**Community Renewable Energy Association**

**Minutes of the Executive Board**

**Date:** July 13, 2018

**Time:** 10:00 am - 1:00 pm

**Location:** Prineville City Hall

387 NE 3rd St., Prineville, OR 97754

**Executive Board Members Present:** Executive Board Chair Don Coats, Executive Board Vice Chair Ormand Hilderbrand, Don Russell, Steve Uffelman, Judge Steve Shaffer, Les Perkins

**Executive Board Members unable to attend:** Judge Gary Thompson

**Staff Present:** Director Brian Skeahan, Doris Penwell

**Members Present:** Betty Roppe (City of Prineville), Marc Thalacker (3 Sister Irrigation Dist.), David Brown (Obsidian Renewables), Michael Daly

**Others Present:** Doug Frazier (HorsePower Consulting)

**Others Present by phone:** Greg Adams (Richardson Adams, PLLC), Alan Hickenbottom (Lat 45)

**Recording Minutes:** Director Skeahan

**Handouts**

Executive Board Agenda for July 13, 2018

Executive Board Meeting Minutes of June 8, 2018

Financial Report for June 2018

Director’s Report for July 2018

**Call to Order**

Executive Board Chair Don Coats called the meeting to order and presided over events of the meeting.

**Open Agenda**

Chair Coats gave the opportunity for those present to add any items not on the agenda.

**Business Meeting**

**Motion:**

Approve Minutes of June 8, 2018

Made by: Steve Uffelman

Seconded: Ormand Hilderbrand

**Status:** Unanimously moved

**Motion:**

Accept financials for month of June as presented

Made by: Vice Chair Ormand Hilderbrand

Seconded: Les Perkins

**Status:** Unanimously moved

Discussion: The need for a financial audit for CREA, performed by MCEDD post MCCOG.

**Strategic Discussion at Future Meeting**

Director Skeahan presented possibility of holding a Strategic Planning Meeting in near future, encouraging greater membership attendance.

Discussion: Strategic Investment Program (SIP) agreements. History of SIPs, CREA’s involvement and benefit.

David Brown (Obsidian Renewables) is currently negotiation a SIP agreement in Lake County, Oregon. He supports inclusion of CREA in this SIP.

Discussion: possible future trajectory of CREA, 2018-2019 strategies.

Support for Direct Access benefits, large and small

Resiliency Issue, should be of interest to all rural counties and communities

Exec Board and members present prefer an August meeting date for Strategic Planning Meeting.

**OPUC Update**

Greg Adams of Richardson Adams, PLLC called in with an update on recent and current happenings at the OPUC to include:

SB 978: requires OPUC to establish process for purpose of assessing impact of industry trends, technologies and policy drivers on existing regulatory system and incentives currently employed by Commission.

PURPA rulemaking

SB 1547 (amends RPS, 8% from community renewables mandate) rulemaking has begun

OPUC Docket UM 1729: PacifiCorp Avoided Cost Rates schedule

**Legislative Report**

Director Skeahan and Doris Penwell led a discussion re: upcoming legislative concepts.

CREA will continue cost share with Northwest Independent Power Producers Coalition (NIPPC) and Renewable Energy Coalition (REC) to retain Gardner and Gardner throughout upcoming Legislative Session.

**Legal Counsel**

Approved issuing RFQ for legal services for CREA.

**Evergreen Study**

Director Skeahan gave an update on the Evergreen Study which compares costs and benefits of in-state vs. out-of-state renewable energy development for State of Oregon. The study is in progress and is scheduled to be completed prior to the 2018 Legislative Session.

**Lewis and Clark Intern Study**

Director Skeahan gave an update on the Lewis & Clark intern study of articulating the value of Renewable Energy projects of large scale and small scale.

**Goldendale Energy Storage Project (formerly JD Pool Project) Update**

Director Skeahan gave an update on the Goldendale Energy Storage Project.

**Solar Land Use/EFSC Workgroup**

Discussion: There are concerns about what is perceived to be rapid increase of solar development on farm lands. Much of the land concerned is in PGE territory. Farm Bureau has expressed concern. Individual counties have responded differently. Issue likely to end up in Legislature.

Solar and Wind have “exceptions” that address development contingent upon soil types.

Oregon’s Land Conservation and Development Coalition (LCDC) will issue an interim rule.

Energy Facility Siting Council (EFSC) wrestles with multiple projects when they follow EFSC permitting process vs. permitting process of local government. A Rules Advisory Committee has been established.

**Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 1:00 pm.