



**Nobles Cooperative
Electric**

Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

Regular Board Meeting Minutes

September 22, 2023 – Ellsworth, MN Community Room

Directors in attendance: Ron Schwartau, Lee York, Cindy Hokeness, Jerry Beckering, Gary Clarke, Timothy Bickett and David Dorpinghaus.

Other attendees: Chief Executive Officer (CEO)/General Manager Adam Tromblay, Chief Financial Officer (CFO) Michael Reemtsma, Line Superintendent Cody Hansen, Member Services Manager Tracey Haberman, and Executive Assistant Amy Rucker.

Executive Session

The board met in executive session.

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Schwartau at 8:52 a.m. and a quorum was acknowledged.

Approval of Agenda

An agenda was presented for the board's consideration and approved.

Notice of Meeting

The notice of the meeting was given in accordance with the bylaws.

Appointment of Recording Secretary

Chairman Schwartau appointed Executive Assistant Rucker as the recording secretary for the meeting.

CoBank/NCE Sharing Success Grant

Brent Petersen of the Rushmore Fire Department was present to receive the CoBank and NCE Sharing Success grant checks for the purchase of equipment for a new fire truck.

Getting to Know NCE Employees

Line Superintendent Hansen talked with the board for a few minutes and the board reviewed a short bio provided by Shannon Bakke regarding her family, interests, etc.

Board Meeting Minutes

The August 15, 2023, Board Meeting Minutes were approved as presented.

Consent Agenda Items

The following consent agenda items were approved: disbursements for the period of August 2023, membership applications, membership cancellations, settlement of accrued capital credits of deceased members along with members requesting transfers of accrued capital credits, assignment of stock certificate and capital credits to joint tenants, and a request to change the name on a capital credits account.

November 2023 Board Meeting

November 17, 2023, at 8:30 a.m.

Attorney Invoice

A motion was made, seconded, and carried to approve the attorney invoices.

Write-Off of Delinquent Accounts

A motion was made, seconded, and carried to approve the write-off listing of uncollectible delinquent accounts from July 2022 through June 2023 with discounting.

General Retirement of Capital Credits

After discussion, a motion was made, seconded, and carried to distribute 6 percent of the available NCE local capital credit retirement and revolve capital credits in the following manner: balance of 2004, 78 percent of 2005 and 16 percent of 2022 in addition to the 2023 estates.

In addition, the Great River Energy (GRE) capital credit retirement received in March 2023 will be distributed in the following manner: 100 percent of 1992/1993 (\$69,180.72), 100 percent of 1994/1995 (\$125,258.80), 100 percent of 1996 (\$73,135.88), and 64 percent of 1997 (\$40,654.48). The Southern Minnesota Energy Cooperative (SMEC) capital credit retirement received in March 2023 will be distributed in the following manner: 100 percent of 2020 (\$42,651.83).

A motion was made, seconded, and carried to distribute capital credits as it was done last year via bill credits, with checks issued for amounts over \$600.

2024 Youth Tour Sponsorship

A motion was made, seconded, and carried to continue the Youth Tour sponsorship in 2024 and budget for one participant to attend.

2024 Strategic Plan

After review and discussion, a motion was made, seconded, and carried to approve the 2024 Strategic Plan.

Director Peer Review Process

The board discussed their peer review evaluations and decided that an action plan is not needed.

Director/Member Engagement

Subsequent to the strategic planning session, Directors York and Schwartau reached out to people in a few communities. Director Clarke has received many questions about generators. At “Coffee and Chat with your Directors”, reliability of wind generation and rate increases were topics brought up by members. The board recommended doing another “Coffee and Chat with your Directors”.

Meeting Attendees

Directors Clarke and Dorpinghaus will check their schedules and decide if one of them can attend the Mid-West Electric Consumers Association Annual Meeting in December.

Director Reports

Director York gave an update on Great River Energy and the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA) Regions 5 & 6 Meeting.

Director Schwartau updated the board and staff on the Minnesota Rural Electric Association and shared information on the June 2024 NRECA International project. He reported on the NRECA Regions 5 & 6 Meeting as well.

CEO/General Manger Report

CEO/General Manager Tromblay gave his monthly report, including reports on Projects Falcon and Wildcat. He, too, reported on the NRECA Regions 5 & 6 Meeting.

Management Reports

CFO Reemtsma presented the monthly financial report.

A motion was made, seconded, and carried to approve the financial report.

Line Superintendent Hansen gave the operations department report, including the work plan and an update on safety activities since the last board meeting.

Member Services Manager Haberman reported on upcoming events, as well as her department’s August activities and statistics.

Adjourn

There being no further business to come before the board, the meeting was adjourned at 11:20 a.m.