



Orcas Power & Light Cooperative
Minutes of the Board of Directors Meeting
Thursday, January 15, 2026

Streaming through Zoom attendees were Board members Vince Dauciunas, Mark Madsen, Tom Osterman, Jerry Whitfield, Chuks Onwuneme, Brian Silverstein and Wendy Hiester. Staff present were General Manager Foster Hildreth; Manager of Engineering and Operations Russell Guerry; Manager of Finance Travis Neal; Communications Manager Krista Bouchey; Communications Specialist Johanna Lange; Staking Technician Taylor Smith; Member Services Representative Madeline Danielson; and Special Projects Office Coordinator Beth Stanford (serving as recording secretary). Also present were Legal Counsel Joel Paisner, and consultant Jay Kimball.

Members in attendance: Drew Gislason, John Pierre van Dongen, Alan Mizuta, Angela Krisinger

Meeting commenced at 8:36 AM

Member Comment Period: John Pierre van Dongen commented about renewable energy on behalf of the Friends of the San Juans.

ACTION ITEMS

CONSENT AGENDA

MOTION was made by Madsen to accept the consent agenda, seconded by Silverstein and passed unanimously by voice vote.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

BPA Provider of Choice Initiative

Staff shared that OPALCO has joined 130 Northwest public utilities in signing BPA's new 16-year Provider of Choice power contracts, securing electricity through 2044, with PNGC supporting negotiations and load aggregation to help manage long-term cost and supply risk ahead of the October 2028 start. Discussion ensued.

OPALCO Survey

Staff shared results from OPALCO's November–December member survey on local renewable energy, noting very high overall satisfaction, strong concern about future outages, broad support for improving reliability and reducing mainland dependence, and sustained majority support for renewable development (particularly microgrids) even when tradeoffs, environmental protections, and policy adjustments were considered. Staff discussed the outcome.

REPORTS

Staff reviewed reports, dashboards, grant and budget tracking, ongoing cooperative-wide safety measures and training, and projects.

Regular Session ended: 10 AM
Executive Session: 10:17 AM to 11:35 AM
Meeting Closed: 11:35 AM

Vince Dauciunas

Vince Dauciunas, President

Tom Osterman

Tom Osterman, Secretary-Treasurer

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