200 E. Wilson Bridge Rd., Worthington, Ohio**

**Board Members Present:**

Scott Potter, Ohio State University – President

Devin Parram, Bricker & Eckler – Vice President

T.J. Faze, Vertiv – Treasurer

Barry Schumann, AEP – Secretary

Jackie Bird, consultant – Governance Chair

Dale Arnold, Ohio Farm Bureau Federation -- trustee

Jeanne Gogolski of EducationProjects.org – trustee

Holly Karg, American Municipal Power – trustee

Jill Kocher, Public Utilities Commission of Ohio – board partner

Chris Monacelli, Westerville Electric Division -- trustee

Susan Moser, Ohio Development Services Agency – board partner

Tony Ramos, Northeast Ohio Public Energy Council – trustee

Ryan Stredney, Columbia Gas of Ohio -- trustee

Stjepan Vlahovich, Ground Level Solutions – trustee

Bill Yost, retired hydrologist – trustee

**Board Members Not Present:**

Andrew Finton, North Central Electric Cooperative – trustee

Janet Rehberg, Buckeye Power – trustee

Ryan Steyer, OSU Moritz College of Law – board fellow

**OEP Staff Present:**

Shauni Nix, Executive Director

Sue Tenney, education director

Monique Heath, education coordinator

Jessica Sarber, education coordinator

**Call to Order and Approval of Consent Agenda and Minutes:**

President Scott Potter called the meeting to order and welcomed all in attendance. Potter noted the proposed agenda and minutes of the February board meeting had been distributed electronically prior to the meeting, and asked if there were any corrections or additions. Hearing none, Potter called for a motion. Jackie Bird moved to accept and close the agenda and to approve the February meeting minutes; Devin Parram seconded. Potter called the vote. Motion carried unanimously.

**OEP Committee Structure:**

Scott Potter shared progress on the plan to revise the OEP committee structure to enhance the board’s effectiveness, including a list of the six committees – Executive, Finance, Governance, Marketing, Development and Program/Impact -- and board members serving on the latter three committees. Those committees and members are:

* Marketing – Charged with developing a marketing plan for OEP appealing to all stakeholders. Chair Jill Kocher and members Jackie Bird, Janet Rehberg, Ryan Stredney, Stjepan Vlahovich, Tony Ramos and staff member Jessica Sarber;
* Development – Charged with overseeing OEP’s overall fundraising strategy. Chair Scott Potter and members Devin Parram, T.J. Faze, Dale Arnold, Chris Monacelli, Holly Karg and staff member Shauni Nix; and
* Program/Impact – Charged with focusing on the approaches and operations of OEP’s programs. Chair Jeanne Gogolski and members Barry Schumann, Susan Moser, Andrew Finton, Bill Yost and staff members Sue Tenney and Monique Heath.

Potter said the intent is to make committees the workhorses of the board. Committees will consist primarily of subject matter experts who will consider matters within each committee’s subject matter purview during meetings between or before board meetings, then report findings or recommendations to the board to enable board members to make better informed choices. Potter said committees generally would move on consensus rather than by vote, and staff would record notes and prepare a summary of about two paragraphs including when the meeting was held and who participate.

Dale Arnold moved the recognize the revised committee structure; Chris Monacelli seconded. Potter called the vote. Motion carried unanimously.

Potter asked the Marketing, Development and Program/Impact committees to spend 30 minutes reviewing the committee’s charge relative to the organization’s strategic plan, consider when and how to meet, and to consider plans for the next six months or so. The committees then met separately for discussions.

The board reconvened at 2:30 p.m. and Potter asked committee chairs to briefly share feedback from the discussions. Potter started by stating the Development Committee sees a need to embrace a broader view of energy stakeholders beyond those entities that produce it. He said the organization needs to identify suppliers, industrial users and others and share the mission of OEP with those entities and encourage their support of the organization.

Jill Kocher said the Marketing Committee foresees a 12-month plan to review OEP materials and develop a list than can be shared with funders. The committee also plans to target stakeholders including state legislators and the Ohio Department of Education for outreach, including inviting lawmakers and policy makers to attend OEP events such as energy workshops to see students in action. The committee also suggested seeking help from vocational or tech schools in engaging students for concepts to update the OEP website.

Jeanne Gogolski said the Program/Impact Committee foresees exploring current and prospective means of measuring and evaluating programs, and looking at metrics to share with teachers, legislators and other stakeholders.

Potter thanked the committees for their initial work.

**Youth Energy Celebration:** Shauni Nix asked board members to share by April 8 the names and contact information of anyone they would like to be invited to the celebration May 8 at the Columbus Zoo. Nix said the event will be similar to last year but that board members and guests will be seated strategically throughout the venue to facilitate interaction with student teams. Board members will be asked to host tables and given guidance on responsibilities.

**Board Retreat Date and Location:** Shauni Nix said Scott Potter has offered to host the Oct. 3 board retreat at The Ohio State University’s redesigned planetarium pending availability.

**Executive Director Updates:** Shauni Nix asked for volunteers to judge student energy portfolios this month. Sue Tenney said judging through the National Energy Education Development (NEED) Project’s online portal will be conducted April 16-20. At least 10 board members volunteered to assist.

Nix said AEP Ohio wants to expand its energy efficiency education program to reach 30,000 homes, up from the current 25,000 homes a year. Nix said OEP would need additional funding from the utility to hire educational contractors to deliver the expanded programs effectively.

Ryan Stredney asked board members for thoughts on natural gas-related energy efficiency items for the e3 program kits. Stredney said Columbia Gas is looking for more ways to document energy savings through kit items.

Nix said she attended the first meeting of the 2019 Fundraising Leadership Academy, a six-month program for individuals in fundraising roles at central Ohio nonprofits hosted by the Columbus Foundation. Nix anticipates the program will be a valuable resource in helping the OEP staff identify best practices in fundraising, and connect with funders and other nonprofits.

Nix said staff will be working with Mission Measurement this spring to identify outcomes and impact data that can be shared efficiently with multiple funders as part of a pilot program with about three dozen central Ohio nonprofits. Mission Measurement’s Impact Genome Reporting Platform (IGRP) is used to collect outcomes and impact data and uses rigorous, evidence-based, standardized social outcomes to enable nonprofits to quickly and easily report the impact of your programs. The pilot is being funded by several central Ohio funders.

**Education Updates:**

Monique Heath said she has received seven applications to participate in DP&L’s AEGIS (Activating & Energizing Girls in Science) Energy Bike program in June in Dayton. Also in the works is a professional development program with Dayton Public Schools teachers on Aug. 8.

Jessica Sarber said the current Worthington City Schools energy education program has been completed. She also noted energy efficiency programs surveys are due April 15 so she can complete reports to the respective program funders. Recruitment for the 2019-2020 energy efficiency programs will include special efforts to target charter and private schools in order to expand the potential universe of homes reached through the programs.

Sue Tenney said the current Westerville City Schools energy education program has been completed. Applications are coming in for the Energy Sources Tour focused on central Ohio and the Energy Sources Blitz focused on the Cincinnati/southwestern Ohio region.

**Adjournment:**

Scott Potter called for a motion. Bill Yost moved to adjourn; Stjepan Vlahovich seconded. Potter called the vote. Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 3:30 p.m.

*-Recorded by B. Schumann, secretary*

**Upcoming OEP events:**

Energy Portfolios due to NEED – April 15

Energy Portfolio Online Judging – April 16-20

Informal Board Meeting/Committee Meetings – May 2, Worthington

Youth Energy Celebration -- May 8, Columbus

DP&L AEGIS Workshop, June 4-6, Dayton

Third- and Fifth-grade Professional Development, June 5, Columbus

**Board Meeting** – June 6, Worthington

Fourth-grade Professional Development, June 11, Toledo

Third- and Fifth-grade Professional Development, June 12, Toledo

Fourth-grade Professional Development, June 18, Columbus

Fourth- and Fifth-grade Professional Development, June 20, Mansfield

Central Ohio Energy Sources Tour – June 24-26, Columbus

Informal Board Meeting/Committee Meetings – July 4, 2019, Worthington

Third- and Fourth-grade Professional Development, July 9, Cincinnati

Southwest Ohio Energy Sources Blitz, July 10-11, Cincinnati

Third- and Fifth-grade Professional Development, July 16, Dayton

Seventh- and Ninth-grade Professional Development, July 23, Orville Power Plant

Fourth- and Fifth-grade Professional Development, July 24, Cleveland

Fourth- and Fifth-grade Professional Development, July 30, Athens

Seventh- and Ninth-grade Professional Development, July 31, Cardinal Power Plant

**Board Meeting** – Aug. 1, 2019, Worthington

Third--grade Professional Development, Aug. 6, Akron

Fourth- and Fifth-grade Professional Development, Aug. 7, Akron

Informal Board Meeting/Committee Meetings – Sept. 5, Worthington

**Board Retreat** – Oct. 3, The Ohio State University planetarium (tentative)

Informal Board Meeting/Committee Meetings – Nov. 7, Worthington

**Board Meeting** – Dec. 5, Worthington

Board members are encouraged to attend any OEP event. See [www.ohioenergy.org/events](http://www.ohioenergy.org/) for information on more upcoming events or contact OEP staff for specific event information.