

**SOUTHEAST COLORADO POWER ASSOCIATION**  
Minutes of Regular Board Meeting

The regular meeting of the Board of Directors of Southeast Colorado Power Association (SECPA) was held **December 21, 2022**, at the SECPA headquarters, 27850 Harris Road, La Junta, CO.

**1. Call to Order/ Roll Call**

President Truman Wright called the meeting to order at 12:15 p.m. Directors present were Clint Anderson, Lawrence Brase, Brad Buck, Kevin Karney, and Randy Phillips. Director Merlin Rushton was absent. CEO Kevin Brandon, CFO Craig McBrain, COO Mark Hall and CHRO Angela Bamber. Executive Assistant Debbie Howard and Casey Martin, outside legal counsel were absent.

**2. Agenda Modifications** - None.

**3. Member and/or Public Participation** – None.

**4. Board Meeting Minutes**

Motion was made and seconded to approve November 16, 2022 minutes. **MOTION** carried.

**5. Chief Executive Officer – Brandon**

- Announced Badger Hole claims have been settled.
- Attended CREA Managers meeting November 29 & 30. Significant discussion among CEO's without CREA present.
- Expressed interest and submitted projects for Wildfire Mitigation project 50% matching grant.
- Western United Electric vendor pricing has been inconsistent, with many vendors going with pricing at time of shipment.
- Continue to receive claims from the November voltage spike. Federated will not participate since this was not SECPA's fault. Brandon has reached out to Xcel. Phillips provided a list to Brandon of damage from a SECPA member; Hall confirmed the member's property was on the hardest hit part of SECPA line.
- NRECA Annual meeting will be held in Nashville in March. Brandon is the voting delegate.
- Chip Marks, Cooperative Finance Corporation, will retire at the end of 2023. (possibly help co-ops with grant writing and other programs he is working one.)
- Otero College New Year's Eve Ag Gala tickets available for event.

**6. Finance & Membership – McBrain**

- Reviewed October Income Statement, Balance Sheet, various graphs & Check Register. (Included in Board packet.)
- October Net Margins, \$99,366; YTD, \$2,465,696.
- November membership information will be added to the December Board Packet.

Preliminary Budget (Included in Board packet.)

McBrain noted there were minor changes in ASSUMPTIONS:

3) Operating Expenses

- Journeyman and above wage increase of 6.5% January 2023 and 4% per contract in July 2023.
- Increased payroll total earnings and benefits from \$7,130,724 to \$7,146,336.

4) Plant Investments

- General Plant Additions from \$552,000 to \$698,000.

Motion was made and seconded to approve the 2023 SECPA Budget. **MOTION** carried.

Karney asked for clarification on what years the \$850k capital credits covered. Response was it is the planned cash outflow for 2023 and the years it will cover is dependent on how much will be automatically transferred to unclaimed capital. An estimate of the years covered will be provided when discussing the actual planned retirement for 2023.

Directors requested that a full list of names for unclaimed capital credits be published in *Colorado Country Life* magazine; should be discussion point at Annual meeting.

- Eide Bailly engagement letter dated November 22, 2022, was reviewed. Motion was made and seconded to approve engagement letter. **MOTION** carried.

#### 7. Operations – Hall

- Various kWh graphs, Outages, Work Order, and Line Loss reports reviewed. (Included in Board packet.)
- Rolling line loss was equivalent to \$51,565.
- Hall gave a brief Safety Report (included in Board packet.)
- Hall reported on future services he is currently quoting for multiple members/businesses in multiple areas throughout SECPA system.
- Journeyman Lineman Jose Ramos is transferring to La Junta from Eads.
- New warehouseman to start January 3 in La Junta.
- Springfield apprentice 8<sup>th</sup> step starts January 3<sup>rd</sup>.

#### 8. Legal –

- Attorney invoice totaled \$1,100.
- Brandon has received plat maps of Springfield development.

#### 9. Human Resources – Bamber

- November payroll = \$369,797 (overtime = \$14,004); (other \$25,272 includes employee on-call time, paid administrative leave, vacation and sick leave payout); 48 employees
- John Jackson promoted to Working Foreman, La Junta.
- Job Postings:  
Staking engineer, Lamar or Springfield  
Warehouseman, La Junta  
Journeyman, La Junta  
Serviceman, La Junta
- Job Changes  
Connie Suto, Head Accountant to Accounting Manager
- Jose Ramos Martinez, Journeyman Eads to La Junta
- Job Offered:  
Warehouseman, La Junta; Apprentice, Springfield

#### 10. Affiliate Organization Board Reports

- A. Western United Electric (WUE) -
  - Written summary included in Board packet.
- B. Colorado Rural Electric Association (CREA) - Brandon
  - CREA December meeting notes in Board packet.
- C. Tri-State G&T- Brase
  - November Board report included in Board packet.
  - Tri-State Board can file rate increase in June if board approves it; FERC would have to approve.

#### 11. Executive Session

Motion was made and seconded to go into Executive Session at 2:30 p.m. for legal and personnel matters. **MOTION** carried.

Meeting reconvened at 2:45 p.m.

- 12. Adjourn - There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 2:50 p.m.

  
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President

  
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Secretary