

# **MORGAN COUNTY RURAL ELECTRIC ASSOCIATION**

## **Minutes of Regular Board Meeting Headquarters Building – Fort Morgan, Colorado**

**February 27, 2023:** The regular monthly meeting of the Board of Directors of Morgan County Rural Electric Association was called to order at 9:00 a.m. on the above date. Directors present at the beginning of the meeting were Dave Arndt, Jim Bostron, Randolph D. Graff, Larry D. Hoozee, Terry Linker, Timothy Peggram, Terry Tormohlen, and Cary Wickstrom.

Also present were David Frick, General Manager, Matthew Richardson, General Counsel, and initially, those members of staff who personally provide monthly staff reports to the Board of Directors.

**TRI-STATE GENERATION & TRANSMISSION:** Duane Highley, Tri-State CEO, Tim Rabon, Tri-State Board President, Don Kiernes, Tri-State Director, and Jay Sturhahn, Tri-State General Counsel entered the meeting at 9:00 a.m. and presented to the Board regarding happenings at Tri-State, including its rate committee's recommendations, pending member withdrawals, various FERC and legal proceedings involving Tri-State, and legislative considerations affecting Tri-State. Questions were asked and answered, and discussion followed.

Mr. Highley, Mr. Rabon, Mr. Kiernes, and Mr. Sturhahn exited the meeting at 10:30 a.m.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** The Board reviewed draft minutes from the January 23, 2023, regular Board meeting.

- ◆ **By motion made, seconded, and carried, the minutes of the regular meeting of the Board of Directors of January 23, 2023, were approved as presented.**

**APPLICATIONS FOR MEMBERSHIP:** After reviewing the applications for Membership in the cooperative presented at today's meeting for consideration by the Board of Directors,

- ◆ **By motion made, seconded, and carried, applications for membership numbered 27144 through 27167 were approved.**

**CANCELLED MEMBERSHIPS:** The Directors reviewed the monthly list of members who had withdrawn from the cooperative since the last meeting of the Board.

**MEMBER INPUT:** None.

**SAFETY & HEALTH REPORT:** Manager Frick presented and summarized the monthly Safety and Health Report. The Operations Department discussed the CREA and Federated Near Miss Reports and underwent various safety training during the preceding month. Manager Frick reported on an instance of damage to an Association vehicle. The Joint Health & Safety Committee met on February 14, 2023.

**STAFF REPORT – HUMAN RESOURCES:** Ms. Binder also reported on upcoming meetings for organizations of which the Association is a member. President Wickstrom appointed Mr. Graff and the Association's delegate to the Tri-State Annual Meeting and Mr. Peggram as his alternate.

**STAFF REPORT – ENGINEERING:** Stephan Sundet presented the monthly engineering report. Mr. Sundet updated that Board regarding several prospective large power loads. Questions were asked and answered.

**STAFF REPORT – OPERATIONS:** Mr. Mason presented the monthly Operations report. Association crews worked on pole new construction, pole changeouts, and service retirements and upgrades during the preceding month. Delays in pole deliveries are slowing Construction Work Plan projects. Mr. Mason reported that the system continues to perform well. Mr. Mason reported on upcoming trainings and recent new hires. Mr. Mason reported on security camera installation at Association facilities. Mr. Mason advised the Board regarding Association vehicle fleet rotation. Due to increased lead time, Mr. Mason requested that the Board authorize the Association join Altec's reservation "slotting" system to mitigate against long vehicle lead times. The Board directed Mr. Mason to pursue the Altec's slotting system. Questions were asked and answered.

**STAFF REPORT – MEMBER SERVICES:** Mr. Baranowski presented the monthly Member Services report. Mr. Baranowski reported on installed and pending net meters on the Association system, regarding Association advertising initiatives, grant opportunities, and Annual Meeting preparations. Mr. Baranowski reminded the Board that it had contributed \$2,000.00 to the Bostock Music Festival in 2022 and asked the Board whether it would like to pursue that again.

- ◆ **By motion made, seconded, and carried, the Board authorized a contribution of \$2,000.00 to the 2023 Bobstock Music Festival.**

**STAFF REPORT – OFFICE SERVICES:** Robb Shaver presented the monthly Office Services report. Mr. Shaver reported that Tri-State has not yet made the Association's 2022 capital credit allocation, regarding the status of processing the recent RUS loan, and regarding the Association's long-term debt.

**FINANCIAL REPORT:** Mr. Shaver reviewed the details of his customary monthly financial statements and reports. After questions, answers, and discussion, the President directed that the monthly Financial Reports be filed.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** Mr. Linker presented the monthly Treasurer's report, with attention paid to the monthly accounts payable check register reflecting checks issued during the previous month. Following review and consideration of the register of accounts payable, President Wickstrom ordered that the check register be filed.

Members of staff exited the meeting.

**MANAGER'S REPORT:** Manager Frick presented his monthly report to the Board. Manager Frick reported regarding the Association's 2023 marketing plan and Tri-State's rate committee recommendations. Manager Frick also updated the Board regarding personnel matters, and preparation for the Annual Meeting and Member Appreciation Day.

**PRESIDENT'S REPORT:** None.

**TRI-STATE G&T BOARD REPORT:** Manager Frick reviewed and discussed happenings at Tri-State Generation & Transmission.

**WESTERN UNITED BOARD REPORT:** Mr. Linker reported on happenings at Western United.

**COLORADO RURAL ELECTRIC ASSOCIATION BOARD REPORT:** Manager Frick and Mr. Arndt reported on their attendance at the recent CREA Annual Meeting. Discussion followed.

**OTHER MEETING REPORTS:** The Board discussed the format of the CREA Annual Meeting. President Wickstrom reported on his attendance at the Southeast Colorado Power Annual Meeting. Mr. Linker reported regarding his attendance at the NRECA Directors Conference.

**CALENDAR OF EVENTS.** None.

**EMERGENCY BUSINESS:** None.

**OLD BUSINESS:** None.

**NEW BUSINESS:** None.

There being no further business to consider, the meeting was declared adjourned 2:14 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

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Terry Tormohlen, Secretary