

# **MORGAN COUNTY RURAL ELECTRIC ASSOCIATION**

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

**September 25, 2023:** The regular monthly meeting of the Board of Directors of Morgan County Rural Electric Association was called to order at approximately 9:00 a.m. on the above date. Directors present were: Dave Arndt, Jim Bostron, Larry D. Hoozee, Terry Linker, Brian Pabst, Timothy Peggram, and Cary Wickstrom. Absent was Terry Tormohlen.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** The Board reviewed the minutes of its August 28, 2023 regular meeting and corrections were proposed.

- ♦ **By motion made, seconded, and carried, the minutes of the regular meeting of the Board of Directors of August 28, 2023 were approved as corrected.**

**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 27304 through 27335 were approved.**

**CANCELLED MEMBERSHIPS:** The Directors reviewed the monthly list of members who have withdrawn from the cooperative since the last meeting of the Board.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. MCREA staff reviewed CREA's Near Miss Reports, Federated Insurance's Litigation and Near Miss Reports, and underwent other safety training over the preceding month. The Joint Health & Safety Meeting was held September 12, 2023. Manager Frick reported on two instances of damage to cooperative property that occurred in August. Manager Frick asked if there were questions and there were none.

**STAFF REPORT – HUMAN RESOURCES:** Kristie Binder reported regarding upcoming education and training seminars and other meetings, conferences, and events, including the upcoming CREA Innovations Summit. Questions were asked and answered.

**STAFF REPORT – ENGINEERING:** Stephan Sundet presented the monthly engineering report. Mr. Sundet reported regarding several large power loads. Mr. Sundet reported that some oil and gas companies are considering use of electric drilling rigs. Questions were asked and answered, and discussion followed.

**STAFF REPORT – OPERATIONS:** Alan Mason presented the monthly operations report. Association crews built four new single-phase locations and performed fifteen pole changeouts during the preceding month. Mr. Mason updated the Board regarding work being performed by contractors Altitude and Mountainside. Mr. Mason reported that Tri-State will be performing maintenance at the Orchard Substation and will use a mobile substation while that work is being performed. Diversified Testing is on-site testing Association vehicles. Questions were asked and answered.

**STAFF REPORT – MEMBER SERVICES:** Rob Baranowski provided the Member Services report. Mr. Baranowski reported that the Association presently has 77 solar net meters and one wind net meter on its system. Applications are pending for 16 additional new net metered systems, and one upsize to an existing system. Mr. Baranowski reported on member battery storage, Association electric vehicle charging incentives, his attendance at NISC’s Member Information Conference which he recently attended and other upcoming Member Services training events. Mr. Baranowski reported that NRECA recently recognized MCREA employee Maddie Pollard as a “Rising Star.”

**STAFF REPORT – OFFICE SERVICES:** Mr. Shaver reported on his attendance at the NRECA Member Information Conference. Mr. Shaver discussed cybersecurity precautions. The Board discussed recent instances of power theft. Questions were asked and answered, and discussion followed.

**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.

**MANAGER’S REPORT:** Manager Frick presented his monthly report to the Board.

Manager Frick presented staff’s proposed revisions to Policy 6-4 “Identify Theft & Prevention.”

- ♦ **By motion made, seconded, and carried, the Board adopted as presented the proposed revisions to Policy 6-4 “Identity Theft & Prevention.”**

Manager Frick presented staff’s proposed revisions to Policy 9-6 “Employee Expense Reimbursement.”

- ♦ **By motion made, seconded, and carried, the Board adopted as presented the proposed revisions to Policy 9-6 “Employee Expense Reimbursement.”**

Manager Frick presented staff’s proposed revisions to Policy 9-9 “Extended Medical Insurance Program.”

- ♦ **By motion made, seconded, and carried, the Board adopted as presented the proposed revisions to Policy 9-9 “Extended Medical Insurance Program.”**

Manager Frick presented to the Board regarding the Association’s Rules and Regulations, updated that Board regarding the Association’s cost of service study, and the Association’s Prospect Valley property. Questions were asked and answered, and discussion followed.

**PRESIDENT’S REPORT:** None.

**TRI-STATE G&T BOARD REPORT:** Mr. Hoozee reviewed the Tri-State Generation & Transmission monthly report, which had previously been provided. Discussion followed.

**WESTERN UNITED BOARD REPORT:** Mr. Linker presented Western United's August 2023 Preliminary Sales and Financial Report.

**COLORADO RURAL ELECTRIC ASSOCIATION BOARD REPORT:** None.

**OTHER MEETING REPORTS:** Mr. Peggram discussed the upcoming Midwest Annual Meeting and requested input for any specific topics that directors would like to hear addressed during that meeting. Manager Frick reported on his attendance at a recent Colorado Oil and Gas Commission Meeting.

**EMERGENCY BUSINESS:** None.

**OLD BUSINESS:** The Board discussed the vacant District II Director seat.

**NEW BUSINESS:** The Board discussed entitlement to reimbursement for Tri-State Board orientation.

There being no further business to consider, the meeting was declared adjourned 1:44 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

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Terry Tormohlen, Secretary