

NEUAC Board Meeting

Monday, February 23, 2026; 1:00-4:30 PM ET

American Gas Association | 400 North Capitol St NW # 450, Washington, DC 20001, and Zoom

In person: Kevin Alexander, Laura Bayona, Elizabeth Berube, Mike Bradford, Latoya Butler, Mindy Browning, Kate Brownlee, Charlotte Bruce, Kim Campbell, Rhoshawndra Carnes, Jackie Castrellon, Sandra Diggs-Miller, Marietta Doney, Annie Doran, Gerri Drummond, Britton Gabel, Tiffany Gilstrap, Diedra Howard, Ben Jackson, Laura Jacobs, Patricia Johnson, Patrick Johnson, Michelle Lehman, Erin Mao, Katrina Metzler, Charles Moreland, Danielle Olaya, Chris Osbon, Elizabeth Paulson, Carrie Perry, John Rich, Mary Serdar, Raven Simmons, Jason Sparks, Shaylee Stokes, Olivia Wein

Via Zoom: Anne Armstrong, Alex Balbuena Alleyne, Christine Beatty, Andrew Bennett, Dorann Brown, Kelly Caplan, David Carroll, Karen Cheeks, Marc Cuellar, Rasheeda Davis, Liam Dotson, Sandi Hennequin, Paridhi Kapadia, Katrina McCree, Kevin McGrath, Rosa Pagnillo-Lopez, Cristiano Quijano, Chad Quinn, Jennifer Rodriguez, Greg Rubio, Glenis Scott, Shannon Stahley, Gabe Terry, Star Walker, Katie Zerfuss

1:02 PM Welcome: Karen Harbert, President and CEO, AGA

1:15 PM Call to Order: Mike Bradford Board President

- Quorum obtained
- Meeting expectations: Katrina Meltzer
- Children's HealthWatch Presentation: Charlotte Bruce, Director of Policy
 - Research on Energy Insecurity and impact for families with children under the age of 4 and during pregnancy

1:42 PM Approve Minutes of Previous Meeting (12/3/2025) Michael Bradford

- Motion to approve the minutes: Olivia Wein
- Second: Michelle Lehman
- Motion approved

1:43 PM Committee Reports

- **Finance:** Marietta Doney
 - Motion to accept December financials report: John Rich
 - Second: Michelle Lehman
 - Motion approved
- **Conference:** Shaylee Stokes
 - Highlights:
 1. New Wx Simulation "My Aunt's House"
 2. AI track
 3. Seattle Soiree – wear your flannel or plaid!
 4. Reauthorization conversation
 5. Policy Panel – Future of LIHEAP
 6. Live music, coffee stations, Bigfoot and more in progress...
 - Discussions reviewed sponsorship opportunities, possible future silent auctions
- **Membership & Fundraising:** Katrina Metzler
 - 2025 membership: 307 members, exceeding goal by 8%. 2026 goal: 310
 - 2025 sponsorship: \$546,078, exceeding goal by 11%. 2026 goal: \$550,000

- To promote membership, Feb. policy update was opened to non-members
- Conference outreach incl. unstaffed booth, tasks to engage new/non-members
- Consider whether associations can promote NEUAC to their members
- Committee evaluating membership tiers
- **Nominations:** Katrina Metzler
 - Timeline update for election process this spring, committee meets soon
- **Public Policy & Advocacy:** Kate Brownlee, Ben Jackson
 - Policy Update:
 1. Senate approved \$20 million increase for FY26, higher than 2025
 2. FY27 appropriations form requests coming soon. NEUAC will work to complete these; identify ways to support NEUAC with requests.
 3. LIHWAP: If asked during LIHEAP Action Day, all should focus on LIHEAP; request a separate meeting to discuss water assistance
 - 2026 LIHEAP Action Day By-the-Numbers
 1. Registered 308 attendees from 45 States + DC (pre-snow storm impact)
 2. Over 200 meetings confirmed
 3. All Parties Letter progress: 1,054 signatures from 749 unique signers
 - Hyatt contract for 2027 LIHEAP Action Day. Feb. 23-24. Rate \$369 + tax
 1. Motion to approve contract for 2027 Action Day: Marietta Doney
 2. Second: Britton Gabel
 3. Motion approved
- **Site Selection Committee** Kim Campbell- Hailey
 - Considering Minneapolis 2028 (new location for NEUAC), Baltimore 2029
 - Committee meeting Mar 18 to make recommendation to Exec Committee
- **Executive Committee** Michael Bradford
 - JEDI committee pause continuation until 3rd quarter of 2026
 - Language for All Parties' Letter
 - Extra Mile Award winner – Sen. Shelley Moore Capito (WV)
 - Extension of current lease through April 30, 2026
 - Hotel contact for planning meeting in San Antonio
 1. Motion for full board to ratify committee decisions: Elizabeth Berube
 2. Second: Mindy Browning
 3. Motion approved

3:30 PM Executive Director's Report Katrina Metzler

- Discussion on LIHEAP Action Day record attendance, pricing/hotel for 2027, and need to better price or coordinate attendance (i.e., unregistered guests) to prevent losing money.
- DC Office - Sublease still in progress for May 1 onwards
- Annual Report reviewed. Discussion on other topics to include:
 - 10 years historical LIHEAP allocation due to NEUAC's involvement
 - Utility Summit
 - Conference participation, visits from the organization/Katrina
 - Urgent issues support
- Strategic Plan Update

- Michael Bradford requested a motion to extend the 2024-2026 Strategic Plan for one year through December 31, 2027
- Motion: Olivia Wein
- Second: Sandra Diggs-Miller
- Motion approved
- Projects for discussion
 1. Reauthorization Forums:
 - NEUAC will initiate a discussion during the conference
 - LIHEAP was last reauthorized in 2005 and the authorization expired in 2007
 - Current risk to LIHEAP due to threat to cancel the all non-authorized programs
 - Katrina's recommendation is to gather information in order to draft a good proposal as a network and get consensus to move something after midterms.
 - Britton Gabel inquired about NEADA's thoughts on reauthorization. Per Katrina, we aware that NEADA wants to be included in the conversation.
 - Kevin Alexander proposed to revisit Strategic Plan to include this as higher priority
 2. (Semi) Annual Utility Assistance Programs Survey:
 - Need to work through an ad hoc committee to be able to support development
 - Discussion:
 - Semi-annually will be too soon
 - AGA already has a group from customer service to support the group
 - Utilities have many requests on this, NEUAC could keep these as database
 - Don't open this to non-member utilities
 - NEUAC should require utilities to complete survey to renew membership
 - Those who contribute to the survey should be able to see the full report
 - NEUAC should monetize on this and create a database
 - Ability to protect data and aggregate what is done by utilities important
 3. Grant Opportunity – Children's HealthWatch:
 - Discussion:
 - AGA and EEI are the only ones that have offered grants in the past
 - Katrina working with Children's HealthWatch to explore opportunity for grants to get data related to health implications for young children.
- Michael Bradford requested motion to insert under Strategic Goal #2, Item #6 the following two projects:
 - 1: Continue conversations on LIHEAP Reauthorization, and
 - 2: Explore and develop Utility Assistance Programs Survey
 - Motion: Britton Gabel
 - Second: Michelle Lehman
 - Motion approved

4:22 PM Updates from Federal Partners/Announcements

- Review of Upcoming Events

4:24 PM Motion to Adjourn Marietta Doney

- Second: Olivia Wein
- Motion approved