

**Southwest Power Pool
WESTERN RELIABILITY EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
Wednesday, July 21, 2021
8am to 10am MDT (9am to 11am CDT)
Net Conference**

• M I N U T E S •

1. Call to Order

Chair Wade Kiess called the meeting to order at 8:13 am MDT (9:13 am CDT) on Wednesday, 7/21, 2021.

2. Attendance and Quorum Determination

CJ Brown took attendance and confirmed the meeting was initially 3 short of quorum due to WebEx technical issues. Quorum was met at 8:43 am MDT (9:43 MDT)

3. Review and approval of WREC meeting agenda

Wade Kiess reviewed the meeting agenda with the committee.

4. Approval of WREC Minutes from April 28, 2021 open meeting

Wade Kiess reviewed the minutes from the previous meeting with the committee and requested for approval. Keith Carman motioned to approve, seconded by Bob Staton; with no further discussion or opposition, the motion was approved.

5. Review of Past Action Items

- a. SPP (CJ Brown) to evaluate what facilitation option(s) make sense for a load shed philosophy discussion and report back to the group.

<IN PROGRESS>

Load Shed Philosophy presentation by Yasser Bahbaz/Brian Strickland to be scheduled with WRWG.

6. WRWG Updates and Approval Items

Marc Desmarais was not in attendance to update the group on the July 13-14, 2021, WRWG meeting, so CJ Brown gave a quick overview. Will Tootle presented potential changes to SOL methodology and outage requirements to WRWG. SPP's FERC audit went well. NERC, WECC and MRO also participated. Auditors expressed concern about outage notification timing not being far enough in advance and encouraged SPP to consider changing its timing requirements. They also showed interest in flow based methodology being used more in the west for congestion management. The expectation is for an annual audit going forward; vs. the every 3 year cycle previously followed.

Brian Strickland added that WRWG members shared their return to work approaches; many of which are hybrid. The Open Loop Event was also discussed.

7. WEIS Progress Report

CJ Brown reported the WEIS Market is going well. Work is ongoing to fix the early kinks of system operations. Colorado Springs (CSU) is in process of joining the WEIS with a go-live target of April 1, 2022.

8. EIM Project Update

PSCo is hitting pause on EIM efforts to evaluate their options.

Sam Rugel shared that Tuscon (TEP) is on track for an April EIM entry. Staff is tired. The EMS lift was much bigger than previously thought. They are focusing on the minimum required to cross the finish line. TEP implemented a new EMS system and setup a new control center in tandem with EIM onboarding.

9. COVID-19

CJ Brown shared that SPP is moving to a hybrid environment of 50% in office/50% remote for staff. Management can be remote up to 25%. The amount of support staff allowed in the ODC has been extremely limited to minimize risk of exposure to Operators. The vaccination rate of SPP Staff is estimated to be 70% based on insurance provider aggregate data.

Wade Kiess added that Platte River Staff was around 70% vaccinated as well.

Keith Carman has been on-site everyday personally. Tri-State has been back in office since May but in a “new normal” hybrid environment using Microsoft Teams and Zoom. They are not asking staff if they are vaccinated but they think a high percentage are vaccinated. One person tested positive after an in-person staff meeting but it did not transfer to any other staff. So vaccinations were effective.

Per Bob Staton, PSCo is maintaining a hybrid approach going forward. Until after Labor Day, only volunteers will have been on-site. Weekday on-site engineer coverage is being maintained. Operators are working from home on Training and Relief Weeks if desired. Energy accounting staff is in the office twice per week. Employee stats on vaccination are not being kept. Staff are on the honor system to follow CDC guidelines of wearing mask if not fully vaccinated. Bob is in the office every weekday. The assistant manager is in office twice per week.

Sam Rugel shared that TEP’s hybrid system becomes official after Labor Day. Someone from management has been onsite every day during COVID.

10. Other Items

Billing contacts should be receiving Net Energy for Load (NEL) information from SPP. CJ Brown asked the group to please touch base with their accounting staff to make sure they are aware and receiving it.

Budget will be discussed in the next meeting's executive session. Expenses are currently tracking as projected.

11. Summary of Action Items

- a. **Action Item:** N/A

12. Future Meetings

SPP Staff will not be travelling until 2022. Tentative 2022 meeting dates to be determined before the next meeting; hopefully some of which can be in-person.

<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Host</u>
10/27/2021, Wednesday	8-10am MT	WebEx
2022	TBD	In-Person?

13. Executive Session Discussion

Not required.

14. Adjournment

Wade Kiess called for a motion to adjourn the open meeting at 9:15 am MDT (10:15 CDT). Keith Carman motioned to approve, seconded by Warren Rust; with no further discussion or opposition, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
CJ Brown
WREC Staff Secretary

Attendance:

Wade Kiess (PRPA, WREC Chair)

Denton McGregore (BHE, WREC Vice Chair)

Anna Seder

Bob Staton (PSCo)

Calvin Dacus (TEP)

Eric Baran

Joe Taylor

Hank Adair (Farmington)

Keith Carman (Tri-State)

Sam Rugel (TEP)

Steve Ashbaker

Steve Beuning

Warren Rust (CSU)

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CJ Brown (SPP, WREC Staff Secretary)

Hamilton Bitely (SPP)

Brian Strickland (SPP)

Tennille Tims (SPP)