

**COUNTY OF BRANT COUNCIL MINUTES****SPECIAL MEETING**

Council Chambers, Paris  
Monday, June 8, 2009  
6:00 p.m.

**Present:** Mayor Eddy, Councillors Wheat, Schmitt, Haggart, Simons, Atfield, Chambers, Hodge, Coleman and Gatward.

**Regrets:** Councillor Powell

**Others:** Bruce Noble, C.E.O., Brant County Power Inc.

**Staff:** Glassford, Compeau and Carman.

Mayor Eddy in the Chair.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Moved by – Councillor Coleman  
Seconded by – Councillor Schmitt

That the Brant County Council agenda for the June 8, 2009 special meeting be approved as distributed.

. Carried

**DELEGATIONS****Brant County Power Inc.**

Bruce Noble, C.E.O., provided an update on changes and improvements at Brant County Power since the new Board of Directors took office in December 2006. He highlighted the following areas:

- improvements to system reliability
- implementation of new tools and practices to better manage customer accounts and provide assistance to residential and commercial customers as needed
- economic efficiencies, resulting in a reduction in operating costs by approximately \$450,000 in the last eight months, with additional reductions planned over the next year
- development of new profit centres to generate additional revenue in both the Power and Services companies
- financial viability – the Green Energy Act will provide opportunity through growth
- rate stability is more probable through the implementation of good fiscal management and appropriate controls, rather than through merger with another company
- financial outlook very positive – have paid down debt by \$1 million this year
- economic development perspective – tool for the community by drawing new businesses to the community
- working to develop a positive community awareness and sensitivity
- if the Services company is not part of any merger discussions, consideration should be given to off-loading the management of this company to someone else

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Mr. Noble advised that, in his view, there is no true benefit to merging Brant County Power with another entity. The management issues have been resolved at Brant County Power and there is no longer pressure from the Ontario Energy Board to merge. It would be difficult to determine a value for Brant County Power, recognizing that there are many future growth opportunities within the County. Although the tax holiday for mergers expires in October 2009, there will be other opportunities for mergers in the future.

**In Camera at 6:15 p.m. to discuss legal matters with Bruce Noble, C.E.O., Brant County Power in attendance**, on motion of Councillors Hodge and Schmitt.

This portion of the meeting is recorded in the In Camera – Confidential Brant County Council minutes dated June 8, 2009.

**Open Session at 7:00 p.m.**, on motion of Councillors Coleman and Hodge.

**NEXT MEETING**

The meeting adjourned at 7:00 p.m. to meet again on **Tuesday, June 16, 2009 at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers, Paris.**

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Mayor

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Date Minutes Approved

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Clerk