



Pennsylvania
Energy Development Authority

Meeting Minutes | Tuesday, February 10, 2026 | 10:00 a.m.
Rachel Carson State Office Building, Room 105 and via Microsoft® Teams online

Board Members/Designees Present

Jessica Shirley, DEP Secretary..... Board Chair
Romulo L. Diaz, Jr..... Board Treasurer
Designee Adam Walters.....Board Secretary (for Secretary Rick Siger, DCED)
Designee Matthew Wurst.....(for Chair Stephen DeFrank, PUC)
Designee Paul Wentzel.....(for Secretary Wendy Spicher, DOBS)
Designee Melanie Joy El Atieh..... (for Darryl Lawrence, Consumer Advocate)
Designee Heidi Secord..... (for Secretary Russell C. Redding, Agriculture)
Designee Glendon King (for Representative Joshua Kail)
Designee Stephon Petro (for Representative Elizabeth Fiedler)
Designee Emily Eyster.....(for Senator Carolyn Comitta)
Designee Matt Osenbach..... (for Senator Gene Yaw)
Laureen M. Boles Board Member
Sarah Hetznecker-Sheehan..... Board Member

Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) Staff Present

David A. Althoff, Jr.....Director, EPO
Abbey Cadden..... Executive Director, PED A
Alayna Schmeider..... PED A Staff, EPO
Greg Smith PED A Staff, EPO
Robert F. Teplitz Special Counsel
Lena Smith Policy Specialist II, Policy Office
Chloe WilsonAdministrative Officer, EPO
Kimberly Yeakle.....Office of Field Operations

Other Attendees

Philip Ehrig.....Infrastructure Implementation Coordinator, Office of the Budget
Trent Machamer.....PA Senate
Peter Krajsa.....National Energy Improvement Fund, LLC
Radwan Azim.....Cozen O’Connor Public Strategies
Ted Mowatt..... Wanner Associates
Nicole Fidler.....Malady & Wooten
Abby Rambo.....Philadelphia Green Capital Corp.

CALL TO ORDER AND ATTENDANCE

The meeting was called to order by Chair Jessica Shirley, Secretary of DEP, at 10:04 a.m. Abbey Cadden conducted the roll call. A quorum was established.

APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES (ACTION)

Chair Shirley requested consideration of the meeting minutes from both the executive session and the public meeting held on November 18, 2025. Paul Wentzel noted that his name was misspelled.

Motion: Paul Wentzel moved to adopt the minutes, amended with his name corrected, from the November 18, 2025 executive session and public meeting, with Laureen Boles seconding the motion. There was no discussion on the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS (ACTION)

PEDA's bylaws require the Board to elect a Board Treasurer and Board Secretary at the first Board meeting of each calendar year. Secretary Shirley stated that Romy Diaz has agreed to continue serving as Board Treasurer and that DCED Secretary Rick Siger, represented by Adam Walters, has also agreed to continue as Board Secretary.

Motion: Stephon Petro moved to nominate Romy Diaz as the Board Treasurer, with Paul Wentzel seconding the motion. The motion passed unanimously, except that Diaz abstained from voting for himself.

Motion: Emily Eyster moved to nominate Sec. Siger as the Board Secretary, with Romy Diaz seconding the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

FINANCIAL UPDATE

Assistant Treasurer Alayna Schmeider provided an update on PEDA's financial status.

ENERGY ACCELERATOR PROGRAM UPDATES (ACTION)

Updates were provided to the Board on the various programs under the Energy Accelerator Program (EAP).

Peter Krajsa, from the National Energy Improvement Fund, LLC (NEIF), shared updates on the KEEP Home Energy Loan Program. Krajsa discussed the current challenges in the residential heating and cooling market, including price compression and reduced shipments of high efficiency HVAC equipment. Since April 2024, 5.7 million applications have been processed, with a 70% approval rate. Pricing adjustments in July 2025 resulted in a significant uptick in applications and an expansion of the contractor base. Krajsa emphasized the importance of statewide engagement, particularly in rural areas, and thanked PEDA staff for the support NEIF has received.

Alayna Schmeider discussed the progress of the MORE Grant and Loan program. Grants totaling \$1.9 million were awarded to 42 recipients last year, with \$453,298 spent on audits. Seven recipients have completed project design, and five active loan applications are in process. No interest rate buy-down requests have been made yet and five grants have closed, with \$58,500 liquidated, including \$38,500 from a grantee who opted to cover the costs out of pocket. The program remains active, with quarterly updates received from recipients.

Cadden asked NEIF representatives to excuse themselves from the meeting before the board proceeded with the motion associated with the presentation. Sarah Hetznecker-Sheehan then inquired about the availability of a comprehensive list of grants. Cadden advised that while a GIS map is available online, staff were working to update it so that it is current.

Cadden reminded Board members that the contract with NEIF to offer the KEEP and MORE loans ends on June 30, 2026. She presented two options, as detailed in the following motion that the Board was asked to consider:

The PEDA board approves a grant of up to \$4.6 million from previously committed federal and state funds to the National Energy Improvement Fund LLC (NEIF) in order to offer the KEEP and MORE Loan Programs for a three-year period beginning on or after July 1, 2026, and to provide research with data and information with regard to energy efficiency loan programs in Pennsylvania, including lessons learned from the loans financed with this grant and recommendations for future loan programs. This grant is contingent on approval from the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) to award the grant through the non-solicitation award process. If DEP does not provide such approval, the PEDA board authorizes and directs staff to issue a Request for Proposals designed to collect competitive bids from vendors, including NEIF if interested, to administer the KEEP and MORE Loan Programs. In the event that this contingency proves necessary, an RFP Selection Committee of the board will then review the bids for the purpose of recommending, for consideration by the full board, a vendor with which PEDA staff would then enter into contract negotiations.

Secretary Shirley asked if there were any questions about the proposal. Diaz raised a point about the importance of performance and asked that safeguards be considered to ensure results align with expectations. Cadden responded that those issues would be addressed in the grant agreement. Hetznecker-Sheehan asked how to reconcile the \$4.6 million with the financial update provided earlier in the meeting. Rob Teplitz explained that those are not new funds; all of those funds had already been committed for the loan programs, most of which have not yet been spent. Cadden and Schmeider provided additional details regarding the funding, stating that while not all of the funds reside within PEDA's direct budget, they are accessible for PEDA's use. Glendon King questioned the process and the language of the motion. Secretary Shirley explained the obstacles in the procurement process and that the motion was drafted in this manner to prevent delays and eliminate wasting the Board's time with potential subsequent motions.

Motion: Romy Diaz moved, with Adam Walters seconding the motion. The motion passed with 11 votes in favor, and 2 against. Glendon King and Matt Osenbach voted nay.

Cadden provided an update on the Solar for Schools Loan Program. PEDA staff have completed preliminary engagement with school districts to gauge interest and are in the process of developing the program, working closely with DCED to expedite timelines. With assistance from a Heinz Endowments grant, the program is in the pilot stages for Southwestern Pennsylvania. PEDA will continue to develop the program in pursuit of statewide availability. For the Heinz grant, Greg Smith clarified that the focus is on configuring the back-end processes for implementation, specifically in setting up an application compatible with the Commonwealth's grant enterprise system. For the broader state program, many schools have expressed interest, resulting in PEDA exploring other sources of funding, such as a bond issuance through the Pennsylvania Economic Development Financing Authority (PEDFA), to meet the demand.

Chair Shirley asked the Board to consider the following motion:

The PEDA board authorizes and directs staff to commence work with the Pennsylvania Economic Development Financing Authority to facilitate the issuance of bonds in an amount not to exceed a face value of \$50 million to fund the Solar for Schools Loan Program. The board directs staff to return to the board for consideration of a formal resolution authorizing the bond issuance at the appropriate time. The board further authorizes staff to accept and consider loan applications from eligible schools for other types of clean, advanced energy and energy-efficiency projects in addition to solar projects.

Motion: Stephon Petro moved, with Romy Diaz seconding the motion. The motion passed with 11 votes in favor, and 2 against. Glendon King and Matt Osenbach voted nay.

NEW BUSINESS (ACTION)

Cadden provided information on the GB 50, a coalition of state, local, and regional green banks, and the advantages of joining the organization.

Chair Shirley asked the Board to consider the following motion:

The PEDA board of directors authorizes and directs staff to complete and submit PEDA's application for membership in the U.S. Green Bank 50 (GB 50) and, if membership is granted, engage fully as a GB 50 member to the extent permitted by state law and board policy. The board further authorizes and directs staff to maintain and renew such membership for as long as the chair determines that membership provides value to PEDA and its stakeholders in light of the cost of annual dues, which may be paid out of the Energy Development Fund or other sources available to PEDA.

Motion: Paul Wentzel moved, with Sarah Hetznecker-Sheehan seconding the motion. The motion passed with 11 votes in favor, and 2 against. Glendon King and Matt Osenbach voted nay.

Cadden reminded Board members and designees of the upcoming deadline to file their annual financial disclosure forms with the State Ethics Commission. The Statement of Financial Interests form is due May 1st.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No comments were made.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 10:56 a.m.

NEXT MEETING

Tuesday, May 5, 2026