



Nebraska Energy

ASSISTANCE NETWORK

NEAN Annual Meeting Notice

Thursday May 8, 2008

11 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.

Eugene Mahoney State Park

28500 W. Park Hwy.

Riverview Lodge (not the main lodge)

Ashland, NE

Park's Phone: 402.944.2523

Judi Martin's Office: 402.636.3654

Judi Martin's Cell: 402.616.5415

Please **respond if you will — or will not attend — by NOON, Tuesday, May 6. Call 402.636.3654 (Judi Martin)** or e-mail jamartin@oppd.com. We need to confirm attendance to plan for food.

NEAN meeting notes from previous meetings may be reviewed at the NEAN website: [NEAN Meetings and Minutes](#). See agenda items below. (April 2008 meeting was canceled.). Detailed agenda attached.

Should attendees wish to attend the SAC Museum after adjournment at 2:30 p.m. the entrance fee is \$7. The SAC Museum is next to the Mahoney State Park entrance. More information may be found at [SAC Museum](#).

NOTE: The **Energy Education Curriculum Sub-committee** will meet from 9-10:30 a.m. at the Riverview Lodge. The **Energy Assistance Committee** will meet at 9:30 a.m. at the Riverview Lodge. Linda Eidem will contact **Membership Committee** members regarding meeting time. The lodge will be open at 8:30 a.m.

Scheduled Agenda

- | | |
|-----------------------|---|
| 11-11:45 a.m. | Begin NEAN Business Meeting (election of Board, approve Articles of Incorporation, budget, etc.) |
| 11:45 a.m. -1:45 p.m. | Luncheon Program:
Installation of NEAN 2008 Officers
Member recognition
Speakers:
Mike Kelly, LIHEAP
Mary Beth Rathe, Community Action of Nebraska |
| 1:45-2:30 p.m. | Reconvene business meeting with committee reports |
| 2:30 p.m. | Adjourn |

CONFERENCE CALL for NEAN meeting: 866.234.4460; Participant Code: *6807591*

Park Entrance Fee: Sign-in at the main gate for NEAN meeting – Fee is included in lunch provided by OPPD

Directions: Exit 426 off of I-80. Meeting is at **RIVERVIEW LODGE**, not the main lodge.

Judi Martin, NEAN chair
Omaha Public Power District
444 S. 16 St., Omaha, NE 68102
402.636.3654

Interested parties are invited to join us and learn how we can work together to meet the mission of the Nebraska Energy Assistance Network: To assist Nebraskans meet energy needs through education, collaboration and advocacy.

<p style="text-align: center;">AGENDA</p> <p style="text-align: center;">ANNUAL NEBRASKA ENERGY ASSISTANCE NETWORK MEETING</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Thursday, May 8, 2008 Eugene Mahoney State Park Riverview Lodge (not the main lodge) 28500 W. Park Hwy. Ashland, Nebraska</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Sponsor: OPPD and NEAN</p>	Time Frame	Information	Discussion	Action
Call to Order – Judi Martin, executive chair	11 a.m.			X
1. Welcome and opening – Meeting host, Judi Martin	11-11:05 a.m.	X		
2. Review and Approval of March Minutes – Judi Martin	11:05-11:10 a.m.	X	X	X
3. New business <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Election of Board of Directors • Approval of Articles of Incorporation • Treasurer’s report • Approval of 2008 budget • 2008 meeting formats — programs 4. Break for Lunch	11:10- 11:45 a.m. 11:45 a.m. -12:15 p.m.	X	X	X
5. Annual Membership Recognition <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Installation of officers • Recognition of members • Program Speaker: Mike Kelly, DHHS — LIHEAP Speaker: Mary Beth Rathe, Community Action of Nebraska	12:15-1:45 p.m.			
6. Reconvene business portion for Committee Reports <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Energy Assistance • Energy Education • Resource clearinghouse — website • Administrative/Communication • Development — fundraising 7. Adjourn	1:45-2:30 p.m.			

**NEAN Meeting – Eugene Mahoney State Park
May 8, 2008**

Attendance:

Jill Becker (guest)	Aquila
Kate Bolz (guest)	Nebraska Appleseed
Pam Browning	Goldenrod Hills Community Action
John Carlson (new member)	The Salvation Army
Rick Cheloha	Loup Power District
Erin Ching (guest)	Nebraska Appleseed
Jan Davis	Aquila
Laura Demman	Nebraska Public Service Commission
Linda Eidem	NorthWestern Energy
Kate Ellrich	American Red Cross
Cory Fuehrer	Nebraska Public Power District
Rick Hemphill	Elkhorn Rural, Stanton Co., Cedar-Knox PPD
Lisa Hale	Metropolitan Utilities District
Krista Heineman	Goldenrod Hills Community Action
Cheryl Holcomb	Central Nebraska Community Services
Roger Hunt	Nebraska Public Power District
Mike Kelly	Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services
Judi Martin	Omaha Public Power District
Mari Matulka	Metropolitan Utilities District
Sheila Nelson	Aquila
Shirley Niemeyer	University of Nebraska, Lincoln; UN-L Extension
Mary Beth Rathe	Community Action of Nebraska
Tom Richards (guest)	OPPD
Michelle Swertzic (guest)	Nebraska Propane Gas Association
Julie Thacker	Metropolitan Utilities District
Diane Vesely-Robb	Lincoln Action Program

Next NEAN Meeting:

Thursday, July 9, Kearney

Following meeting October 9, 2008

Sub-committees will meet on their own, according to their needs

- I. Meeting called to order by Judi Martin.
 - A. Minutes approved from March 13, 2008
- II. New Business
 - A. Cory's treasurer's report approved
 - i. April 10, 2008 Withdrawal \$182.45 – Steve Raglin Graphic Design; provided certificates for annual meeting
 - ii. April 21, 2008 Deposit from Source Gas \$1,287.50 – Curriculum development and graphic design
 - iii. Balance as of April 1, 2008: \$2,719.90
 - iv. Balance as of April 30, 2008: \$3,824.95
 - v. Southern Power District has declined to be a member of NEAN
 - vi. Mahoney Park facility rental fee \$282.74
 - B. Slate of NEAN Officers approved – Rick Cheloha installed elected officers
 - i. Judi Martin – Chair
 - ii. Mike Kelly – Vice Chair
 - iii. Cory Fuehrer – Treasurer/Secretary
 - iv. Linda Eidem – Director
 - v. Jan Davis – Director
 - vi. Sheila Nelson (non-elected/non-officer post) will continue to act as recorder and central communications
 - C. 2008 Proposed Budget – Accepted
 - i. Non-profit status requires that 30 percent of our funds must be charitable contributions. Loup Power donates \$25 from canceled April meeting.

a. Annual membership contributions	\$4,100
b. Charitable contributions	1,900
c. Additional member donations	<u>500</u>
d. Total Income	\$6,500
e. Program expenses	\$4,300

f.	Website expenses	400
g.	Postage	250
h.	Printed material	1,000
i.	Miscellaneous	<u>550</u>
j.	Total Expenses	\$6,500

- D. Articles of Incorporation – Approved
 - i. Approved filing expense for three-week public notice in York newspaper
- E. Membership Dues Structure – Approved
 - i. Utilities with 5,000 residential meters/accounts, or less: \$100
 - ii. Utilities with 5,000-9,999 residential meters/accounts: \$200
 - iii. Utilities with 10,000 or more residential meters/accounts \$300
 - iv. Governmental entities/agencies: \$200
 - v. Community Action/Non-profit/Educational Institutions: \$100
 - vi. In the event a member is unable to meet the schedule above, they are encouraged to address the Executive Committee, as contribution may be waived
- F. General NEAN Committee Meetings
 - i. Proposed and approved change from monthly to quarterly meetings
 - ii. Still need to have annual meeting in April
 - iii. Meetings suggested: January, April, July, October
 - iv. Locations will continue to vary
 - a. Suggested meetings be moved among Kearney, Omaha, York and Lincoln
 - b. Executive Committee will come up with plan/location schedule
 - v. Communication options for meetings
 - a. Will provide conference call capabilities, when possible
 - b. Suggest we send etiquette reminders on conference call behaviors
 - c. Shirley Niemeyer will check on possibility and expense of visual conferencing through University Nebraska-Kearney
 - d. Laura Demman will check on state video conferencing
 - e. Roger Hunt will check on four video conferencing sites through Southeast Community College
 - vi. Sub-committees will meet on their own, as needed
- G. NEAN Recognition – 2007
 - i. NEAN Executive Committee: Judi Martin (Omaha Public Power District), Mike Kelly (Nebraska Health & Human Services), Cory Fuehrer (Nebraska Public Power District), Jan Davis (Aquila), Linda Eidem (NorthWestern Energy)
 - ii. Other recognition: Cheryl Holcomb (Central Nebraska Community Services), Energy Assistance lead; Mari Matulka (Metropolitan Utilities District), website administrator; Rick Cheloha (Loup Power District), Education Committee lead; Sheila Nelson (Aquila), communications/recorder
 - iii. Certificates of Special Recognition: Kate Ellrich, American Red Cross; Gwen Kautz, Dawson Public Power District; Steve Virgil, Creighton University, and the American Red Cross – as our fiscal agent
 - iv. Founding Members: Aquila, The Salvation Army, SourceGas, American Red Cross, Dawson Public Power, Loup Public Power, Nebraska Health and Human Services, Nebraska Energy Office, Nebraska Public Service Commission, NorthWestern Energy, Nebraska Public Power District
 - v. All other members received certificates

Lunch – Thank you Omaha Public Power District for providing lunch!

III. Presenters

- A. Mike Kelly, Nebraska Health and Human Services
 - i. Talked about LiHeap Program
- B. Mary Beth Rathe, Community Action of Nebraska
 - i. Talked about Community Action Agencies

IV. Committee Reports

- A. Energy Assistance Committee
 - i. Energy Symposium
 - a. Potential date: November 13
 - b. Potential location: SAC Museum in Ashland
 - c. Purpose(s)
 - 1. NEAN awareness/recognition
 - 2. Not sure of agenda
 - 3. Do we want breakout sessions?

Could provide guidance of other utilities to set up energy assistance programs

ii. Utility Data

- a. NPPD meeting scheduled to discuss Tuesday, May 13
- b. NorthWestern will start this quarter
- c. SourceGas – after billing system problems are solved
- d. Loup – don't believe they will do it
- e. Aquila – waiting on sale

iii. Iowa Data

- a. Iowa is more organized in reporting utility data.
 - 1. How do they do it?
 - 2. How can we be more like them?
 - i. Iowa and Nebraska are have different political climates
 - ii. Nebraska is primarily public power (electric)
 - iii. Iowa is investor owned
 - iv. Different cultures energy assistance

B. Energy Education

- i. Head Start programs delayed until fall
 - a. “Get a Head Start on Energy”
 - b. Need to produce DVD
 - c. Introduction of DVD shown in meeting
 - d. Still filming
- ii. Suggest we start looking for additional funding now for the next project/program
 - a. Might LB1001 provide funds?

C. Website Report: February – April 2008

267 visitors (February); 263 (March); 189 visitors (April)

81.7 percent of hits came from a direct address or bookmark (February); 78 percent (March); 69 percent (April)

13.4 percent of hits came from a search engine – Google with the most (February); 17.6 percent (March); 20.9 percent (April)

9 hits came from a link on the WOWT news/headlines page. (February)

84.6 percent of the visitors spent 0-30 seconds on the website (February); 77.4 percent (March); 84.1 percent (April)

5.3 percent spent 30 seconds to 2 minutes on the website (February); 8.3 percent (March) 5.4 percent (April)

2.3 percent or 9 spent 2-5 minutes on the website (February); 3.3 percent (March); 2 percent (April)

3.5 percent or 14 spent 5-15 minutes on the website (February); 7 percent (March); 4.5 percent (April)

1.7 percent or 7 spent 15-30 minutes on the website; 2.1 percent (March); 1.2 percent (April)

2.3 percent or 9 spent 30 minutes to an hour on the website. Could also mean the site was up on their computer that long. (February); 0.9 percent (March); 2 percent (April)

(February) Most viewed page: “news” – 114; “NLIIEC.9.28.07” – 96; “assistance” – 89; “agenda.minutes” – 63 **NOTE: They are looking at the page, not at the agendas or minutes**; “about us” 63; “resources” – 54; “2.1.08 walk.pdf” – 50; “education” – 45. Five visitors looked at the minutes from the January meeting; 6 looked at the agenda for the February meeting.

(March) Most viewed page: “agenda.minutes” – 106 **NOTE: They are looking at the page, not at the agendas or minutes**; “assistance” – 101; “resources” – 74; “about us” – 72; “news” 50; “education” – 49; “documents” – 44. Six visitors looked at the minutes from the March meeting; 9 looked at the minutes from the January meeting; 19 looked at the minutes from the February meeting. Twenty-three visitors looked at the NEAN PowerPoint show.

(April) Most viewed page: “assistance” – 59; “news” – 44; “resources” – 42; “about us” – 42; “agenda.minutes” 34 **NOTE: They are looking at the page, not at the agendas or minutes**; “education” – 25; “2.1.walk pdf” – 23
Four visitors looked at the minutes from the January and February meetings.

Search Key Phrases

Nebraska energy assistance – 11 or 10.4 percent (February); 14 or 9.7 percent (March); 7 or 7.4 percent (April)

Omaha energy assistance – 5 or 4.7 percent (February); 2 or 1.3 percent (March)

Nebraska energy assistance – 5 or 5.3 percent (April)

Nebraska energy assistance – 4 or 4.2 percent (April)

Nebraska heating assistance – 3 or 2.8 percent (February)

Grand Island NE energy assistance – 3 or 2 percent (March)

Nebraska energy assistance program – 3 or 2 percent (March); 3 or 3.1 percent (April)

Nebraska energy assistance network – 2 or 1.9 percent (February); 9 or 6.2 percent (March); 5 or 5.3 percent (April)

Energy assistance Omaha – 2 or 1.9 percent (February); 4 or 2.7 percent (March); 2 or 2.1 percent (April)

Energy assistance in NE – 2 or 1.9 percent (February); 3 or 3.1 percent (April)

Energy assistance Nebraska – 2 or 1.9 percent (February); 3 or 2 percent (March); 2 or 2.1 percent (April)

Nebraska energy – 2 or 1.9 percent (February)

Search Key Words

Assistance – 46 or 12.6 percent (February); 68 or 11.4 percent (March); 41 or 12.1 percent (April)

Energy – 44 or 12.1 percent (February); 68 or 11.4 percent (March); 36 or 10.6 percent (April)

Nebraska – 34 or 9.3 percent (February); 67 or 11.3 percent (March); 42 or 12.4 percent (April)

Omaha – 18 or 4.9 percent (February); 30 or 5 percent (March); 10 or 2.9 percent (April)

NE — 9 or 2.4 percent (February); 18 or 3 percent (March); 11 or 3.2 percent (April)
NEAN — 5 or 1.3 percent (February); 5 or 1.4 percent (April)
Utility — 4 or 1.1 percent (February); 7 or 1.1 percent (March)
Heating — 4 or 1.1 percent (February); 4 or .06 percent (March); 4 or 1.1 percent (April)

Number of visitors below not available, just the number of pages that were accessed by each country.

(February) 859 pages accessed from the U.S. Pages accessed from: Germany (27), Canada (24), Great Britain (13), Czech Republic (13), Poland (12), Italy (9), China (4), Australia (4), Brazil (2), Israel (1), Japan (1), Barbados (1), Thailand (1).

(March) 992 pages accessed from the U.S. Pages accessed from: Germany (26) Taiwan (14), Italy (14), Poland (14), Czech Republic (14), Slovenia (13), Canada (10), Chili (2), Great Britain (2), Singapore (2), Turkey (1), China (1), Norway (1), Thailand (1).

(April) 591 pages accessed from the U.S. Pages accessed from: Italy (16), Australia (16), France (13), Poland (12), Great Britain (2), Brazil (1), Canada (1), South Africa (1).

D. Membership Committee

- i. It does not work to send a letter inviting people to join NEAN
- ii. Need to talk to them one-on-one
- iii. Need brochure
- iv. Need list from NEAN members suggesting organizations to target and contact name
 - a. Who do we want to target?
 - b. What are we missing?
- v. We could attend conferences and have a NEAN table
 - a. Show DVD and brochures
 - b. Visit with Danielle Hill regarding Housing Conference
 - c. CFL freebies
 - d. Display kits
- vi. Might be able to present for 10 minutes or a half-hour at conference

V. Miscellaneous

A. LB1001

- i. How do we get the word out to customers?
- ii. How to bring to Legislature's attention?
- iii. Sales tax is the biggest tax we pay – \$25 MM
- iv. 5 percent of sales tax collected would be incentive for energy efficiency
- v. Goes into effect May 2009
- vi. Electric Public Power can apply for 5 percent of tax it pays if they match public power district set up for people at 150 percent of federal poverty guidelines – same as energy efficiency on weatherization
- vii. Applies only to assist homeowners, not renters

B. Nebraska Propane Gas Association – Michelle Swertzic spoke about her organization

C. Heartland Walk for Warmth – first meeting to plan 2009 walk is May 9

VI. Meeting adjourned @ 3 p.m.

Awards were presented to the following:

2007 NEAN Executive Committee: **Judi Martin** (Omaha Public Power District), **Mike Kelly** (Nebraska Health & Human Services), **Cory Fuehrer** (Nebraska Public Power District), **Jan Davis** (Aquila), **Linda Eidem** (NorthWestern Energy)

Other recognition: **Cheryl Holcomb** (Central Nebraska Community Services), Energy Assistance lead; **Mari Matulka** (Metropolitan Utilities District), website administrator; **Rick Cheloha** (Loup Power District), Education Committee lead; **Sheila Nelson** (Aquila), communications/recorder

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All other members received certificates.



Above: Mari Matulka, Metropolitan Utilities District, receives award for website administration from Chair Judi Martin, Omaha Public Power District.

Left: Chair Judi Martin presents awards to Cheryl Holcomb, Central Nebraska Community Services, and Kate Ellrich, American Red Cross.

Secretary/Treasurer Cory Fuehrer, Nebraska Public Power District, and John Carlson, American Red Cross.

