

**Date: April 27, 2010 (Tuesday)**  
**Time: 10 a.m. – 3 p.m.**  
**Location: NPPD Operations Center**  
**907 W. 25 St., York, Nebraska**

Call-In: Dial-in number: 866-331-0889  
Participant code: 809420

Lunch: Lunch provided at no cost for members and guests

Agenda:

1. Introductions/Remarks
2. Approve minutes of January 14 meeting
3. Treasurer's Report/5013C status/annual dues — Cory Fuehrer
4. Committee Reports:
  - Energy Assistance Committee — Mike Kelly/Judi Martin
  - Energy Assistance Programs Reporting — Laura Denman
  - Data Gathering Report"— Jan Davis
  - Energy Education Committee — Roger Hunt/Shirley Niemeyer
  - Website Report — Mari Matulka
5. Other old business:
6. New Business:
  - LR 324, LR 449 — Judi Martin
  - NEAN Annual Review
  - Election of Board of Directors
  - 2010-2011 NEAN Action Plan

Lunch provided by NEAN

7. Presentations/speakers:
  - UNL Extension, Dr. Shirley Niemeyer — Report on Get A Head Start on Energy
  - Nebraska Department of Health and Human Resources, Deb Steidley — Changes in applying for benefits and discussion on outreach efforts
  - Jerry Deichert, UNO — Updated Energy Burden Study
  - Nebraska Energy Office Update
8. Annual Awards

**NEAN APRIL MEETING**  
**NPPD Operations Center, York, NE**  
**April 27, 2010**

Attendance:

Rick Cheloha, Loup Power District Judi Martin, Omaha Public Power District Michelle Martinez, Lincoln Community Action Linda Sokol, North Central Public Power District Dave Behle, Dawson Public Power District Roger Hunt, Nebraska Public Power District Krista Heineman, Goldenrod Hills Community Action Pam Browning, Goldenrod Hills Community Action Lucas Atkinson, Sen. Tanya Cook's staff Cheryl Holcomb, Central NE Community Services Linda Lovgren, Omaha CSO Program Mike Kelly, Nebraska Health & Human Services Deb Steidley, Nebraska Health & Human Services	Laura Demman, NPSC Lynne Schuller, Nebraska Propane Gas Association Carol Fritzler, Custer Public Power District DeVonne Ksiazkiewicz, NorthWestern Energy Char Reiman, SourceGas Jeremy Coffey, Heartland Family Service Wade Rahn, Butler PPD Jan Davis, Black Hills Energy Shirley Niemeyer, UNL Deichert, Jerry, UNO Mari Matulka, M.U.D., via conference call
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Meeting called to order by Rick Cheloha  
Self introductions and role in NEAN

Minutes of January 14, 2010 meeting — Motion by Judi Martin to approve as distributed, seconded by Jeremy Coffey and unanimous vote in favor.

Treasurer's report by Roger Hunt for Cory Fuerher who was absent.

1. Bills paid since last meeting were \$602.81 for office supplies
2. Balance in bank account was \$12,608.51
3. Invoices for membership were distributed to current members in attendance
4. A checking account has been opened at Union Bank in York. Funds will be transferred from the American Red Cross, once all documents are signed.
5. We continue to work on the application for the 501(c)3 designation for NEAN, with the assistance of Creighton Law Clinic. Until receipt of the designation, contributions will need to be made through The American Red Cross.

Energy Assistance Committee report by Judi Martin.

1. They took data from the NEAN Affordable Housing Symposium and set two goals for the committee: Begin voluntary data gathering and educate and communicate about energy assistance in a variety of venues.
2. Laura Demman reported agencies information that provide assistance to individuals has been sent by the majority of the utilities and agencies. They are organizing the information and it will be on the website in the near future. The best reference for inquiries is United Way 211, with the only counties remaining to have coverage being Hooker, Logan, McPherson and Thomas. UW hopes coverage to be statewide in 4 to 5 months.
3. Jan Davis reported that data gathering notice has been sent to utilities requesting them to report to the United Way. All information is confidential and is vital to know funding requirements and unmet need. Laura Demman moved and Lynne Schuller seconded to approve release of the compiled data once four or more utilities have submitted their information and that the information be released to NE HHS, NEO, NPSC and to signatories to the agreement and those utilities that have submitted data.
4. All who receive the quarterly reports are encouraged to treat them as private information and are encouraged to not share the information. Further, report recipients are encouraged to refer media and other inquiries asking for statewide information to Laura Demman at NE PSC and Mike Kelly at NE DHHS. Laura Demman and Mike Kelly will field inquiries beyond specific utility account information.
5. Jan Davis and Laura Demman will assist the United Way in creating the report and appropriate disclaimer.

Membership Committee. No formal report, however Butler Public Power District may be a potential new member.

Website report by Mari Matulka.

1. There was an average of 500 visits per month during the first quarter of 2010, with 15 viewing the video on Energy Efficiency.
2. M.U.D. has linked the Head Start material from the NEAN website to the M.U.D. website for customer use.

Guest Linda Lovgren, consultant to the City of Omaha sewer separation project, addressed the meeting about the project. The project will result in increased sewer rates, up to \$50 per month in 2017. The City has built into the rate structure \$1 million assistance for the additional burden on low-income residents. This assistance amount is expected to increase by 15 percent per year. The current proposal is to cooperate with the existing M.U.D. assistance plan since they bill and collect the sewer funds for the City of Omaha.

Energy Education Committee by Shirley Niemeyer.

1. A total of 391 Head Start surveys were completed prior to the clients taking the course and 118 paired post-completion surveys.
2. The post survey shows the program is working and the clients have implemented some of the energy efficiency initiatives. A less number of the clients have received disconnect notices and/or been subjected to disconnection of utilities.
3. Roger Hunt said the Committee will have a train-the-trainer webinar in Grand Island April 30 for The Salvation Army employees using the NEAN Energy Efficiency modules. They also are planning a trainer-the-trainer webinar targeting community action agencies prior to the heating season to encourage use of the Get a Head Start program. This session can hold up to 110 and could be recorded to expand use. Promotion may come through a news release from DHHS.

Deb Steidley of the DHHS reported on the ACCESS NE process change for assisting families with social service needs. The goals are:

1. Improved client services
2. Paperless systems
3. Savings of \$4.1 million
4. Once full staffed, there will 400 in the call centers and 250 employees available for face-to-face meetings. At this time there are approximately 800 staff members conducting these same services.

There was no old business.

New Business:

- Members are encouraged to watch progress on LR 324 and LR 449, since both include interim studies on energy related items from the Nebraska Legislature.
- Jerry Diechert of UNO presented a 2009 update to the Energy Burden Study conducted originally in 2008. Presentation materials are available on the NEAN website.
- Jan Davis moved and Judi Martin seconded that NEAN retain the current members of the Board of Directors for one year, plus adding Jeremy Coffey from Heartland Family Services to replace Diane Vesley-Robb. The motion unanimously passed.
- Interim chair Rick Cheloha presented Judi Martin the Outstanding Member of the Year Award.

Respectfully submitted,  
Jan Davis