

BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING MINUTES

HELD ON
March 27, 2025

The meeting was called to order by Board President, Robert Baca, at 11:10 a.m.

1. ROLL CALL AND DETERMINATION OF QUORUM

Present: Robert Baca, President
 James Ortiz, Vice -President
 Virginia Mondragon, Secretary/Treasurer
 Joe C de Baca, Trustee
 Samuel Ramirez, Trustee
 Les Montoya, General Manager
 Irinea Valdez, Administrative Assistant

2. INVOCATION – Robert Baca, Board President, led us in prayer.

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE –The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA – The Agenda for today’s meeting was presented. A motion was made by Samuel Ramirez to approve the Agenda, Seconded by Virginia Mondragon. Motion carried.

5. RECOGNITION OF GUESTS – Sarah Schantz and Shelley Rossbach with T & D Services.

6. Introduction of New Employee – Ida Vasquez - Cashier

7. SAFETY REPORT/MINUTES – March 18, 2025

8. ACTION OF REGULAR MEETING MINUTES HELD ON February 30, 2024 – The Board Minutes for the meeting held on February 20, 2024 were presented for review. James Ortiz, motioned to approve the minutes as presented. Joseph C de Baca seconded the motion. Motion carried.

9. APPROVAL OF NEW MEMBERSHIPS (MORA 6 – PECOS 7) A total of Thirteen memberships were presented. After review, a motion was made by Jame Ortiz, seconded by Joseph C de Baca, to approve all new memberships. Motion carried.

10. MANAGER’S REPORT – Manager’s report was approved with a motion by Virginia Mondragon and seconded by Samuel Ramirez. Motion carried.

- 11. Delinquent report** – AS of January 2025 there were \$249,963.76 total delinquents and as of February 2025 there were \$109,193.54 total delinquents.
- 12. RUS FORM 7** – The month ending **February 28, 2025** shows a margin of \$133,969 for the month. We are at \$1,371,629 in Revenue, \$1,076,928 Total Expenses and \$114,014 in Depreciation. Interest on long term debt \$154,862 and interest expenses \$25,260. Total cost for the month \$1,239,049. Non-Operating margins interest is \$1,389. Operating Margins is a \$133,969.00 for year-to-date. Tier 7.12 YTD and 6.30 for the Month.
- 13. Outage report** – March 2025 - Incomplete
- 14. FINANCE REPORT** –Approval of Finance Report along with Manager’s report was motioned by Virginia Mondragon and Seconded by Samuel Ramirez. Motion Carried.
- 15. TRI-STATE TRUSTEE REPORT** – Robert Baca, Tri-State Trustee, reported on the April 2025 meeting. Some topics covered included the following:
- EERA Funding approved in Washington, D.C. and will be used to pay on Debt for Coal plants being shut down.
 - Since Coal plants are closing, there is a need to build Gas plants in Colorado by the end of the decade.
 - Met with WSEC Contract committee four times this month and will sending to the Board for approval in April.
 - Discussion to increase rates gradually over the next five years.
 - The Legislature passed the Wild Fire Mitigation Bill in Wyoming
 - The WSEC contract committee will be meeting again for questions.
 - Talked about the back-up generators
 - Annual meeting will be held on 1st and 2nd of April 2025
- Duane Highley wants to ask questions and meet with other Coops.
- 16. NMREC TRUSTEE REPORT** – James Ortiz, NMREC Trustee reported on the March 7, 2025 meeting.
- David Spradlin reported that CFC issue is being resolved.
 - NRECA is monitoring the pauses on funding from federal executive orders
 - Arsenio Dela Cruz is the temporary replacement for Mr. Larry McGraw and will serve in this role until at the position is permanently filled.
 - The continuing Resolution ensures that RUS will continue to process applications and loan draw down requests and these services will not be interrupted.
 - Form 7 reporting is due on March 31, 2025

- Current interest rates: Treasury 4.58% and FFB 4.53%
- Vince Martinez reported HB323—PE Licensing bill- passed the house and is now onto Senate committees. Also talked about other Bills being stalled in committee.
- Esther Simon with CoBank reported recently released 2024 Annual. CoBank is reporting \$209B in total assets and \$1.63B in net income
- Evelyn Vigil from Statewide reported that NRECA's Legislative Conference is open for registration.
- Talia Storch from Statewide reported the Business Alliance Program has 24 registered partners with \$90,000 in committed revenue. \$100,000 is the Goal.
- NRECA's Annual Meeting dates will remain the same, May 13-15, 2025
- Carmen Campbell from Statewide reminded the Board that Chris Myers from OAEC is retiring.
- Community Wildfire Defense Grants are due Friday, March 14, 2025 and applications for JMEC, NORA OTERO and SOCORRO will be submitted.
- The POWER grant contract for CDEC has been finalized.
- The NORA and SWEC mapping project and the OTERO transmission ROW project are the final stages waiting for DOE approval.
- The Next wildfire mitigation plan grant contracts are for JMEC, MSMEC, NORA and SOCORRO.
- Guest attended from the State Land Office on ROW expirations.
- Ryan Mast with Sustainability Partners gave a presentation on short term financing moving forward.
- Corey Parr with Federated spoke to managers about creating robust Wildfire Mitigation Plans.
- Bobby Ferris met with PRC Commissioner Nibert and is asking for feedback on how to make working with PRC more efficient. Statewide will provide survey to cooperatives to compile the feedback.
- At the request of Finance Committee, Jennifer Peabody went through credit card expenditures and the check registry for January. Everything was in order. Board approved Budget.
- Evelyn Vigil asked direction and preferred dates on Directors Training. Two training held each year. One in August and one in December.

17. ON-GOING BUSINESS-

- a. Tri-State Generation and Transmission, Inc., and MSM Solar, LLC for February 2025
- b. Memorandum of Understanding between Mora-San Miguel Electric Cooperative, Inc. and the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local Union 611.

MSMEC entered into an agreement with the IBW Local Union 611 to change to weekly payroll processing. This is GRIP requirement. Request approval from the Board. Motion was made by Samuel Ramirez and second by Virginia Mondragon. Motion carried.

- c. **Patties Incident Report.** On the weekend of March 14, 2025, High wind event caused havoc with power lines throughout our service area. Hazard trees were falling on to power lines, poles were being blown down and conductors were coming detached from crossarms. MSMEC Crews were placed on Emergency Stand-by beginning March 13, 2025 as high winds were predicted for the area. MSMEC crews responded to these outages. Stand-By Crews were also called to respond with equipment. The equipment was called to remove downed trees from work areas to clear and make safe for the men responding. Contracted power line crews were also called upon to assist in rebuilding powerlines damaged by the winds. No action required. This information along with attachment of written report is for information. FEMA. to date has not authorized the reimbursement for funds to begin Hazard Tree Project.

18. NEW BUSINESS –

- a. **Tri-State 2024 Patronage Capital Allocations as reported by Tri-State as February 28, 2025.** No action required of the Board. This item is for information only.
- b. **Bid Award Standby/Contingency and Emergency Faller Modules on as needed bases for hazard tree falling services.** MSMEC/T&D advertises request for Bids qualified tree fallers on a contingency and emergency basis. Qualified fallers may be needed when conditions with hazard trees exist in the field that prevent equipment from performing the removal of hazard trees or prevent linemen from safely accessing areas to repair damaged or downed powerlines. Board is being asked to review and approve the recommendation to Award the Bid to the fallers who did respond. The bid will be awarded for work on as needed basis. Motion was made to approve by James Ortiz and seconded by Samuel Ramirez. Motion carried.
- c. **Bid Award Standby/Contingency and Emergency Response for Crew Linemen Services and Heavy Equipment.** MSMEC/TD Services advertised to solicit competitive bids to provide Linemen Services and Heavy Equipment on an as needed basis. Field conditions and Spring winds are creating hazardous working conditions. Hazard Trees falling or breaking are causing damage to powerlines resulting in outages in these areas. These contingency services will aide MSMEC in accessing areas to repair lines and restore power in a safe and timely manner. The Board is being asked to review the response to the RFB by the contractors who submitted Bids Motion was made to approve by Sam Ramirez and seconded by James Ortiz. Motion carried.

- d. **Request to write-off delinquent Miscellaneous A/R amounts for Service Calls billed to an individual or business.** The miscellaneous A/R amounts pertain to services rendered by our line crew, billed monthly to individuals or businesses listed. Despite efforts to collect has proven uncollectible. Asking the board to review and approve. Board has requested to table for next meeting.
- e. **Listing of delinquent Accounts to be written off as per MSMEC Board Policy No. 311.** Staff is required to review and present the listing to the Board in February and September of each year. Requesting the board to review and approve. Motion was made by Samuel Ramirez and seconded by Josephe C de Baca. Motion carried.
- f. **Job Description for a Temporary Part-Time Bookkeeper Position.** MSMEC will hire a Temporary Part-Time Bookkeeper to assist with the processing of weekly payroll, which is a GRIP requirement. Requesting the Board to review and approve. Motion was made by Virginia Mondragon and seconded by James Ortiz. Motion carried.
- g. **MSMEC 2025 Proclamation of Election.** Notice of announcement was sent out on March 17, 2025 to MSMEC Members in District #3. Election will take place on May 20, 2025 at a location to be determined.
- h. **Discussion on, Voting Members rights.** Will be discussed next board meeting.

19. GENERAL INFORMATION

- a. **Benefits of Tri-State Membership Brochure**
- b. **\$1500 NMRECSG Scholarship- reach out to Pat Valdez**
- c. **Photos**

20. MSMEC EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION – NONE

21. CORRESPONDENCE

22. CALENDER:

- a. **2025 Columbus Electric Cooperative Annual Meeting – Saturday April 5, 2025.**
- b. **Focus – 2025 Tri-State Annual Meeting, April 1-2, 2025 Broomfield, CO.**
- c. **NRECA – Legislature Conference in Washington, DC, April 27-30, 2025**
- d. **Golden Spread Electric Coop- Board Courses, April 7 and 8, 2025 Amarillo, TX**
- e. **NRECA Annual Meeting, Isleta, May 13-15, 2025**

23. Next meeting will be scheduled for April 27, 2025

24. EXECUTIVE SESSION- Motions was made to go into executive session at 1:39 p.m. by Virginia Mondragon and seconded by James Ortiz. Motion to adjourn executive session at 2:40 p.m. was made by James Ortiz and seconded by Joe C de Baca. No action was taken.

- a. **Personnel Matters**

- b. Update on Union Matters
- c. Litigation Matters

b. OTHER BUSINESS TO COME BEFORE THE BOARD – None

- c. ADJOURNMENT – A motion to adjourn today's meeting was made by Samuel Ramirez and seconded by Virginia Mondragon. Motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at approximately 2:48 p.m.

ATTEST:

