

BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING MINUTES

HELD ON

July 23, 2026

The meeting of Thursday July 23, 2026, was called to order at 10:58 a.m. by Board President, Robert Baca.

1. ROLL CALL AND DETERMINATION OF QUORUM

Present: Robert Baca, President
 James Ortiz, Vice -President
 Virginia Mondragon, Secretary
 James Tanuz, Trustee
 Samuel Ramirez, Trustee

Isaiah Romero, CEO/General Manager
Tami Hernandez, 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 Virginia Mondragon to approve the Agenda with the addition of Southwire and Firescape added to New Business, Seconded by James Ortiz. Motion carried unanimously.**

5. RECOGNITION OF GUESTS –

a. Invited Speakers- (15-minute time limit)-

2026 Youth Tour Participant Federico Murray came in and he thanked the board for being selected for the 2026 Youth Tour. He was selected to lay the wreath on the Tomb of the Unknown. The board asked him what was his favorite part of the youth tour, Federico said his favorite thing was the Arlington Cemetery.

b. T&D-Harry Barns, Jose Olivarez- Discussion in Executive Session. **A motion to move into Executive Session @ 11:05 pm was made by Sam Ramirez and seconded by Virginia Mondragon. Motion carried unanimously.**

- c. General Public Comments-(5-minute time limit)- None
- d. Introduction of New Employee- None.

6. **SAFETY REPORT/MINUTES – July 23, 2026 Minutes.**
7. **ACTION OF REGULAR MEETING MINUTES HELD ON June 25th 2026** – The Board Minutes for the meeting held on June 25th, were presented to the Board for review and approval. **A motion to approve the Board Minutes as presented was made by Sam Ramirez and seconded by James Tanuz. Motion carried unanimously.**
8. **REVIEW OF 2025 ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES HELD ON -JUNE 27TH 2026.** The Board of Director's reviewed the 2025 Annual Meeting Minutes. **No Action Taken.**
9. **APPROVAL OF NEW MEMBERSHIPS (MORA 7– PECOS-10)** A total of seventeen, memberships were presented for review and approval. After review, **a motion was made by Virginia Mondragon, seconded by James Ortiz, to approve all new memberships as presented. Motion carried unanimously.**
10. **MANAGER'S REPORT – Manager's report was approved with a motion by Virginia Mondragon and seconded by James Tanuz. Motion carried unanimously.**
 - a. **Delinquent report** – The Delinquent Report for the month of June was presented for review. There was a total of 923 delinquent accounts totaling \$309,373.84. After collections, 456 of those accounts remained unpaid for a total of \$106,287.21.
 - b. **RUS FORM 7** – The month ending **June 30, 2026**, shows a Margin of –(\$1,331), for the month. We are at \$1,213,306 in Revenue, \$883,574 Total Expenses and \$119,064 in Depreciation. Interest on Long Term Debt \$147,572 and Interest Expenses \$64,050. Total Cost for the month \$1,214,637. Non-Operating Margins Interest is \$1,894. Operating Margins are \$65,931 for Year-to-Date. Tier 2.46 YTD and 1.45 for the Month.
 - c. **Outage Report-** None.
 - d. **Fused Cut-Out Report-**0 Fused cut-outs.
11. **FINANCE REPORT – A motion to approve the Finance Report along with Manager's report was motioned by Virginia Mondragon and Seconded by James Tanuz. Motion carried unanimously.**
12. **TRI-STATE TRUSTEE REPORT** – Robert Baca, Tri-State Trustee, reported on June 30th Tri-State's July, meeting. A few of the items covered/discussed included the following:

- Discussion about Wildland fires and Wildland Firefighters that lost their lives along the Colorado/Utah border.
- Discussion regarding meetings with S&P and Fitch, the agencies continue to focus closely on member relations, and overall, they were positive with Tri-State's outlook.
- Tri-State has received a Triple B Rating.
- Policy 515, they will update next meeting.
- Discussion about the Tri-state Annual Meeting.
- Tri-State set a new renewable peak record of 1,610 MW on June 6, 2026.
- Total Electric Sales were greater than budget primarily due to greater than budgeted member sales. Purchased power was higher than budgeted. Fuel expense was greater than budgeted.

13. NMREC TRUSTEE REPORT – James Ortiz, NMREC Trustee Report- July 9th thru July 10th 2026.

- David Spradlin reported that the NRECA Board of Directors approved a dues increase of 3% for 2027. The increase is heavily influenced by the deteriorating real estate market in DC. making it challenging to lease out available space. The buildings are undergoing renovations to make more appealing for future leases.
- David also stated there will likely be an increase in healthcare premiums. It is expected to increase by 12-14% for individuals on the plan. This will be discussed further at the regional meeting in October.
- Carmen Campbell reported that Socorro Electric's 2018 rate case went through a PRC hearing, testimony was given to support the stipulations and was agreed upon by all parties, but the commission took action to change the stipulations. The PRC's modified stipulation included a fine of \$237,000, which is a reduced fee compared to the \$948,000 cumulative fee that was completely waived in the original stipulation.
- Carmen also reported that she is working closely with the cooperative staff and the PRCE360 filing system.
- Farmers' Electric submitted their application for the SPARK grant and should hear back in August. JMEC submitted a revised application for Grid Mod, but are still waiting for a response from EMNRD; and several cooperatives will submit community Wildfire Defense Grants that are due in August.
- Talia Storch reported annual meeting metrics, with approximately 325 attendees, including members, vendors, legislators, candidates, speakers, and guests, along with roughly \$88,200 collected in registration fees and sponsorships. Talia states that fees and expenses are still being calculated. Talia also reported that \$1,320 was collected in muligan sales for the golf tournament and was donated to the Harding County Rodeo Association Ranch Rodeo Charity.
- Talia reported on Youth Tour, where 48 delegates and 5 chaperones spent 6 days traveling to Washington DC in June. They were able to meet with Senator Ben Ray Lujan. Kaylee Jo Summers from RCEC was elected as the 2026 Youth Leadership Council

- delegate. Four students were selected to participate in the wreath laying ceremony at Arlington National Cemetery, Federico Murray from MSMEC was one of the students.
- Talia stated that there was a brief discussion with the managers regarding spending money provided by the sponsoring cooperatives. Some of the delegates receive a large incentive from the coop and others received none. This was not deliberate, and statewide will work with the managers and member service teams to make sure that all delegates receive similar dollar amounts to keep it fair for all students.
 - Evelyn Vigil reported that the August Director Training registration is open for August 11-12th and the courses being offered are 2630 Strategic Planning and 953.1 on Appraising and Compensating the CEO.
 - Tom Condit reported that the new statewide website has officially launched.
 - Vince Martinez informed the Board that Representative McQueen is believed to be in the running for the Cabinet Secretary position for the Department of Energy.

14. ON-GOING BUSINESS-

- a. **Tri-State Generation and Transmission, Inc., and MSM Solar, LLC. Invoices.**

15. NEW BUSINESS-

- a. **RESAP Section Evaluation Summary & Assessment Feedback Summary.** Isaiah Romero went over the RESAP section evaluation summary. We received more satisfactory ratings than the prior evaluation. MSMEC has made improvements since our last evaluation. The MSMEC Safety Committee will plan to get reds-key attention areas for improvement and orange-generally satisfactory to blue-satisfactory performance. Over all they were impressed with all the improvements. **No Action Taken.**
- b. **Southwire-Recommendation for bid award (UG line testing locating).** Recommendation for award is for Southwire to test and locate cable within the HPCC burn scar. Southwire was the only company that submitted a bid for this RFB. This is an underground project and is covered under FEMA. Testing and locating cable will allow MSMEC to determine if cable has been damaged during the HPCC fire and also to map the lines that are located and tested. **The Board is to determine whether to proceed with recommendation to contract Southwire to locate and test cables. Virginia Mondragon made a motion to approve the Recommendation for bid award UG line testing locating-Southwire, Sam Ramirez seconded. Motion carried unanimously.**
- c. **Firescape-Wildfire Risk Situational Awareness-Grid Watch.** This is a pilot project. Socorro is doing it and wants us to pilot project. They would get our map. This gives us an AI model. It is free for a year. The state is paying for it. After the trial it cost from \$50-10k we could use the GRIP grant to continue it. **The Board is to determine to proceed with the pilot project-Firescape. James Ortiz made a motion to approve the pilot project-Firescape, James Tanuz seconded. Motion carried unanimously.**

16. GENERAL INFORMATION--

- a. 2026 Scholarship Recipient Pictures.
- b. Save the Date-The Annual BBQ. Wednesday, September 9, 2026 & Board Meeting Thursday, September 10th 2026.
- c. Registration in Open-NRECA Regional Meetings/Regions 8 & 10 Oct. 21-23, 2026 Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. Primary Hotel-Omni Oklahoma City Hotel.

17. MSMEC EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION

- a. None.

18. BYLAWS AND POLICY COMMITTEE

- a. MSMEC ELECTION PROCEDURES BOARD POLICY NO. 102. No action taken on policy. Virginia Mondragon would like us to add Mora to signature sheet.

19. CORRESPONDENCE

- a. Thank you email form Santiago Gallegos/2026 Youth Tour.
- b. Thank you letter from Antonio R. Chavez/2026 Youth Tour.
- c. Thank you card & picture from The Blue Ribbon Wranglers for Non-Profit Donation.

20. Events Calendar:

- a. Tri-State Meeting Monday August 3rd Wednesday August 5th 2026.
- b. NMRECA Committee & Board Meeting Thursday August 6th & Friday August 7th 2026.
- c. NMRECA'S August 2026 Director's Training: Tuesday August 11th 2630 Strategic Planning, and Wednesday August 12th 2026 935.1 Appraising and Compensating the CEO.
- d. 2026 NMRESIF/OAEC Safety Coordinators Conferences Wednesday August 12, 2026 & Thursday August 13, 2026.

A motion to move into Executive Session @ 11:05 pm was made by Sam Ramirez and seconded by Virginia Mondragon. Motion carried unanimously.

21. EXECUTIVE SESSION-

- a. Personnel Matters
- b. Update on Union Matters

c. Litigation Matters

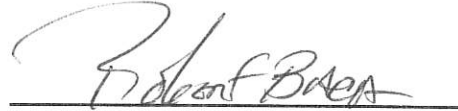
A motion to move out of Executive Session and back into Regular Session @1:45p.m. was made by James Sam Ramirez and seconded by Virginia Mondragon. Motion carried unanimously.

22. ACTION ON ITEMS DISCUSSED IN EXECUTIVE SESSION-

23. OTHER BUSINESS TO COME BEFORE THE BOARD: NONE.

24. ADJOURNMENT – A motion to adjourn today's meeting was made by Sam Ramirez and seconded by Virginia Mondragon. Motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 2:58 pm.

ATTEST:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Virginia Mondragon", written over a horizontal line.A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Robert Baer", written over a horizontal line.