

## **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 17, 2025**, at the SECPA headquarters, 27850 Harris Road, La Junta, CO.

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

President Clint Anderson called the meeting to order at 12:10 p.m. Directors present were: Lawrence Brase, Michelle Gardner, Randy Phillips, Merlin Rushton, and Truman Wright. Brad Buck was absent.

Staff present: Interim CEO Mark Hall, CFO Aaron Johnson, CHRO Angela Bamber, SECOM CTO Elijah Ridgwell, and Executive Assistant Debbie Howard. Matt Richardson, outside legal counsel was also in attendance.

#### **2. Eide Bailly representative provided a status update on 2025 audit.**

#### **3. Agenda Modifications – None.**

#### **4. Member and/or Public Participation – One member present (left prior to Exec Session.)**

#### **5. Board Meeting Minutes**

Motion was made and seconded to approve November 19<sup>th</sup>, 2025 Board minutes. **MOTION** carried.

#### **6. Interim Chief Executive Officer – Hall**

- Hall provided a verbal update to his written report sent to Directors prior to the meeting.
- Announced that SECPA owes CREA \$35,867 for SECPA's portion of purchase of new building.
- Director access is now available on SECPA website.
- Auditors were at the Lamar warehouse yesterday.
- Eads Kiosk contract auto-renews every year; must give 90-day notice to terminate agreement. Will give notice to not renew.
- Meet with AES Clean Energy to review BYOR project in SECPA territory and another co-op's territory.
- Discussed whether to follow current policy for net metering with March true up and to add a net metering tariff for November true up since it was approved by Directors March 2021. Hall will work with Richardson on new tariff.
- SECPA has been approached about wind and solar farms in SECPA territory that would connect to the new Xcel Power to Pathway line. Hall has reached out to Tri-State and Excel to discuss the process to follow to handle these projects. He has also talked with Tri-State staff to determine the process to follow for High Impact Loads that want to connect to the Excel Power to Pathway line.
- Xcel has approached Hall about a large wind farm South of Towner in SECPA territory; would operate like Colorado Green ( SECPA would sell them the power.)
- One data center has applied for service in SECPA territory. When they mentioned the broadband company they were getting a bid from, Hall asked them if they had heard of SECOM (which they had not.) SECOM may be able to underbid the other broadband company.
- Announced tentative date for annual meeting is April 23, 2026, in Springfield.
- Deferred remainder of CEO report to Executive Session.

#### **7. C-Team Reports**

##### **A. Finance & Membership – Johnson**

- October Financial reports were presented.
- October margin was \$137,886; YTD, \$750,254.
- YTD delinquent penalty charges through November \$228,508.
- There was one new membership; YTD loss, 66. Active meters total 10,885 (34 less than October.)
- Gave verbal update to his written notes included in the board packet.
- 2026 Preliminary Budget - Presented final draft of 2026 Budget. Johnson explained the changes to the budget since it was presented at November board meeting. Motion was made and seconded to approve 2026 Budget as presented. **MOTION** carried.

- The CoBank \$20 million term loan closed last Friday and is available for advances now. Once we close the CFC PowerVision \$15 million loan facility any outstanding balance not considered short term needs will be paid down from a loan advance from one of the lenders based on the best rate offered by either lender.

#### **B. Operations – Hall**

- Brief update on outages, various projects and crew activity.

#### **C. Human Resources – Bamber**

- October payroll = \$404,013; (overtime = \$21,323); (other \$18,503 - includes employee on-call time and tracking of unpaid leave.  
Forty-three employees
- Staffing changes & Postings: Lineman, La Junta, start date 12/2/25.

#### **D. Technology-Ridgwell**

- Reported on Security and Cloud Data Migration.
- Auditing equipment that serves Scada network.
- Developing an AI policy.

### **8. Affiliate Organization Board Reports**

#### **A. Western United Electric (WUE)- Gardner**

- WUE November Sales and Finance report in board packet.
- Gardner has been selected to represent a SECPA Board Director to travel to Washington D.C. for the Annual Tri-State “Fly In”.

#### **B. Colorado Rural Electric Association (CREA) - Wright**

- CREA December meeting minutes in board packet.

#### **C. Tri-State (T/S) G&T- Brase**

- Brase gave a verbal update to the Tri-State December Board report in board packet.
- 50% of Tri-State’s energy is coming from renewable resources in 2025.
- Tri-State has purchased a new office building at 370 Interlocken Boulevard in Broomfield.
- Tri-State has approved to build a 345-transmission line through Sydney NE to Holcom KS.  
Brase thinks if the line was built further South to keep it in Colorado, SECPA could supply the power. He told Directors to let him know if they in were in favor of this he would “push” for it.
- Three Nebraska utilities have given notice to withdraw from Tri-State membership.

### **9. Legal - Richardson**

- Provided a verbal report to his written report.
- Completed opinion letter for CoBank loan. Addressing several confidential board matters (deferred to executive session.)
- Sent several policy revisions to Hall and Howard for their review.
- Reviewed an easement that SECPA is taking from PSCo.
- Preparing a preclosing loan opinion for PowerVision loan through CFC.

### **10. Executive Session -**

Motion was made and seconded to go into Executive Session at 1:30 p.m. for confidential legal advice. **MOTION** carried.

Staff, except Hall and Johnson, left the meeting.

- Johnson left Exec Session @ 2:50 p.m.; rejoined @ 4:15 p.m.
- Hall left Exec Session @ 3:15 p.m.; rejoined @ 4:00 p.m.

### **10. Adjourn** Meeting reconvened and adjourned at 4:20 p.m.

  
Board President

  
Board Secretary