

Minutes of the
EMPOWER NORTH DAKOTA COMMISSION
HELD WEEKLY DURING LEGISLATIVE SESSION

February 3, 2021
4:00 p.m.
Microsoft TEAMS video conferencing platform

Members present:

James Leiman (proxy for Shawn Kessel), Jason Bohrer, Al Christianson, Ron Ness, Dale Niezwaag, Jay Skabo, Danette Welsh

Ex Officio Members present:

Lt. Governor Sanford, Wade Boeshans, Stacey Dahl, Julie Voeck

Others present:

Public invited via TEAMS video conferencing

CALL TO ORDER/WELCOME

James Leiman called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. Roll call was taken, and guests were welcomed.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion made by Niezwaag and seconded by Skabo to approve the January 20, 2021 minutes. Motion carried.

REVIEW OF TRACKED BILLS

Legislative bills will be brought forth at each weekly meeting for review with relative feedback for consensus to, “**watch bill,**” “**support bill,**” or “**oppose bill.**”

HB 1095 – Siting of a repowered wind conversion facility that has not previously been issued a certificate of site compatibility & relating to the definition of a repower for a wind facility and waivers or extension for light mitigation technology systems.
HOUSE – PASSED
SUPPORT BILL

HB 1245 – Relating to public employee uniform group insurance plans; to provide for application; and to declare an emergency.
HOUSE INTRODUCED

HB 1268 – Relating to a financial technology sandbox program for innovative financial products and services and criminal history background checks.
HOUSE INTRODUCED

HB 1292 – Electric energy conversion facility retirement, status report requirements, limitations for recovery costs associated with electric generation built to replace a retiring electric energy conversion facility, and site reclamation and bond.
HOUSE INTRODUCED
OPPOSE BILL

HB 1412 – Relating to allocation of the coal conversion facilities privilege tax and the lignite research tax; to provide an effective date and to provide an expiration date.

HB 1452 – Clean sustainable energy authority and a clean sustainable energy fund. An exemption from procurement services for energy programs; to provide a continuing appropriation.
HOUSE INTRODUCED
SUPPORT BILL

HB 1455 – Retirement of an electric energy conversion facility and site reclamation and bonding.
HOUSE INTRODUCED
OPPOSE BILL

HB 1458 – Grants for grid reliability and resiliency resources. Supplemental wind generation tax, to provide a continuing appropriation, and to provide an effective date.
HOUSE INTRODUCED
OPPOSE BILL

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SB 2065 – Relating to the authority of the board of university and school lands to lease lands under its control for the underground storage of oil or gas and the jurisdiction of the industrial commission to regulate the permitting and amalgamation of the underground storage of oil or gas.
WAITING ON AMENDMENTS

SB 2137 – Sales and use tax exemption for enterprise information technology equipment and computer software purchased for use in a qualified data center; to provide an effective date, and to provide an expiration date.
SENATE INTRODUCED
SUPPORT BILL

SB 2155 – Relating to a sale and use tax exemption for enterprise information technology equipment and computer software purchased for use in a qualified data center; to provide an effective date; and to provide an expiration date.
SENATE INTRODUCED
SUPPORT BILL

SB 2285 – Relating to fees chargeable by an abstractor.
SENATE INTRODUCED
OPPOSE BILL

SB 2291 - Social investments made by the state investment board and the boycott of energy or commodities companies, to provide for a department of commerce study of the implications of complete divestment of companies that boycott energy or commodities, and to provide for reports to legislative management and to declare an emergency.
NEUTRAL ON BILL

SB 2301 – Relating to providing a definition of a local worker, application for certificate, and factors to be considered when evaluating an application and designation of sites, corridors, and routes.
SENATE INTRODUCED

SB 2313 – Relating to electric power reliability and price transparency; and to repeal chapter 17-01 of the NDCC, relating to the 25x25 initiative.
SENATE INTRODUCED
OPPOSE BILL

FUTURE MEETINGS

Meetings will be held weekly on Wednesday at 4:00 p.m., via Microsoft TEAMS platform or until further notice.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No comments

ADJOURNMENT

Motion made by Welsh, seconded by Christianson to adjourn the meeting. With no further discussion, the meeting was unanimously adjourned at 4:45 p.m.

James Leiman

02.17.21

James Leiman (proxy for Interim Chairman Kessel)
Date

Sherri Frieze

02.17.21

Sherri Frieze, Boards & Commissions E.A. Date