Ohio Energy Project Board Meeting

Date: June 6, 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

T.J. Faze, Vertiv – Treasurer

Barry Schumann, AEP – Secretary

Jackie Bird, consultant – Governance Chair

Dale Arnold, Ohio Farm Bureau Federation -- trustee

Andrew Finton, North Central Electric Cooperative – trustee

Jeanne Gogolski of EducationProjects.org – trustee

Holly Karg, American Municipal Power – trustee

Jill Kocher, Public Utilities Commission of Ohio – board partner

Tony Ramos, Northeast Ohio Public Energy Council – trustee

Janet Rehberg, Buckeye Power – trustee

Ryan Stredney, Columbia Gas of Ohio -- trustee

Bill Yost, retired hydrologist – trustee

**Board Members Not Present:**

Chris Monacelli, Westerville Electric Division – trustee

Susan Moser, The Breathing Association – board partner

Devin Parram, Bricker & Eckler – Vice President

Stjepan Vlahovich, Ground Level Solutions – 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

Liza Richard, finance manager

**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 April board meeting were distributed electronically prior to the meeting, and asked if there were any corrections or additions. Hearing none, Potter called for a motion. Bill Yost moved to accept and close the agenda and to approve the April meeting minutes; Dale Arnold seconded. Potter called the vote. Motion carried unanimously.

**OEP Committee Structure:**

Scott Potter asked board members to break into meetings of the Marketing, Development and Program/Impact committee to spend about 30 minutes addressing their respective committee’s priorities. When the board reconvened, Potter asked a representative of each group to report.

Program/Impact chair Jeanne Gogolski shared OEP collects a plethora of data about the various programs, with the type and amount of data varying among program areas. She said a goal will be to prioritize what data to collect for each program, and to understand what information the organization wishes to share publicly. Gogolski asked for a joint meeting of the Marketing and Program/Impact committees to discuss what info to collect and share.

Marketing chair Jill Kocher noted a new marketing brochure was created and mailed to schools. She said topics to be worked on include identifying and promoting sponsorship levels, inviting state legislators to attend OEP programs in Columbus and Dayton to gain first-hand view, and to create a social media calendar and tactics to better utilize social media tools.

Development chair Scott Potter said a key focus is developing a long-term funding model that reduces reliance on one program or one major sponsor. Discussion included targeting new energy-related partners and establishing an endowment. Potter said the team will work to identify contacts at potential partners.

**Celebrating Success:**

Shauni Nix shared a one-page sheet highlighting an extensive range of 17 OEP accomplishments during the 2018-19 fiscal year. Items included: successful executive director transition; new vision and mission statements as well as a new tagline; splitting energy efficiency program curriculum into elementary and secondary curricula; new partnerships with IGS and ENGIE; 2018 annual report and more.

**Finance Update:**

Treasurer T.J. Faze said the Finance committee met June 4 and found the organization’s finances in really strong standing. Faze noted the organization will continue to monitor finances, especially with potential funding impacts from energy legislation currently be considered at the statehouse. He said the board will need to look at budget planning in August. Potter called for a motion. Bill Yost moved to accept and submit the financials for audit; Jill Kocher seconded. Potter called the vote. Motion carried unanimously.

**Ohio House Bill 6 Update:**

Dale Arnold shared insights into H.B 6, a bill introduced to enable two nuclear power plants in Ohio to continue to operate. However, legislation protecting two coal-fired plants and eliminating demand side management (DSM) and energy efficiency requirements in 2020 were added before passage in the Ohio House of Representatives. State energy efficiency mandates are a major driver of OEP’s energy efficiency programs. Arnold said Senate leadership may split out the nuclear plant issue to be considered separately from the rest of the legislation the Senate considers the bill. If the separation occurs, Arnold said the future of DSM and energy efficiency requirements may not be known until at least August or September. He noted the organization will need to watch these developments and plan accordingly.

**Development Update:**

Scott Potter reported energy marketer IGS Energy has awarded $25,000 and energy and service provider ENGIE has awarded $35,000 to OEP. Potter said both companies will be monitoring and evaluating OEP over the next year with an eye toward future support.

Shauni Nix said OEP is finalizing an agreement with the City of Dayton for support of $50,000 a year over the next five years. Nix said AEP Ohio and Columbia Gas of Ohio have agreed to a $100,000 increase in energy efficiency education funding to increase the number of student kits by 2,500 with a focus on selected Columbus City Schools. The increased income will allow hiring of a consultant to manage the Columbus City Schools effort.

Nix also reported that board member Susan Moser, who has a new position with The Breathing Association in Columbus, introduced Joe Flynn of WesBanco to OEP. Nix said that as a bank, WesBanco is interested in programs targeting low-income housing and low-income populations. Nix believes there are opportunities for WesBanco to support OEP’s initiatives directed toward low-income communities. Nix also said through her participation in the Fundraising Leadership Academy she has the opportunity to speak with a Huntington Bank leader and will explore potential opportunities to partner with Huntington.

**Education Update:**

Sue Tenney said numerous grade-level professional development workshops will be held around the state through mid-August. The Ohio Energy Source Tour will be held June 24-26 in central Ohio and the Ohio Energy Blitz will be held July 10-00 in southwest Ohio. She expects from 75 to 80 teachers to participate in the programs.

Monique Heath said the three-day-long Activating and Energizing Girls in Science (AEGIS) Energy Bike program is concluding in Dayton. The program sponsored by Dayton Power & Light involves five teams of middle school girls from the DP&L service area. Heath and Shauni Nix visited the workshop June 5, and Nix suggested OEP may wish to revise and expand the Energy Bike program given its focus on STEM and careers.

Jessica Sarber said the energy efficiency education secondary curriculum has been completed and will be launched June 28 along with the elementary curriculum. OEP revised the energy efficiency curriculum to align with Ohio learning standards and make it more relevant to secondary students.

Shauni Nix said the NEED Project national winners presentation will be held at 8 a.m., Monday, June 24, in Crystal City, VA. Ohio has two national winners: Oakwood High School and Westerville City Schools. Anyone interested in attending the ceremony should contact Nix.

**Adjournment:**

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

*-Recorded by B. Schumann, secretary*

**Upcoming OEP events:**

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

Energy Efficiency – June 28, Ohio’s Electric Cooperatives

Energy Efficiency – July 9, Canton

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

Fifth-grade Professional Development -- July 10, Cincinnati

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

Energy Efficiency – July 11, Columbus

Energy Efficiency – July 16, Dayton

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

Energy Efficiency – July 17, Columbus

Energy Efficiency – July 19, Ohio’s Electric Cooperatives

Energy Efficiency – July 23, Canton

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

Energy Efficiency – July 24, Toledo

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

Energy Efficiency – July 30, Dayton

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

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

Energy Efficiency – Aug. 6, Canton

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

Energy Efficiency – Aug. 7, Athens

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

Dayton Public Schools Professional Development – Aug. 8, Dayton

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

Energy Efficiency – Sept. 18, Dayton

Energy Efficiency – Sept. 24, Columbus

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

Energy Efficiency – Oct. 8, Dayton

Energy Efficiency – Oct. 23, Columbus

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.