

# ILLINOIS MUNICIPAL ELECTRIC AGENCY

## REPORT OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 12, 2024

A regularly scheduled meeting of the Board of Directors of the Illinois Municipal Electric Agency was held in person pursuant to proper notice at the IMEA headquarters building, 3400 Conifer Drive, Springfield, Illinois on December 12, 2024. Chairman Cory Sheehy called the meeting to order at 10:00 am and all attendees participated in the Pledge of Allegiance. Roll call was taken which showed a quorum was present. Participation in this meeting was available in person only for both members and the general public, however, as an accommodation to members that could not physically attend and the general public, a webinar broadcast of the meeting was made available live in listen-only mode.

John Tolan seconded by Brian Groth, moved for approval of the minutes of October 24, 2024. The motion carried by unanimous roll call vote with the exception of the abstention from the representative from Riverton.

Opportunity for Public Comment – Chairman Sheehy stated that pursuant to the Open Meetings Act, any person attending this meeting in person shall be permitted an opportunity to comment. He then asked if anyone from the public would like to make a comment. Hearing no requests for public comment, Chairman Sheehy proceeded with the meeting.

Treasurer's Report – Chris Wise reported on the September 2024 financials stating that actual member power costs are 1.9% under original budget, year to date, and the MWh sales to members is 2.3% below original budget. Wise reported that the November 2024 invoices had been sent out on December 10<sup>th</sup> with the average cost being 2.4% below budget. He also discussed the December 2024 preliminary invoice estimates stating that those invoices would be sent out on January 10<sup>th</sup> and due on January 20<sup>th</sup>. With there being no questions, Jake McCoy moved to approve the Treasurer's Report, seconded by Josh Eckart. The roll call vote showed all in favor.

President & CEO Report – CEO Gaden welcomed J.R. Landeck from Waterloo and Nick Narhi from Winnetka who will replace Tim Birk and Brian Keys, respectively, upon their upcoming retirements. He stated that today is Mike Genin's Board meeting and thanked him for his 29 years of dedicated service and recognized his positive impacts on the Agency, member communities and the staff. Gaden introduced Ellen Woehrmann as the new Legislative & Communications Specialist in Member Services. He reported that staff is still seeking to fill the Manager of Energy Markets & Settlements position as Bob Kosner will be moving back to Chicago at the end of the year. He also stated that Operations will be seeking an Electric Data Analyst to assist with RTO/NERC data analysis, energy scheduling and optimization efforts with more intermittent resources. It is anticipated this hiring to happen in the first quarter of 2025.

CEO Gaden reported that he had chaired the APPA Climate Change Committee meeting in November. Participants reviewed emissions reductions nationwide looking for measures to reduce more, but keep

affordability in focus and discussed recent EPA proposed regulation limiting emissions from existing and new natural gas sources. Gaden stated that 24 individuals from 10 IMEA member towns toured the Prairie State Generating mine and power plant on November 7<sup>th</sup> and reviewed the project's performance with municipal officials.

CEO Gaden discussed plans to begin collecting the projected decommissioning funds in May 2025 which was approved by the Board in August. IMEA Staff will set up a regulatory asset to manage these efforts and the Resolution today will outline the specifics of this funding. He stated that Accounting will give regular status update reports and monthly tracking will be provided in the IMEA financial reports.

Regarding 2025 Bond refinancing activities, CEO Gaden reported that a Request for Information (RFI) had been issued to 6 potential underwriters in late October. Staff expects to complete interviews before Christmas and finalize the terms of engagement with a bond underwriter firm after the new year. Gaden explained that the plan is to refinance the remaining ten years of IMEA's tax-exempt debt from 2025-2035 and reissue the IMEA 2015A Bonds and the IMEA Build America Bonds (only if savings can be gained). He stated that staff anticipates a significant amount of savings due to the refinancing and will seek approval at the February 2025 Board meeting.

CEO Gaden discussed the possibility of becoming a minority transmission owner (TO) of facilities. Since transmission cost increases continue to affect IMEA rates, he explained that this is a potential opportunity for IMEA members to offset transmission rate increases by earning a rate of return on facilities that are used to supply IMEA members or other regional supply needs. Gaden explained that IMEA would provide funds to the primary transmission developer, Ameren. IMEA would have joint ownership and all the investment would be recovered through the MISO transmission funding process (MISO Attachment O). IMEA Staff would prepare and settle out MISO and Ameren accounting for cost recovery plus margins. Among issues to overcome, Gaden discussed the cost/funding obligations, the length of time of those obligations along with short and long-term staffing needs. He stated that Illinois statutory authority appears to be present in the IMEA statute. IMEA Staff would create a mechanism for contractual logistics for members and how to engage in binding negotiations and agreements with Ameren and RTOs. Gaden reported that AXTI is looking to invest in a regional transmission reliability project that will increase system reliability for Peru and Princeton. He reviewed the project details and stated that IMEA would be 25% minority owner of these transmission facilities. He discussed the project timeline with an anticipated completion date in 2029. The IMEA Board would consider signing a Joint Ownership Agreement in mid-2025. IMEA Staff will continue to keep the IMEA Board apprised of the progress and recommend action steps as needed.

Legislative & Regulatory Update – Staci Wilson reported that the Fall Veto Session had concluded without any significant legislation and a Lam Duck Session is scheduled for January 2-7, 2025. She explained that Net Metering discussions are ongoing with solar developers, however, no agreement has been reached. IMEA Staff has a meeting in Naperville next week with Representative Yang Rohr who is the sponsor of HB 5021 which is the bill regarding transparency.

Regarding the application that IMUA/IMEA submitted for the Mutual Aid Share Equipment Grant, Wilson reported that Staff was notified yesterday that the application had been selected for the next step under the Illinois Finance Authority (IFA) within the US Dept. of Energy (US DOE) for the Grid

Resilience Illinois 40101(d) award. She explained that Staff will work with the IFA to submit the full application and additional documents required by the US DOE submission for their pre-approval. Wilson stated that only upon DOE approval can a project award decision be made by the IFA and then negotiations would be forthcoming on award agreement. Staff would need IMEA and IMUA Board approval for the grant agreement.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

Operations – Regarding PJM, Mandy Ripperda reported that the Base Residual Auction for 2026/2027 was officially delayed by 6 months to adjust market rules regarding high prices and market uncertainty and is now scheduled for July 2025. She stated that the 2025/2026 auction cleared nearly 10x higher than the 2024/2025 auction. She presented a chart showing the current PJM Capacity Market Auction schedule and noted that PJM won't be back on schedule until May of 2027 for Planning Year 2030/2031.

Ripperda reported that the upcoming 2025/2026 Planning Resource Auction, MISO will implement a reformed reliability-based demand curve which will replace the current vertical demand curve. This should provide more efficient pricing signals and market outcomes. She stated that the auction for MISO will open on March 26, 2025, results should be posted by April 28, 2025 and the Planning Year will start on June 1, 2025.

Ripperda reported on MISO's Seasonal Readiness Workshop stating that MISO expects to have sufficient generation capacity for this coming winter season. MISO's weather forecasting tools show normal to above-normal temperatures this winter. Ripperda stated that during the NERC Winter Reliability Assessment, NERC reported there would be adequate resources for normal winter conditions, although the risk of a winter shortfall in MISO has increased. This is due to reduced coal/natural gas resources, fewer internal dispatchable resources and an increasing reliance on wind and imports. NERC also reported that they did not anticipate any reliability issues in PJM, however, legal proceedings threaten the shutdown of natural gas facilities which is the leading fuel for generation in PJM. Ripperda reported that IMEA held its winter drill for MISO behind the meter generators on December 5 and no units were taken out of service as a result. PJM behind the meter generator tests were conducted on December 11 with excellent results.

Ripperda explained that MISO is proposing changes to the notification time for IMEA's behind the meter generators and PJM is changing the way it communicates curtailments for wind resources. She reported that Operations had completed an upgrade of forecasting software to ensure accurate forecasting to keep costs to a minimum in the Real-Time markets. Ripperda stated that the Distributed Energy Resources (DER) webinar will be held in the first quarter of 2025 and IMEA will be requesting information regarding DERs on the customer's side of the meter annually starting next spring which is a requirement from Ameren in the new WCA.

Trimble County (TC): Rakesh Kothakapu reported the following:

- There have not been any reportable safety incidents at the plant since the last update. The plant performance through November 2024 shows the EAF was  $\approx 81.9\%$  and the EFOR was  $\approx 3.44\%$ , both year to date. Unit 1 has had no outages since September. The planned outage for Unit 2 is

now complete with high energy piping tee replacements and turbine blade repairs. TC Staff continues to work towards the power plant stack replacement. The front-end engineering (FEED) study continues and is expected to be completed by Summer 2025. This study will establish a detailed scope of the project, cost projections and the project schedule. A cable restrain system is being planned for the TC1 liner which is 30 years old. The preliminary results of the FEED study have expanded the scope of work into FY2026-27 and beyond, but should not have any impact on the upcoming budget.

Prairie State (PSGC): Rakesh Kothakapu reported the following:

- There was a reportable incident with a forklift operator in the warehouse. The employee got out of the forklift to inspect the load and part of the load fell on him. This employee has fully recovered and is expected to return to work soon. Plant performance through November 2024 showed the EAF was  $\approx 87.67\%$  and the EFOR was  $\approx 8.66\%$ , both year to date. Unit 1 had one forced outage in October due to tube leaks and one in November due to a boiler seal issue. Unit 1 is currently in a 10-day planned outage. Unit 2 had two forced outages in October due to a tube leak and a flame failure. In late November while Unit 2 was coming online from the planned outage, the unit tripped caused by generator protective relay operation. Unit 2 is currently offline to address this internal fault. PSGC staff was able to narrow down the issue and expect Unit 2 to be online in the next 2-3 weeks. There are no updates regarding carbon capture and currently no commitment from PSGC or the owners.

Local Transmission and Generation – Rakesh Kothakapu reported on the following:

- Wholesale Connection Agreement (WCA) – Agreements for Members with a single delivery point should be completed soon and Ameren is in the process of issuing drafts for members with multiple delivery points. Expect completion with most members by March 2025.
- Mascoutah's Second Delivery Point – The switchgear has been delivered and the City is currently installing it. Targeting next week to energize the line.
- Waterloo New Gas Combustion Turbine Generator – New generator would be close to 7800 Kw nameplate and the City's consultant and IMEA Staff had preliminary meetings with Ameren to discuss interconnection. Targeting to be commercially available by December 2025.
- MISO Load Modifying Resources (LMRs) Changes – IMEA Staff continues to track the LMR changes at MISO. MISO has delayed the filing until January to implement new rules utilizing a phased approach with full implementation in 2028-2029. The proposed change requires a 30-minute maximum notification for Load Modifying Resources (LMRs) to be available for full accreditation of capacity (called only for EEA3-One step before load shed). The alternate approach is a 6-hour maximum notification with MISO or IMEA pre-scheduled resources in anticipation of an emergency. The resources with the longest lead time are called first. The notification time and response time will be critical to maximize capacity value and must be available for all capacity advisories and the units must perform when needed. IMEA Staff is working with Ameren to perform studies which will allow export of certain resources and is working with Ameren to initiate pilot studies to further optimize accreditation.
- Additional Compensation Discussion to Address Parity in Dispatch – The ComEd filing on the treatment of interconnected generators is still pending at FERC. This filing declares all load synchronous to the ComEd grid is network load and any generation must be reported to the RTO

for billing purposes. An adverse FERC ruling would eliminate the need to pre-schedule resources in PJM. Subject to the outcome of this filing, Kothakapu presented IMEA's plans going forward and IMEA Staff is seeking feedback from the members regarding this approach.

- IMEA Flora Units – The control system in Flora is based on electromagnetic control relays that are obsolete and no longer manufactured. IMEA Staff is reviewing the cost estimate to update the control and plans to add this project to the FY2025-26 capital budget.
- Princeton/Peru 138kV Project – MISO has presented this project at their Central Regional Technical Study Task Force meeting and will present it to their Planning Advisory Committee on January 22<sup>nd</sup>. Ameren has provided a preliminary draft Joint Ownership Agreement between ATXI and IMEA. IMEA Staff is working on ownership options with an anticipated project completion date in 2028-2029.

Update on Solar Projects – Eric Weinant reported that the switchgear had been delivered to Marshall and Princeton and was being connected. The projects in Marshall and Princeton are on track for commercial operation by the end of 2024. He stated that installation of the racking is underway in Oglesby and the project is expected to be online by Spring of 2025. Regarding the SolAmerica projects in Metropolis, Carmi and Highland, Weinant reported that SolAmerica is still waiting on a funding commitment from the USDA.

Update on Legal Matters – General Counsel Troy Fodor reported on the following matters:

- Sierra Club v. Prairie State Generating Company, LLC (filed March 22, 2023) – PSGC filed a Motion to Stay proceeding on November 20, 2024 and this case continues in the Illinois Southern District Court with discovery and other procedural matters. This case is pending until the IEPA has drafted their report in the PSGC v. IEPA case.
- Prairie State Generating Company LLC v. Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (PCB No. 25-11) – PSGC filed a Permit Appeal with the Illinois Pollution Control Board on August 30, 2024 based on the IEPA's failure to take final action on Prairie State's Clean Air Act Permit Program application. The Illinois Pollution Control Board entered an Order on December 5, 2024 compelling the IEPA to complete their review of the PSGC air permit application in one year and to either complete a draft application with intent to grant it or determine that if they are not going to grant it. The final report must be done in two years.
- North Dakota, et al. v. EPA (Case No. 24-1119) – Several States Attorney Generals' offices along with industry groups challenged the EPA's April 25<sup>th</sup> greenhouse gas/hazardous air pollutant emissions rules. The DC Circuit Court rejected an emergency stay for the rules and an emergency appeal was filed with the U.S. Supreme Court. The U.S. Supreme Court denied the emergency appeal on October 4, 2024. Litigation continues in the D.C. Circuit Court.
- West Virginia, et al. v. EPA (Case No. 24-1120) – A number of Attorneys Generals' offices, several trade associations, IOUs, co-ops, generator owners and labor unions challenged the EPA's baseload coal plant emissions rule. An emergency appeal for the initial Applications for Stay was denied by the Supreme Court on October 16, 2024. Litigation over the rule itself continues in the DC Circuit Court.
- MISO Filing to Reform Shortage Pricing and Price Formation for Value of Lost Load and Operating Reserve Demand Curves (Docket No. ER25-579) – Filed on November 26, 2024, MISO is proposing to change its shortage pricing mechanism to better align with its reliability and efficiency goals in light of a changing resource mix and more frequent extreme weather events.

MISO wants to change the price that demand is willing to pay to avoid loss of service from \$3,500/MWH to \$10,000/MWH as a price cap for emergencies and load shed events and \$35,000/MWH as a placeholder in the modeling to estimate shortage pricing due to MISO-directed load curtailment if/when implemented. This will likely affect demand response pricing for IMEA resources called on during MISO emergency events. Staff will intervene and monitor the proceeding.

- Public Citizen, Inc. et al. v. Midcontinent Independent System Operator, Inc. et al. (Docket No. EL 15-70-003 et al.) – This case involves the allegations against Dynegy’s alleged market manipulation in MISO’s 2015/2016 auction results for Zone 4. FERC ordered settlement procedures which are currently ongoing. IMEA is closely monitoring the settlement negotiations.
- MISO Filing to Reform Resource Accreditation Requirements (Docket No. ER24-1638) – MISO proposed to change how it accredits resources due to a changing resource mix and changing load profiles in the MISO region. A FERC Order was issued on October 25, 2024 accepting MISO’s tariff revisions.
- MISO Filing Regarding Wholesale Connection Agreement (WCA) and Construction Agreement (CA) between Ameren Illinois Company, IMEA and the City of Oglesby (Docket No. ER24-3036) – MISO filed the WCA and CA on behalf of Ameren with FERC which establishes the terms and conditions for the wholesale interconnection between Ameren, IMEA and Oglesby. FERC accepted Ameren’s filing by Letter Order on October 31, 2024.
- Joint Consumer Advocates v. PJM Interconnection, LLC (Docket No. EL25-18) – Filed on November 18, 2024, this is a complaint against PJM by a group of PJM-area consumer advocacy agencies that PJM’s capacity market yields unjust and unreasonable rates. This is in response to PJM’s Delivery Year 2025/26 auction clearing prices which did not include the Reliability Must Run (RMR) units and did not adjust the modeling for the auctions to account for those generators that were going to be there and be paid by the transmission customers. That would have lowered the clearing price if handled properly. IMEA Staff is closely monitoring this case.
- Commonwealth Edison Filing Revising its Attachment H-13 (Docket No. ER24-2890) – Filed August 28, 2024, ComEd proposes to add co-located load to be designated as Network Load if it does not have a Point-to-Point Transmission Service arrangement. ComEd’s filing is identical to tariff changes proposed and filed across all of Exelon’s regulated utilities. FERC issued a Deficiency Letter on November 22, 2024 to Exelon companies, including ComEd.
- PJM Filing Regarding Energy Efficiency Participating in Capacity Market (Docket No. ER24-2995) – Filed September 6, 2024, PJM proposes to remove Energy Efficiency Resources (EERs) from its capacity market. PJM’s rationale was that EERs provide no meaningful load benefit worth being paid for by PJM customers. FERC accepted PJM’s tariff revisions on November 5, 2024.
- PJM Filing to Delay Capacity Auction (Docket No. ER25-118) – On October 15, 2024, PJM filed a request for waiver to delay its upcoming auctions which will affect the next 4 delivery years. FERC granted PJM’s request for waiver on November 8, 2024.
- Chatham SERC Registration – IMEA/Chatham has submitted all required documentation to SERC and is awaiting approval from SERC.

## NEW BUSINESS

IMEA Renewable Energy Credit (REC) Program – Eric Weinant reported that during REC Planning Year 2024, IMEA produced a total of 342,348 RECs. Consistent with the policy set forth in IMEA Resolution #20-06-851 which was approved by the IMEA Board on June 18, 2020, IMEA retired

342,348 RECs – 43,151 from Illinois and 299,197 from neighboring states. He stated that Illinois RECs are limited due to corporate REC purchases and the Illinois IPA Program to meet the State's renewable goals. He presented charts showing historical REC market conditions from August 2019 to October 2023 and a graph showing wind generation declining in 2023 for the first time since the 1990s. He explained that RECs generated in ComEd are PJM qualified and RECs generated in Ameren trade at MISO and national prices. This creates an opportunity for the members to sell the PJM qualified RECs and replace them with MISO and national RECs. This method saved the Agency \$10.47 million for Planning Year 2023/24. This opportunity may not exist in future years. Weinant stated that IMEA retired 1,400 RECs under the Green Power Choices program on behalf of the members and participating customers which is in addition to the RECs already held by IMEA.

Annual Demand Response and Load Management Initiative Offer Prices – Jon Wygant reported that the Board had previously approved the current Demand Response Program beginning in 2019 which provided the opportunity for commercial, industrial or governmental end-use customers of Members to participate (through IMEA) in PJM or MISO capacity markets. These programs have continued to expand throughout the RTOs as capacity becomes limited. Wygant explained that the DR Program was divided into two parts: Direct participation in the MISO/PJM Capacity Auction and the IMEA Load Management Initiative. The incentive price for direct participation in the MISO/PJM Capacity Auction is established by the auction clearing price. Members are compensated whether or not they are called upon by the RTO to reduce load, however, there are penalties from the RTO for customer non-performance. In the alternative, for any auction, if an end-use customer wants to share the capacity pricing and the policy risk, the IMEA Demand Response (DR) Program allows for a percentage share of the revenue received from the RTO to be split, up to 75% to the Member/Customer with the remainder to IMEA to operate the program.

Wygant stated that the Board had previously approved the pilot Load Management Initiative under the PJM Demand Response Program. This program allows IMEA to call on the committed resource to reduce load at high usage times to reduce future capacity costs to IMEA. The incentive price is typically based on the 75% customer/25% agency split of expected agency capacity savings in the next RTO capacity auction. There is not a penalty from the RTO for non-performance, however there is no compensation if the customer does not perform.

Wygant stated that IMEA staff is proposing the following compensation under the DR Program including Load Management Initiative pricing and Rock Falls non-dedicated generation: Fixed price offers up to \$6.15/kW-month for PJM 2025/2026 Planning Year. He explained that the demand response would be bid directly into the PJM Base Residual Auction which has been postponed to July 2025 for Planning Year 2026/27. Planning Year 2027/28 is currently scheduled for December 2025. He reported that the 75%/25% revenue share is subject to the Demand Response clearing the auction at or above the Minimum Offer Price Rule (MOPR) floor price for its type of resource. The member/customer assumes all risk of penalty. Wygant reported that IMEA Staff is proposing the following compensation under the Demand Response Program, including Load Management Pricing for MISO. The fixed price offers for each capacity season are as follows: Summer 2025 is \$4.26/kW-month, Fall 2025 is \$1.22/kW-month, Winter 2025-2026 is \$1.22/kW-month and Spring 2026 is \$2.28/kW-month. The MISO voluntary Load Management Pilot pricing to potentially lower the IMEA coincident peaks are Summer 2025 being \$4.26/kW-month and Spring 2026 being \$2.28/kW-month.

David Coston moved to approve the Demand Response and Load Management Initiative Offer Prices as presented, seconded by Jake McCoy. The motion carried by unanimous weighted roll call vote with the exception of the abstention by the representative from Freeburg who was absent from the room.

Resolution #24-12-934 – Approving Regulatory Credit Related to Funds for Decommissioning IMEA-Owned Baseload Generation – Chris Wise stated that updates to Rate Schedule B were approved at the October 2024 Board meeting by Ordinance #24-10-931 which established the collection of a decommissioning fund in anticipation of retiring Prairie State Energy Campus and Trimble County Generating Station. At the August 2024 Board meeting, the Board had agreed to collect the majority of the funds needed by October 1, 2035 to ensure that the members that invested into and benefited from the output of the generating resources pay the associated decommissioning costs. Wise explained that collection will start on May 1, 2025 and run through April 31, 2035. He stated that these funds will be held in the Decommissioning Account and funds will not be withdrawn without authorization from the Board. Wise reported that regular updates on the balance in this account will be provided and will be presented in the monthly financial statements. Dan Cook moved to approve Resolution #24-12-934 as presented, seconded by Brian Keys. The motion carried by unanimous weighted roll call vote with the exception of the abstention by the representative from Freeburg who was absent from the room.

Resolution #24-12-935 – Designating Authorized Signatories on the Accounts of the Illinois Municipal Electric Agency – Chris Wise explained that this Resolution designates authorized signatories on the accounts of the IMEA. This Resolution removes the Chief Operating Officer and the Vice President of Member & Energy Services as signors due to retirements/departures from those positions and replaces them with Staci Wilson and Rakesh Kothakapu as Vice President, Government Affairs & Member Services and Vice President, Engineering & Energy Markets, respectively. The CEO and CFO will remain as the primary signatories and at least one of their signatures will be required on each check. Larry Taylor moved to approve Resolution #24-12-935 as presented, seconded by Pat McCarthy. The roll call showed all in favor with the exception of the abstention by the representative from Freeburg being absent from the room.

Resolution #24-12-936 – Adopting Revised IMEA Risk Management Policy – General Counsel Troy Fodor reported that IMEA's current Risk Management Policy was approved by the Board in 2023 which implements certain risk management statements and policies to comply with the rules of PJM and MISO. He stated that earlier this year, IMEA received a Notice from PJM requesting that IMEA update its policy to include a description of IMEA's Anti-Money Laundering and Know your Customer/Counterparty processes as well as processes applicable to IMEA's employees and investors in compliance with anti-money laundering, anti-corruption laws, sanctions, compliance with the Foreign Corrupt Practices Act, politically exposed persons issues and the Corporate Transparency Act. Fodor explained that while the federal statutes in the Notice do not apply to or otherwise exempts governmental entities, IMEA Staff prepared and PJM accepted language to address the requested matters. He also reported that the revised Risk Management Policy updates certain titles of IMEA employees who are authorized to take certain actions under the policy. David Coston made a motion to adopt the revised IMEA Risk Management Policy as presented. The motion was seconded by Jake McCoy and carried by unanimous roll call vote with the exception of the abstention by the representative from Freeburg who was absent from the room.



Resolution #24-12-937 – Continuing the IMEA Energy Efficiency & Conservation Program – Rodd Whelpley stated that this Resolution continues the IMEA Energy Efficiency & Conservation Program for FY2025/26 through FY2027/28. There will be \$1 million available each year for incentives for electric efficiency projects divided among the Members on a load share ratio basis. He reported that on September 25, 2024, the Electric Efficiency and Conservation Committee (E2C2) recommended continuing the IMEA Electric Efficiency Program; all the current measures will continue for FY2025/26. Two new refrigeration measures will be added for FY2025/26: zero energy doors for refrigerated cases and door gaskets for walk-in and reach-in coolers and freezers. He stated that incentive levels for lighting and other measures are set to match the higher incentive level for the equivalent efficiency measure in the two major Illinois IOU efficiency programs. Whelpley also explained that this Resolution allows for one year's worth of a member's program funding that remains unused as of April 30, 2025 to roll over, but rolled-over funds must be used by April 30, 2026 or they will be transferred to the Rate Stabilization Fund. This Resolution also allows rollovers of unused FY2025/26 and FY2026/27 incentive funding through April 30, 2028. Any funds that remain unallocated to projects/unused by April 30, 2028 would be transferred to the Rate Stabilization Fund. Brian Keys made a motion to approve this Resolution, seconded by Brian Groth. The motion carried by unanimous weighted roll call vote with the exception of the representatives from Freeburg and Carmi abstaining due to their absence from the room.

Resolution #24-12-938 – Continuing the IMEA Electric Vehicle Charging Station & Electric Vehicle Program – Rodd Whelpley stated that this Resolution continues the IMEA Electric Vehicle Charging Station & Electric Vehicle Program for FY2025/26 through FY2027/28. There will be \$250,000 available each year for incentives for electric vehicle charging stations and electric vehicles divided among the Members on a load share ratio basis. He reported that on September 25, 2024, the Electric Efficiency and Conservation Committee (E2C2) recommended continuing the IMEA Electric Vehicle Charging Station & Electric Vehicle Program and all the current measures. The E2C2 also recommended that going forward members may use their program funds to cover up to 100% of the cost for the municipality to own or lease qualified EV charging stations made available for public use with no dollar cap on the incentive and up to 100% of the cost for the municipality to own or lease qualified EVs for City or Electric Department use with no dollar cap on the incentive. Whelpley explained that currently their funds can cover up to 80% of the project cost and all projects are capped at \$20,000 per project per year for both of the above-referenced measures. He reported that this Resolution allows members to roll into FY2025/26 all unused funding from the last three years, but any rolled-over funding that is not used by April 30, 2026 will be transferred to the Rate Stabilization Fund. He also reported that this Resolution allows rollovers of unused FY2025/26 and unused FY2026/27 incentive funding through April 30, 2028. Whelpley stated that any funding that remains unused after April 30, 2028 will be transferred to the IMEA Rate Stabilization Fund. John Tolan made a motion to approve Resolution #24-12-938 as presented, seconded by Jake McCoy. The motion carried by unanimous weighted roll call vote with the exception of the abstention by the representative from Carmi being absent from the room.

Update on IMEA Sustainability Plan – Staci Wilson stated that IMEA has committed to provide an annual end of year update of the goals of the IMEA Sustainability Plan which was approved this time last year. She explained the progression of these goals by principle which are listed below:

- 1) Provide an affordable, reliable and sustainable power supply to member communities: (a) This goal was exceeded by 25 megawatts of utility-scale solar starting in 2025 from the Big River Solar Farm; 150 megawatts of new utility-scale solar starting late 2026/early 2027 from Bee Hollow Solar Project; adding 3 new behind the meter solar projects to IMEA Municipal Solar Program in Oglesby, Princeton and Marshall expected by late 2024/early 2025 and are currently working on 3 additional behind the meter solar projects to the IMEA Municipal Solar Program in Metropolis, Carmi and Highland through a USDA loan grant process. These projects total 177 megawatts. (b) The goal to study the feasibility of installing utility-scale behind the meter battery storage on member distribution systems by 2030 and to research new technologies to reduce the current resource carbon footprint is in progress. IMEA Staff has met with over 10 battery storage developers and other utilities to gather market insight and indicative pricing. Steps are being taken to plan for an effective study by developing a list of topics to analyze and procure an outside consultant's input. The cost of this study will be included in the FY25/26 budget. The 2025 Battery Storage Study will review the types of batteries available, analyze MISO and PJM's incentives, best financing option, potential implementation timelines, grant opportunities, most effective location and the impact on the IMEA member rate.
- 2) Design and facilitate energy conservation programs in support of the concept that the most sustainable watt is the watt not generated: This goal was attained and is ongoing with the incentive funding by the IMEA Electric Efficiency and Conservation Program and the documented kilowatt/hour annual savings in the residential advanced thermostat, AC/air source heat pump and smart socket giveaway programs. The goal to regularly review technology developments to determine new energy saving measures has been attained by IMEA evaluating 10 new possible energy savings measures for consideration and adding two new refrigeration measures in FY 2025/26. The goal to explore a Conservation Voltage Reduction (CVR) Program is in progress. IMEA Staff met with engineering consultants to get a better understanding of the equipment needs, SCADA and other software needs and determining which member load profiles would be conducive to pilot a program. IMEA Staff is reviewing relevant information such as the cost vs. benefit to IMEA and/or individual member municipalities and how to fund a pilot or full program rollout.
- 3) Offer flexible programs to mitigate peak loads, increase reliability and better integrate clean energy potential: This goal was attained by offering more options to commercial/industrial customers in the MISO region. MISO capacity is seasonable with lower prices in Fall/Winter. Offering a fixed price based on summer capacity prices could encourage wider participation. This will provide additional opportunities to reduce peak loads and avoid high-cost market purchases. The goal to pursue federal grant opportunities to deploy an Optimized Charging Operations Center (OCOC) has been partially achieved by IMEA coordinating extensively with the Illinois Finance Authority to apply for a Grid Resilience & Innovation Partnership grant that would fund the deployment of an OCOC. Illinois did not receive this grant funding from the federal government.
- 4) Enable, accelerate and integrate electric vehicles and accompanying charging infrastructure: This goal has been attained by the results of the ongoing IMEA Electric Vehicle Charging Station and Electric Vehicle Program. These results include 454 EV chargers incentivized by this IMEA program since FY2019/20 and 5 NEVI-funded projects slated to be built at sites served by municipal electric utilities in Illinois. The goal to pursue federal grant opportunities to implement a newly developed Optimized Charging Operations Center (OCOC) to establish a

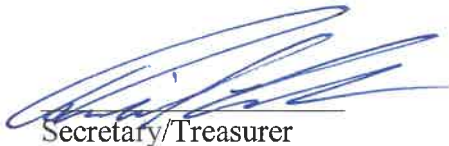
member-managed electric vehicle charging program has been partially achieved by IMEA coordinating extensively with the Illinois Finance Authority to apply for a Grid Resilience & Innovation Partnership grant that would fund the deployment of an OCOC. Illinois did not receive this grant funding from the federal government.

- 5) Maintain and support a sustainable workplace: This goal was attained by replacing one of the small fleet of company cars with an electric vehicle.

Wilson reminded the Board members providing revisions is welcome and that a stakeholder process will be utilized on a three-year review cycle.

Chairman Cory Sheehy asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was made by Tim Birk, seconded by Brian Keys and carried unanimously by voice vote. The meeting was adjourned at 12:37 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Secretary/Treasurer

**ILLINOIS MUNICIPAL ELECTRIC AGENCY  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
THURSDAY, DECEMBER 12, 2024**

**MEMBERS PRESENT**

Altamont	Larry Taylor
Bethany	Shannon Risley
Carmi	David Coston
Chatham	Patrick McCarthy
Freeburg	John Tolan
Greenup	Mike Ryder
Highland	Dan Cook
Marshall	Cory Sheehy
Mascoutah	Cody Hawkins
Metropolis	Michael Gentry
Naperville	Brian Groth
Oglesby	Rich Baldridge
Peru	Kevin Minnick
Rantoul	Jake McCoy
Red Bud	Josh Eckart
Riverton	Jim Mileham
Roodhouse	Rich Wallis
St. Charles	Peter Suhr
Waterloo	Tim Birk
Winnetka	Brian Keys

**MEMBERS ABSENT**

Bushnell	Joe Fosdyck
Breese	Jason Deering
Cairo	Mayor Thomas Simpson
Carlyle	Brad Myers
Casey	Shelby Biggs
Fairfield	Mayor Gary Moore
Farmer City	Adam Turpen
Flora	Bob Coble
Ladd	Pat Barry
Princeton	Jeff Mangrich
Rock Falls	Larry Hanrahan
Sullivan	Mike Kirk

**OTHERS PRESENT**

IMEA	Kevin Gaden
IMEA	Troy Fodor
IMEA	Chris Wise
IMEA	Mandy Ripperda
IMEA	Staci Wilson
IMEA	Bob Kosner
IMEA	Mike Genin
IMEA	Rakesh Kothakapu
IMEA	Glenn Cunningham
IMEA	Adam Baker
IMEA	Danny Chung
IMEA	Eric Weinant
IMEA	Jonathon Wygant
IMEA	Tammy Hall
IMEA	Ellen Woerhmann
IMEA	Rodd Whelpley
IMEA	Ed Cobau
Guest	Raheel Arshed (Naperville)
Guest	Giovanni McLean (St. Charles)
Guest	J.R. Landeck (Waterloo)
Guest	Nick Narhi (Winnetka)

**LISTEN ONLY VIA WEBINAR**

Cairo	Mayor Thomas Simpson
Flora	Bob Coble
Rock Falls	Larry Hanrahan
IMEA	Shadi Ahanchi
Guest	Jean Korte (Highland)
Guest	Greg Hubert (Naperville)