

**MINUTES OF THE  
JOHNSON CITY ENERGY AUTHORITY  
D/B/A  
BRIGHTRIDGE**

February 17, 2026

PRESENT: James Haselsteiner  
Andy Dietrich  
Ronald Hite  
Gary Mabrey  
Kimberly McCorkle  
Andrew Morse  
James Smith  
Richard Tucker  
Joe Wise  
Jeffrey R. Dykes, Chief Executive Officer  
Rob Arnold, Chief Operations Officer  
Brian Bolling, CPA, Chief Financial Officer and Supply Chain Officer  
Connie Crouch, Chief Employee Relations Officer  
Bonnie Donnolly, Chief Development and Market Strategy Officer  
Eric Egan, Chief Data Officer  
Stacy Evans, Chief Broadband Officer  
Lori Farmer, Supervisor, General Accounting  
Sam Ford, Chief Engineering and Facilities Officer  
Tiphonie Watson; Chief Customer Officer  
Tim Whaley, Director of Public and Governmental Affairs  
Stephen Darden, Hunter Smith & Davis, LLP

ABSENT: Donnie Hall, Safety/Environmental Manager

Chairman Jim Haselsteiner called the meeting to order.

Upon motion of Mr. Smith, seconded by Mr. Mabrey, the board approved moving the scheduled Annual Safety Report presentation by Donnie Hall to the March 2026 Board of Directors meeting. The motion carried unanimously by roll call.

Mrs. Bonnie Donnolly, Chief Development and Market Strategy Officer presented the board with an update on the progress made at the Gray Solar Farm 1 & 2. Once the solar farms are operational they will generate 6 mw of power each and be able to power 1,700 homes annually. The solar panels will be able to track with the sun and will be the largest solar farm in our territory.

Ms. Donnolly presented the board with updated photos of the site progress taken on February 13<sup>th</sup>, and reminded the board that all solar panels were manufactured in the U.S.A. and have the most up-to-date tech in use today. They expect to have the mechanical completed by the end of March with the target commercial operation and final inspection completed by June. Ms. Donnolly and her team will be planning a formal ribbon cutting at the site in July or August.

Upon motion of Mr. Hite, seconded by Mr. Wise, the Board approved the following items on the Consent Agenda:

- (a.) The minutes of the Board meeting on January 27, 2026;
- (b.) The purchase of Aclara single and poly-phase meters in the amount of \$88,661.18 and Tantalus AMI modules in the amount of \$848,373.30;
- (c.) The purchase of a Terex Hi-Ranger TRX41 Bucket Truck from Sourcewell in the amount of \$237,942.00.

The motion carried unanimously by roll call vote.

The Business Development & Planning Committee met on February 6, 2026 to consider Capital Budget Amendments for FY2026. The committee recommends Board of Directors approval adjusting FY2026 Capital Budget engineering specific projects to reflect efficiencies realized year to date and to advance four priority projects originally scheduled for later in the capital plan. Upon motion of committee, the Board approved the amendments by unanimous roll call vote.

Mr. Dykes thanked Mr. Morse and Mr. Mabrey for attending the recent Legislative Session in Nashville. Both board members shared their experience with the board and highlighted their key take ways. Mr. Mabrey stressed that it was clear from their interactions that BrightRidge, and its team, are highly thought of in the valley.

Mr. Dykes advised of two upcoming items of legislation effecting power utilities. The first involves a bill that could add line workers to the insured group providing line of duty benefits, which are in place for EMA workers. The second involves the possible reimbursement of costs associated with costs incurred for moving lines at the request of TDOT for road widening projects.

Mr. Dykes also updated the Board on the status of power outages across the state caused by the recent winter weather events. BrightRidge sent 16 employees and crews to the Nashville area to assist and he was happy to report that Nashville's power was completely restored after two weeks of hard work. Mr. Dykes shared with the Board an email that was received from a Nashville resident who saw one of our trucks in her neighborhood. She wanted to share her thanks and stated that it had helped restore her faith in humanity.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.