

MORGAN COUNTY RURAL ELECTRIC ASSOCIATION

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

July 26, 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, and Cary Wickstrom. Terry Tormohlen was absent.

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 June 28, 2021 regular Board meeting.

- ◆ **By motion made, seconded, and carried, the minutes of the regular meeting of the Board of Directors of June 28, 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 26450 through 26494 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CANCELLED MEMBERSHIPS: The Directors reviewed the monthly list of members who had withdrawn from the cooperative since the last meeting of the Board.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. Pabst reported that he had to wait on hold for three minutes and was not able to reach a live agent when trying to report a recent outage. Discussion followed.

SAFETY & HEALTH REPORT: Manager Frick presented and summarized the monthly Safety and Health Report. The Joint Health & Safety Committee met on July 13, 2021, and discussed Commitment to Safety, reviewed Federated Insurance's Injuries, Near Misses, and Damages Report, and CREA's RESAP certification program. There were no accidents or 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 presented to the Board regarding upcoming director conferences.

STAFF REPORT – ENGINEERING: Stephan Sundet presented the monthly engineering report. Stanley Consultants is working on preparation of the new Construction Work Plan. Great Plains continues to work on the current Construction Work Plan. Approximately 31 miles of line rebuild remains under the current Construction Work Plan, which is running behind schedule. The Association plans to hire a new field engineer in January 2022. 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 finished fifty new residential service locations in the Kiowa Park Subdivision in

Wiggins, as well as a number of other residential locations, master meters, and single-phase locations during the preceding month. Mr. Brenton updated the Board on the progress of contractors Altitude Energy and Great Plains Power. Altitude is working on installing new service locations and Great Plains continues work on Construction Work Plan projects.

STAFF REPORT – MEMBER SERVICES: Rob Baranowski presented the monthly Member Services Department report. Mr. Baranowski reported on Colorado Senate Bill 21-261 and its effect on net metering “true-up” requirements. The Association commissioned one new interconnected solar distributed generation meter during the preceding month, bringing the total net meters on the system to thirty-three. Mr. Baranowski directed the Board’s attention to a mailer the Association recently sent to members in Kiowa Park regarding solar net metering, which had previously been provided, and which the Board reviewed. Mr. Baranowski presented data depicting utility scale solar costs. The Association attended the recent Northeast Weld County Fair and received complimentary feedback from multiple members regarding timely restoration of service after a recent outage. The Association will also attend the upcoming Morgan County Fair. Lastly, Mr. Baranowski reported that the Colorado Country Life subscription will increase due to postage increases.

STAFF REPORT – OFFICE SERVICES: Robb Shaver presented the monthly Office Services report. Mr. Shaver presented and explained an example of Tri-State Generation & Transmission’ power bill to the Association. Mr. Shaver also presented data on the prospective impact of Tri-State’s pending rate decrease. 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. Manager Frick advised the Board the Association staff had reviewed Policy 9-11 “Employment of Relatives,” Policy 10-4 “Net Metering,” and Policy 10-9 “Sales and Construction of Electric Service Facilities by Other Parties” and recommended the Board reaffirm those policies without revision.

- ◆ **By motion made, seconded, and carried, the Board reaffirmed Policy 9-11 “Employment of Relatives.”**
- ◆ **By motion made, seconded, and carried, the Board reaffirmed Policy 10-4 “Net Metering.”**
- ◆ **By motion made, seconded, and carried, the Board reaffirmed Policy 10-9 “Sales and Construction of Electric Service Facilities by Other Parties.”**

Manager Frick next advised the Board regarding his recent negotiations with the linemen's employee union and the resulting collective bargaining agreement and discussion followed.

Manager Frick presented a proposed schedule of milestones for the Cost-of-Service study. An initial draft of the study is scheduled to be sent to the Association in August, and an executive summary and final report in September. Questions were asked and answered, and discussion followed.

Manager Frick advised the Board that asphalt around the Headquarters Building needs to be sealed. Manager Frick requested Board approval of Bella Asphalt's bid to perform the necessary sealing work at a price of \$11,606.07.

- ◆ **By motion made, seconded, and carried, the Board accepted Bella Asphalt's proposal to seal asphalt around the Association's Headquarters Building at a cost \$11,606.07.**

PRESIDENT'S REPORT: President Wickstrom appointed Dave Arndt as delegate for NRECA Region 7 and Randolph D. Graff as his alternate.

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, including recent and pending legislation before the state legislature.

OTHER MEETING REPORTS: None.

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 1:09 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Larry D. Hoozee, Secretary