

HARDWICK ELECTRIC DEPARTMENT BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS REGULAR MEETING

MINUTES

Tuesday, June 24, 2025 (6:00 PM)

Attendees

Commissioner Lynne Gedanken, Chair

Commissioner Michael Ambrosino

Commissioner Renaud Demers

Commissioner Roger Prevot

HED General Manager, Sarah Braese

HED Controller & Business Office Supervisor (CBOS) Beth Essary

Jake Lester, member of the Public

Virtual (via Zoom)

J. Scott Cameron, Attorney

- Call to Order: Commissioner Gedanken called the meeting to order at 6:08 pm.
- GM Braese requested an addition to the Executive Session for the discussion of a personnel issue. A second Executive Session was added for this purpose. Commissioner Prevot requested time to make a statement at the end of the meeting.
- Commissioner Prevot made a motion to approve the minutes of the May 20, 2025 Regular Meeting. Commissioner Ambrosino seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.
- Jake Lester shared information about himself and explained he was at the meeting to learn about the functionality and structure of the Board.
- GM Braese reported that the Town Select Board would be appointing a new commissioner. Commissioner Prevot will attend the July Select Board meeting, and attendance for the remainder of the 2025 meetings will be determined after the new HED Board Commissioner is appointed.
- GM Braese provided information regarding policy revisions and updates. The Board suggested an approach to updating all policies. Commissioner Prevot made a motion to direct GM Sarah Braese and management to adopt a new approach to customer requests for information on projects. Before we (HED) require the customer to pay \$250 cost for requesting a cost estimate for a project, that we (HED) provide them with information related to their project to help them make the decision of whether to proceed and how to proceed, and that we (HED) do that with non-binding numbers that are general rules of thumb rather than specific and binding numbers related to their project. And that can include one site visit. Commissioner Ambrosino seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.
- GM Braese requested the regular July Board meeting be moved to Tuesday, July 22, 2025. Commissioner Ambrosino made a motion that the July meeting be moved to Tuesday, July 22. Commissioner Prevot seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.
- CBOS Essary presented Financial Reports and the Special Construction Report with brief discussion. No action was taken.
- GM Braese provided information about the HED dam assets. No Board action was taken.
- GM Braese reported highlights of the General Manager Reports, which were presented in full to the commissioners. Improved outage reporting was discussed. No Board action was taken.
- Commissioner Gedanken made a motion to move into Executive Session to discuss a matter the premature disclosure of which would prejudice the interests of Hardwick Electric Department. Commissioner Ambrosino seconded the motion. Motion passed. The board entered Executive Session at 7.16 pm with

invitation to GM Braese, CBOS Essary, and Attorney J. Scott Cameron to attend.

- The Board came out of Executive Session at 8:04 pm. No action was taken.
- Commissioner Gedanken made a motion to ratify the collective bargaining agreement as amended between HED and IBEW Local 300 and as reviewed by the Board of Commissioners on June 24, 2025 subject to and contingent upon ratification by the bargaining unit. Commissioner Ambrosino seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.
- Commissioner Gedanken made a motion to move into Executive Session to discuss a confidential personnel matter. Commissioner Ambrosino seconded the motion. Motion passed. The board entered Executive Session at 8:06 pm with invitation to GM Braese and CBOS Essary to attend.
- The Board came out of Executive Session at 8:27 pm. No Board action was taken.
- Commissioner Prevot expressed appreciation to Commissioner Gedanken for her service to HED and the communities served as Chairperson of the Board.
- Commissioner Ambrosino made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Prevot seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 8:30pm.

Recorder

Date

Commissioner

Date