

**Energy and Resiliency Advisory Board
City of Vergas**

The Energy and Resiliency Advisory Board met on Thursday, June 18, 2026, 5:30pm, at the Vergas Event Center Meeting Room.

Attendance:

2026	Jan 15	Feb 19	Mar 19	Apr 16	May 21	Jun 18	Jul18	Aug 20	Sept 17	Oct 15
Julie Bruhn	P	P	P		P	P				
Alex Ohman	A	P	A		A	A				
Bruce Albright	A	P	P		P	P				
Cal Miller	P	P	A							
Jim Courneya					P	P				

- **P: Present. A: Absent**

1. Agenda approved as distributed.
2. Minutes from the May 21, 2026 meeting were approved as distributed.
3. Continue to look for a replacement member. Have had in the city newsletter with no interest expressed. Members asked to directly ask someone who they feel may have an interest. Will also confirm with Alex Ohman continued interest to serve on the board.
4. Event Center solar panels and battery system installed. Awaiting some final electrical work and inspector approval. Anticipate the solar panels will be functional by July.
5. The University of Minnesota is doing the final digital formatting of the Vergas Energy & Resilience Plan and Action Plan. Haven't yet received. The following areas were deemed areas that could be addressed the first year:
 - Energy Fair- meets community education
 - Solar on fire hall- meets expansion of clean energy
 - Ordinances- Planning Commission address
 - Look at tree's available to the community in spring
 - Look at how to certify as a Tree City
6. Discussed the Event Center solar open house and informational energy and resiliency fair. Available weekend dates in September had conflicts and will move toward looking at October available dates. Noted Saturday may be better to avoid conflicts with Sunday Church. Proposed was having the event 9am-12pm and include refreshments and handout information.
Discussed the following topics and organizations to contact.
 - Showcase and tour the solar and battery system. Have city solar report to show use and energy savings.
 - Energy efficiency, solar information and incentives- Lake Region, OTPC, CERTS, WCI, Holsen Solar, Solar United Neighbors Co-op (Prairies and Lakes)
 - Lakes and environment resiliency and sustainability practices-OTC Soil & Water, MN Extension Service
 - Share Vergas Energy and Resilience Plan and Action Plan

Bruce provided the OTC Lake Stewardship Guidebook and Long Lake potential acres to protect. The Board recommended this also be at the informational fair.
7. Julie Bruhn noted she would be part of a presentation at the annual LMC conference to share the Vergas story regarding work toward energy efficiency and clean energy. Others who are part of the presentation include CERTS and MPCA.
8. Next meeting will be August 20, 2026. Will not have meeting in July.

Advisory Board Recommendations:

- Search for a new member to serve on the Advisory Board
- Check Saturday dates in October when the Event Center would be open for the solar open house/information fair (Julie Bruhn)

City Council Recommendations: None

Recorder
e/s Julie Bruhn