



Orcas Power & Light Cooperative
Minutes of the Board of Directors Meeting
Thursday, August 31, 2026

Streaming through Zoom attendees were Board members, Laura Derevensky, Wendy Hiester, Mark Madsen, Tom Osterman, Brian Silverstein, Laura Stern and Dr. Jerry Whitfield. Staff present were General Manager Foster Hildreth; Manager of Engineering and Operations Russell Guerry; Communications Manager Krista Bouchey; Communications Specialist Jo Lange; Manager of Finance and Member Services Travis Neal; Special Projects Beth Stanford (serving as recording secretary), OPALCO employees: Katherine Santos Santana, Brett Deines, and Taylor Smith. Also present were Legal Counsel Joel Paisner, consultant Jay Kimball; Ali Boe, Craig Hanson & Kristine Neitman from Rock Island Communications; and from Bonneville Power Administration: Jack Smith.

Members in attendance: Norris Palmer, Dawni Cunningham, Darrell Kirk, Kendra Lamb, Michelle Ross, Brian Grant, Lili Clark, Sara Gartner, Jill Rullkoetter, Charles Greene, Luann Garvey, Alan Fantel, Janet Wheeler, Roslyn Solomon, Alan Mizuta, Rob Grant, Dennis Jenkins, Rob Osterman, Chuenchom Greacen, Chris Greacen, Karen Pearsom, Magali Cota, Jennifer Gastineau and Bill Hurley

Meeting commenced at 9:31 AM

Member Comment Period: Member comments were received during the open comment period. A full recording of this portion of the meeting is available on the OPALCO website.

ACTION ITEMS

CONSENT AGENDA

MOTION was made by Silverstein to accept the minutes from the consent agenda, seconded by Madsen and passed by voice vote with one abstention from Stern.

WRECA VOTING DELEGATES RESOLUTION

MOTION was made by Heister to add Foster Hildreth as an additional delegate for the Washington Rural Electric Cooperative Association (WRECA), seconded by Stern and passed unanimously by voice vote.

CLIMATE COMMITMENT ACT (CCA) NO-COST ALLOWANCES RESOLUTION

MOTION was made by Madsen to accept staff's recommendation and approve Resolution 5-2026 regarding OPALCO's carbon credits process, seconded by Derevensky, and passed unanimously by voice vote.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

Q2 2026 FINANCIAL UPDATE

Staff walked the board through budget-to-actual variances, including member re-lending debt tracking, contractor availability on underground programs, and the new Eastsound substation transformer sourced for roughly \$500,000 versus a \$3 million replacement cost.

MEMBER SERVICE POLICY 4: SERVICE CONDITIONS UPDATES-FIRST READ



Staff presented the first read of Policy 4 cleanup. The board was asked to send comments to staff ahead of the final read at the next regular meeting.

INTEGRATED RESOURCE PLAN: PART 3 – BPA 2028-2044 RATE STRUCTURE

Staff, joined by BPA's Jack Smith, explained BPA's shift away from the old tier-rate methodology toward a structure that removes contracted demand quantity and shifts more cost into energy and hourly peak demand. Board members raised follow-up questions and whether this creates a pricing signal that makes battery storage economical and whether OPALCO should start moving toward time-of-use rate design and metering ahead of the 2028 transition.

REPORTS

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

Regular Session: 9:31-10:37 AM; 10:50-11:39 AM; 12:28-12:30 PM

Break: 10:37 AM – 10:50 AM

Executive Session: 11:50 AM – 12:28 PM

Meeting Closed: 12:30 PM

Tom Osterman , President

Wendy Hiester, Secretary-Treasurer

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