

VIRGINIA OFFSHORE WIND DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
Board Meeting
Libbie Mill Public Library
Henrico, Virginia
November 8, 2017 | 10:00am – 11:30am

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Joan Bondareff called the meeting to order at 10:15 am.

VOWDA Members Present:

Joan Bondareff, Mary Doswell, Bob Matthias, Brian Redmond, Art Moye, Ron Rosenberg, Phillip Green, Deborah Miller

VOWDA Members Absent:

Varun Nikore

VOWDA Staff Present:

John Warren (DMME), Al Christopher (DMME), Ken Jurman (DMME), Barbara Simcoe (DMME), Eileen Carson (DMME), Robin Jones (DMME), Ryan O'Toole (DMME), Evie Christopher (DMME)

APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MEETING'S MINUTES

The Chair called for a motion to approve the September 12 meeting's minutes, which had previously been distributed to members. The motion carried unanimously.

VOWDA BUSINESS

2017 Annual Report: Members discussed the proposed five recommendations and the goals and activities section of the Annual Report. On minor edit was made to Recommendation 1. Bob Matthias made the motion, and Brian Redmond seconded, to approve the annual report for distribution. It passed unanimously. DMME staff will finalize the report and submit it to the Governor and the Chairmen of the House Appropriations Committee, the Senate Finance Committee and the House and Senate Commerce and Labor Committees. A copy will be posted to the VOWDA website.

Chair Joan Bondareff requested that staff issue a joint VOWDA-DMME press release to highlight the report. The press release can also bring attention to the fact that the offshore wind industry is moving forward in Virginia and that developers and suppliers who want to do business in the state are welcome.

2018 Work Plan: Staff presented the draft 2018 VOWDA Work Plan, which is based on the recommendations and activities in the 2017 Annual Report. A VOWDA lead and member backups were identified and assigned to each of the six tasks. The leads and backups will be

responsible for reviewing, and modifying as needed, the subtasks. DMME staff will email leads with suggestions on the implementation process.

At the suggestion of Deborah Miller, Al Christopher will send members a status report of what was accomplished in the 2017 VOWDA Work Plan.

Report on Dominion Energy’s Integrated Resource Plan Hearing and Rate Recovery Filing:

Mary Doswell attended the IRP hearing and Bob Matthias submitted written testimony on behalf of VOWDA. Mary reported that 3-4 people signed up for public comment, and during testimony Dominion’s witness did not get many questions regarding offshore wind. The SCC wanted it to be part of the public record that it believes Dominion Energy needs to file a Certificate for Public Convenience and Necessity (CPCN). Typically, Dominion would file the CPCN for a generation facility. However, Mary thinks that Dominion does not necessarily believe a CPCN is needed because the project turbines are in federal waters.

It is anticipated that Dominion Energy will file for rate recovery with the SCC in the second quarter of 2018. During the nine-month process, VOWDA will have opportunities to present testimony or public comment. In advance of the rate recovery filing, VOWDA can get some momentum going by providing the new Governor a copy of the VOWDA annual report and informing his administration about offshore wind in Virginia. Chair Joan Bondareff suggested that VOWDA meet before the rate recovery is filed and invited Dominion and Ørsted to attend the meeting to discuss project costs.

Report on Federal Production Tax Credits: Chair Joan Bondareff reported that the House of Representatives introduced tax reform legislation that proposes cutting the wind production tax credit (PTC) in half. She suggested that VOWDA be on record with Virginia’s congressional delegation that it opposes these tax cuts. After discussion, VOWDA members agreed to send letters to Senators Kaine and Warner, as well as to the Committee Chairs and Ranking Members, stating their position on the House and Senate versions of the PTC legislation. A template letter with talking points will also be developed for members to provide to any interested companies or stakeholders who may want to submit comments. DMME staff will work with Chair Joan Bondareff to draft the letters.

DMME UPDATES

Al Christopher reported that the BOEM Intergovernmental Renewable Energy Task Force on offshore wind will meet in Virginia Beach on December 7, 2017. The meeting will bring together BOEM, Virginia and North Carolina Task Force members to discuss the development of renewable energy leases offshore Virginia Beach and Kitty Hawk. Al will forward members the meeting information and agenda. Bob Matthias, who is attending as a Task Force member, will also represent VOWDA and send members an update after the meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Eileen Levandoski, Virginia Chapter of the Sierra Club: BOEM approved Dominion’s site assessment plan for the commercial Wind Energy Area, and it will be posted to its website. She

attended the AWEA conference and the BOEM breakout session concerning how to formalize the process for a Construction and Operation Plan (COP). She said that BOEM's acceptance of the SAP starts the clock for submission of a COP within four and one-half years.

NEXT MEETING DATE

With all scheduled business concluded, members agreed to convene again on February 28. The staff will notify members of the location of the meeting once confirmed.

ADJOURNMENT

Chair Bondareff adjourned the meeting at 11:25 p.m.