

## **MORGAN COUNTY RURAL ELECTRIC ASSOCIATION**

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

**January 24, 2022:** 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, Brian Pabst, 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.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** The Board reviewed draft minutes from the December 22, 2021, regular Board meeting and corrections were proposed.

- ◆ **By motion made, seconded, and carried, the minutes of the regular meeting of the Board of Directors of December 22, 2021, were approved as amended.**

**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 26692 through 26725 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**CANCELLED MEMBERSHIPS:** The Directors reviewed the monthly list of members who had withdrawn from the cooperative since the last meeting of the Board.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:** Mr. Hoozee reported on member input regarding the difference in irrigation rates between Excel and the Association. Discussion followed.

**SAFETY & HEALTH REPORT:** Manager Frick presented and summarized the monthly Safety and Health Report. Manager Frick reported on a single instance of damage to an Association junction pole. Discussion followed. The Joint Health & Safety Committee met on January 11, 2022, and continued discussion of the Association's 2022 Safety Improvement Plans. Ground and stick testing continues and should be complete by February 1, 2022.

**STAFF REPORT – HUMAN RESOURCES:** Kristie Binder presented the Human Resources report. Ms. Binder reported on Association hires and that the Association is advertising for an open billing clerk position. Ms. Binder also reported on upcoming meetings for organizations of which the Association is a member. Questions were asked and answered.

**STAFF REPORT – ENGINEERING:** Stephan Sundet presented the monthly engineering report. Mr. Sundet reported that he has received the final copy of the Association's 2022-2025 Construction Work Plan, which he will present on at the Board's February meeting. He informed the Board that RUS now requires an archeologist review as part of its mandatory environmental study. Mr. Sundet reported on applications received for the Association's staking technician opening.

**STAFF REPORT – OPERATIONS:** Mr. Brenton presented the monthly Operations report. Association crews built two new residential service locations during the preceding month. Crews also worked on service upgrades, pole changeouts, and rebuild of single-phase lines. Mr. Brenton updated the Board regarding progress of contractors Great Plains Power and Altitude Energy.

**STAFF REPORT – MEMBER SERVICES:** Mr. Baranowski presented the monthly Member Services report. Mr. Brenton reported that petitions for nomination in the director election had been returned and that all three incumbents are running unopposed. Therefore, the Association will not conduct a director election in 2022. Mr. Baranowski reported on a meeting he had with a company exploring a renewable energy generation project in Morgan County using manure digestors. That company has been referred to Tri-State Generation & Transmission due to the anticipated size of the load. Questions were asked and answered, and discussion followed. Mr. Baranowski also reported on recent changes in Tri-State Generation & Transmission’s beneficial electrification rebate program. Mr. Baranowski reported on the Association’s annual net metering “true-up” for the Association’s distributed generation accounts. Mr. Baranowski asked the Board whether the Association is willing to sponsor the 2022 Bobstock Music Festival for \$2,000.00. The Board consensus was to do so.

- ◆ **By motion made, seconded, and carried, the Board approved a \$2,000.00 sponsorship of the 2022 Bobstock Music Festival.**

**STAFF REPORT – OFFICE SERVICES:** Robb Shaver presented the monthly Office Services report. Mr. Shaver requested that the Board authorize the closure of two Association accounts presently at Bank of the West and move those funds to Bank of Colorado.

- ◆ **By motion made, seconded, and carried, the Board authorized the Association closing two accounts at Bank of the West and moving those accounts to Bank of Colorado, as proposed.**

Mr. Shaver also updated the Board regarding the purchase of a certificate of deposit with High Plains Bank, which the Board had previously approved.

Mr. Shaver presented the Association’s preliminary December 2021 financial reports. Mr. Shaver reported that he is still waiting on end of year data to finalize the December 2021 reports. Mr. Shaver presented analysis of the projected impact of the anticipated cessation of a large industrial load on the Association budget.

**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 presented staff’s proposed revisions to Policy 1-7 “Extended Group Medical Insurance Program for Directors Elected or Appointed to the Board of Directors Prior to January 1, 2013.”

- ◆ **By motion made, seconded, and carried, the Board adopted as presented the proposed revisions to Policy 1-7 “Extended Group Medical Insurance Program for Directors Elected or Appointed to the Board of Directors Prior to January 1, 2013.”**

Manager Frick reported that staff had reviewed Policy 2-1 “Fee for Disconnect/Reconnect for Non-Payment and Visitation” and recommend reaffirmation without revision.

- ◆ **By motion made, seconded, and carried, the Board reaffirmed Policy 2-1 “Fee for Disconnect/Reconnect for Non-Payment and Visitation” and recommend reaffirmation without revision.**

Manager Frick presented staff’s proposed revisions to Policy 5-3 “Bloodborne Pathogen Exposure Plan.”

- ◆ **By motion made, seconded, and carried, the Board adopted as presented the proposed revisions to Policy 5-3 “Bloodborne Pathogen Exposure Plan.”**

Mr. Frick reported that the 2022 Morgan County Community College Gala, which the Association will host, has been rescheduled for April 22, 2022. Mr. Frick reported on the agenda and presenters for the Board’s strategic planning session as well as Association staff’s preparations for the Association’s March 22, 2022 Annual Meeting of the members and for the June 16, 2022 Customer Appreciation Event.

Attorney Richardson reported on the recent settlement in Tri-State Generation & Transmission’s 2022 Electric Resource Plan proceeding before the Colorado Public Utilities Commission.

**PRESIDENT’S REPORT:** President Wickstrom advised the Board regarding the agenda for its strategic planning session. The Board also discussed director qualifications.

**TRI-STATE G&T BOARD REPORT:** Mr. Graff reviewed and discussed happenings at Tri-State G&T as the Cooperative’s delegate on the Tri-State Generation & Transmission board.

**WESTERN UNITED BOARD REPORT:** Mr. Linker reported on happenings at Western United, including review of its December 2021 Financial Report, which had previously been provided.

**COLORADO RURAL ELECTRIC ASSOCIATION BOARD REPORT:** Mr. Arndt reported on legislation introduced after the first week of the Colorado General Assembly’s legislative session.

**OTHER MEETING REPORTS:** None.

**CALENDAR OF EVENTS.** President Wickstrom directed the Board’s attention to the calendar of events.

**EMERGENCY BUSINESS:** None.

**OLD BUSINESS:** None.

**NEW BUSINESS:** None.

There being no further business to consider, the meeting was declared adjourned 11:14 a.m.

Respectfully submitted:

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Larry D. Hoozee, Secretary