

# MORGAN COUNTY RURAL ELECTRIC ASSOCIATION

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

**August 23, 2021:** 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 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 July 26, 2021 regular Board meeting.

- ◆ **By motion made, seconded, and carried, the minutes of the regular meeting of the Board of Directors of July 26, 2021 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 26495 through 26550 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**CANCELLED MEMBERSHIPS:** The Directors reviewed the monthly list of members who had withdrawn from the cooperative since the last meeting of the Board.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. Peggram reported regarding difficulties with the Association's automatic bill pay. Mr. Shaver presented regarding the Association's deposit and automatic bill pay policies. Questions were asked and answered, and discussion followed.

Mr. Bostron complimented the Association staff on efficient restoration of service after a recent outage.

**SAFETY & HEALTH REPORT:** Manager Frick presented and summarized the monthly Safety and Health Report. The Joint Health & Safety Committee met on August 10, 2021, and discussed Commitment to Safety, reviewed Federated Insurance's Injuries, Near Misses, and Damages Report, and CREA's RESAP certification program. CREA was on-site and conducted safety training on Safety Manual Review and Use and Care of Rubber Gloves. CREA and the Association also completed annual testing of body belts, harnesses, climbing belts, hooks, and fall restrain equipment. Manager Frick reported on instances of property damage during the preceding month.

**STAFF REPORT – HUMAN RESOURCES:** Kristie Binder presented the Human Resources report. She updated the Board regarding hires, promotions, and departures. Ms. Binder reported on employee insurance renewal rates for 2022 and presented the historical increase data from 2018 through 2021. Ms. Binder presented to the Board regarding upcoming director conferences.

**STAFF REPORT – ENGINEERING:** Stephan Sundet presented the monthly engineering report. On July 29, the Association met with Stanley Consultants and RUS to discuss the upcoming

Construction Work Plan. RUS's required environmental review for the new Construction Work Plan may take up to one year. Mr. Sundet also updated the Board regarding potential new large loads in the Association service territory.

**STAFF REPORT – OPERATIONS:** Bobby Brenton presented the monthly operations report. MCREA crews constructed fourteen new single and three phase services and retired five service locations during the preceding month. Contractor Great Plains Power are working in the Prospect area on line rebuild projects and Contractor Altitude Energy is preparing to build line extensions to new oil wells.

**STAFF REPORT – MEMBER SERVICES:** Manager Frick directed the Board's attention to a previously provided written member services report, which Manager Frick presented, and the Board reviewed.

**STAFF REPORT – OFFICE SERVICES:** Robb Shaver presented the monthly Office Services report. 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.

Members of staff exited the meeting.

**MANAGER'S REPORT:** Manager Frick presented his monthly report to the Board. Staff has begun initial work on hosting a "customer appreciation" event at the headquarters location in June of 2022. Manager Frick updated the Board regarding staffing issues with CRC, the Association's call service center contractor, and discussion followed. Manager Frick updated the Board regarding the progress of the cost-of-service study. An initial report should be prepared for the Board to review at the September meeting. Manager Frick reported regarding Great Plains Power's progress on the Construction Work Plan. Manager Frick also reported on negotiations with contractor Altitude Energy. Manager Frick reported that the Board had received a bid from Buildings By Design for installation of roof top snow guards for the warehouse and mechanic's shop at a price of \$6,389.00.

- ◆ **By motion made, seconded, and carried, the Board accepted Building By Design's bid to install roof top snow guards on the Association warehouse and mechanic's shop at a price of \$6,389.00.**

Manager Frick reported that Sharon Kauffman had contacted him to ask whether "The Block" can continue to use the signage on the Association property that its predecessors, the Country Steak Out has used. The Board consensus was to permit the Morgan County Block to continue using the sign and to have Attorney Richardson prepare a written agreement to memorialize the terms and conditions.

**PRESIDENT'S REPORT:** The Board conducted Manager Frick's review in executive session.

**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 G&T board.

**WESTERN UNITED BOARD REPORT:** Mr. Linker, the Cooperative's delegate to the Western United Board, presented Western United's most recent Sales and Financial Report.

**COLORADO RURAL ELECTRIC ASSOCIATION BOARD REPORT:** Mr. Arndt reported on happenings at CREA as the Cooperative's delegate on the CREA board.

**OTHER MEETING REPORTS:** None.

**CALENDAR OF EVENTS.** None.

**EMERGENCY BUSINESS:** None.

**OLD BUSINESS:** None.

**NEW BUSINESS:** President Wickstrom appointed Dave Arndt as delegate for the 2021 Basin Electric Annual Meeting and Timothy Pegram as his alternate. President Wickstrom appointed Terry Linker as the Association's delegate to the CFC meeting at the NRECA Region 7 meeting and Dave Arndt as his alternate.

There being no further business to consider, the meeting was declared adjourned 2:17 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

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Larry D. Hoozee, Secretary