

Minutes of the
**EMPOWER NORTH DAKOTA COMMISSION
STRATEGIC PLANNING SESSIONS**

August 4, 2022, 1:00 – 2:30 pm
TEAMS conference call

Members present:

James Leiman, Jason Bohrer, Al Christianson, Stacey Dahl, Justin Dever, Ron Ness, Danette Welsh

Ex Officio Members:

Brent Brannan

Public present:

Call in via Microsoft TEAMS platform

CALL TO ORDER/WELCOME

Chairman James Leiman called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. welcoming members and guests on the phone to the EmPower ND Commission Strategic Planning Session.

INFRASTRUCTURE	RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT (R & D)	WORKFORCE/REGULATORY ENVIRONMENT/BUSINESS FRIENDLY ENVIRONMENT
Gerald Bachmeier	Jason Bohrer	Al Christianson
Wade Boeshans	Brent Brannan	Justin Dever
Stacey Dahl	Ron Ness	Tyler Hamman
Justin Dever	David Ripplinger	Mike Rud
Jeff Zueger	David Straley	Danette Welsh
Justin Kringstad	Tom Oakland	Julie Voeck
John Weeda		James Leiman
Joshua Teigen		Katie Ralston Howe
Rich Garman		

The subcommittee members of each group have compiled their recommendations that will be discussed and reevaluated at a final Strategic Planning Session at the Q3 EmPower ND Commission meeting in September.

I. Workforce/Regulatory Environment/Business Friendly Environment – Mr. James Leiman

Workforce

1. CTE and funding the requirement
2. Recruitment of People
3. Funding state branding to help identify employee to employer opportunities
4. Retail jobs require assistance
5. Advocate for better state employee conditions to ensure retention
6. Automation
7. Childcare
8. Housing for workforce
9. Quality of Life Improvements

Regulatory/Business Environment

1. Insurance for CDL Drivers
2. Federal
 - a) Work with regulators to reduce CDL requirements (hazmat & road experience requirements)
3. Retaining a regulatory environment that industry can count on
4. Stable and low tax environment

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II. Infrastructure – Mr. Rich Garman

1. Eminent Domain
2. Project Corridors
3. Project Financing
4. Supporting Infrastructure build out
5. Petroleum
 - a) The stronger our oil and gas industry, the more opportunity for the state & associated peripheral industries.
 - b) Challenges/Issues
 - c) Authority for funding opportunities
 - d) Why is ND ideal?
6. Petro Chem
7. Fertilizer
 - a) Value added to petroleum industry
8. Datacenters
9. Carbon Management
10. Hydrogen
11. Electrical Transmission

III. Research and Development – Tom Oakland

The EmPower ND Commission suggests mutual effort from each of the programs to layout fair funding opportunities to various R&D proposed projects.

1. Lignite Research Council.
2. Oil and Gas Research Council.
3. Renewable Energy Council
4. Clean Sustainable Energy Authority
5. Energy and Environmental Research Center

PUBLIC COMMENT

No comments were brought forth.

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting was adjourned unanimously at 2:30 p.m. Motion carried.