## MINUTES REGULAR MEETING BOARD OF TRUSTEES THE SOCORRO ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC.

October 27, 2021

## **INDEX**

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees of The Socorro Electric Cooperative, Inc. (SEC) was held on Wednesday, October 27, 2021, at 310 Abeyta Ave, Socorro, New Mexico.

## CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 1:58 p.m. by Anne Dorough, President.

## ROLL CALL

Secretary Bustamante called the roll and reported those present and attending as follows:

TRUSTEES PRESENT:	Anne L. Dorough, President (via teleconference) Representative, District 5				
	Luis Aguilar, Vice President (via teleconference) Representative, District 3				
	Paul Bustamante, Secretary/Treasurer (via teleconference) Representative, District 1				
	Leroy Anaya, Trustee (via teleconference) Representative, District 3				
	James Nelson, Trustee (via teleconference) Representative, District 2				
	Donald Wolberg, Trustee (via teleconference) Representative, District 3				
	Michael Hawkes, Trustee Representative, District 4				
TRUSTEES ABSENT:	None				
ALSO, PRESENT:	Joseph Herrera, General Manager Donna Wilkins, Administrative Assistant Rauni Montoya, Accounting Supervisor (via teleconference) David Montoya, Safety Compliance Officer (via teleconference) Steve Dettmer, Line Superintendent (via teleconference) Marilyn Madrid, Member Services Supervisor (via teleconference) Jimmy Capps, Director of Communications and Public Affairs (via teleconference) Lorna Wiggins, Wiggins, Williams, and Wiggins (via teleconference)				
SEC MEMBERS PRESENT:	None; due to Governor Lujan-Grisham's executive order restricting essential business to limit operations to only those absolutely necessary to carry out essential functions.				

### QUORUM

Secretary Bustamante declared a Quorum of Trustees present.

## PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Manager Herrera led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Page 1 of 6

## **CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Trustee Anaya made a motion to approve the Agenda as presented; motion seconded by Trustee Aguilar. Motion carried unanimously.

President Dorough approved the Agenda as presented.

### **CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL PREVIOUS MINUTES**

Trustee Wolberg made a motion to approve the minutes from September 22, 2021, as distributed; motion seconded by Trustee Nelson. Motion carried unanimously.

President Dorough approved the minutes from September 22, 2021, as distributed.

### **MEMBER COMMENTS**

Manager Herrera reported that no Members had called in or were present for Member Comments.

### MANAGER'S REPORT

Manager Herrera reported on the expenditure check register totaling \$1,014,766.92 for September 2021.

President Dorough thanked Manager Herrera for the Expenditure Report for September 2021.

Manager Herrera reported the Visa credit card expenditures, complete with supporting receipts, made available to the Board of Trustees for September 2021 and proceeded to answer questions posed by the Trustees.

President Dorough thanked Manager Herrera for the credit card report for September 2021.

Manager Herrera provided an update regarding COVID-19 that SEC is taking members back to other offices beyond the lobby after members sign in and SEC takes their temperature to help with contact tracing. Manager Herrera stated that SEC is continuing to follow the NM COVID Safe Practices for Employers.

President Dorough thanked Manager Herrera for the COVID-19 Update for September 2021.

Manager Herrera provided the Engineering Report stating that T&D Services is finishing up the design of the 69 kV Magdalena transmission line that includes underbuilt distribution lines. Manager Herrera reported that additional soil samples were needed from the Magdalena Substation because the site was an old power generation site. Manager Herrera stated when the generator was removed, the building was destroyed, and the concrete foundations buried. Manager Herrera reported a suitable location must be found to put the new transformer on a concrete pad. Manager Herrera reported that SEC is working with Tri-State to construct the 69 kVA line due to the congestion leaving the Tri-State substation while leaving the existing 69 kVA line energized. Manager Herrera stated that constructing the 69 kVA line underground is an option with a few contractors that would be able to warranty the workmanship for three (3) years. Manager Herrera reported that we have received the legal descriptions for the property along the 69 kVA line and will be working with these members for the easements and abandonments along the line. Manager Herrera stated that for the 69 kVA line out of the Magdalena substation, it would also be underground to hopefully reduce blinks occurring from bird contacts.

President Dorough thanked Manager Herrera for the Engineering Report for September 2021.

Manager Herrera concluded by providing an update to the NM PRC Interconnection Workgroup that he was part of and the changes the NM PRC commissioners want. Manager Herrera reported that the NM PRC commissioners want to put the requirements on the utility and the burden for the utility to maintain a map that would show available capacity. Manager Herrera stated that the new rules required would make it harder for utilities. Manager Herrera stated that in conversations with NMRECA, there would be some opportunities to provide comments and pushback against some of these rules to help cooperatives.

President Dorough thanked Manager Herrera for the Manager's Report for September 2021.

Page 2 of 6

REGULAR BOARD MEETING October 27, 2021

### FINANCIAL REPORT

Ms. Montoya carefully reviewed in detail the RUS Form 7 Report for September 2021.

President Dorough thanked Ms. Montoya for the RUS Form 7 Report for September 2021.

### SAFETY COMPLIANCE REPORT

#### SAFETY REPORT

Mr. Montoya reviewed the September Safety Report. Mr. Montoya reported that he had been contacted by the district chief from Horse Peak Fire Department requesting permission to put a repeater or radio at the top of Luera Peak to monitor Catron County fire rescue, emergency, and medical services. Mr. Montoya proceeded to answer questions posed by the Trustees.

After discussion, it was decided to have Manager Herrera and Mr. Montoya get more information from New Mexico State Trust Land on this installation at Luera Peak.

#### JOB BRIEFING

Mr. Montoya reviewed the September Job Briefing Reports.

President Dorough thanked Mr. Montoya for the Safety Report for September 2021.

#### **OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE REPORT**

### CONSTRUCTION/MAINTENANCE REPORT

Mr. Dettmer reported for September activities, crews completed 17 work orders, closed 19 work orders, and completed 43 service orders with most service orders for area lights. Mr. Dettmer stated the work at the Borderland Wind project was complete, with the next big project replacing 79 poles at White Sands Missile Range (WSMR).

#### OUTAGE REPORTS

Mr. Dettmer reviewed several major outages that either affected over 100 members or those for which the outage time was lengthy and proceeded to answer questions posed by the Trustees

President Dorough thanked Mr. Dettmer for the Operations and Maintenance Report for September 2021.

### MEMBER SERVICES REPORTS

#### ENERGY DELINQUENT REPORT

Ms. Madrid presented the Energy Delinquent Report for September 2021.

#### NM PRC MEMBER CONCERNS

Ms. Madrid reported that SEC had two (2) Member informal complaints filed with the NM PRC in September 2021. Ms. Madrid stated that one (1) case had been resolved and closed, finding SEC was not in any violation. Ms. Madrid stated that in the other case, all information had been provided to the PRC and a finding was pending.

President Dorough thanked Ms. Madrid for the Member Services Report for September 2021.

#### COMMUNICATIONS AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS REPORT

Mr. Capps reviewed the September Communications and Public Affairs Report.

President Dorough thanked Mr. Capps for the Communications and Public Affairs Report for September 2021.

#### **TRI-STATE REPORT**

Trustee Anaya gave the Tri-State Board of Directors' activities report for October 2021.

Page 3 of 6

REGULAR BOARD MEETING October 27, 2021

President Dorough thanked Trustee Anaya for the Tri-State Report.

## **NMRECA REPORT**

Trustee Wolberg gave the NMRECA report for October 2021.

President Dorough thanked Trustee Wolberg for the NMRECA Report.

## MRGEDA REPORT

Trustee Wolberg gave the MRGEDA report for October 2021.

President Dorough thanked Trustee Wolberg for the MRGEDA Report.

### PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President Dorough reported the 2021 Trustee Expense reports for the third quarter had been provided for all Trustees to review. President Dorough stated that CFC sponsors webinars on a regular basis which provide great information. President Dorough stated the last webinar, Trends and Best Practices in Strategic Planning, was very informative, and it would be available next week to watch.

## FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

Trustee Aguilar gave the Finance Committee Report, which met on September 15, 2021, with recommendations to the full Board of Trustees.

President Dorough thanked Trustee Aguilar for the Finance Committee Report.

### **STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT**

Trustee Anaya reported on the Standing Committee Meeting held on October 27, 2021, with recommendations to the full Board of Trustees.

President Dorough thanked Trustee Anaya for the Standing Committee Report.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

# NMRECA Special Meeting Voting and Alternate Voting Delegate

Manager Herrera reported that Jemez Mountain Electric Cooperative has requested to be reinstated as a member of NMRECA. Manager Herrera stated when Jemez left NMRECA previously, they did not pay their last dues amount which prompted NMRECA to expel them and remove their membership with NMRECA. Manager Herrera stated that due to this expulsion, a special meeting is required to consider their request to re-join NMRECA and under what terms. Manager Herrera stated that NMRECA gave cooperatives the option to name new delegates or use the delegates previously used as presented.

Trustee Aguilar made a motion to retain Trustee Wolberg as Voting Delegate and Trustee Anaya as Alternate Voting Delegate for the NMRECA Special Meeting as presented; motion seconded by Trustee Hawkes.

A roll call vote was conducted by President Dorough and is as follows: Yes: Trustee Aguilar, Anaya, Bustamante, Hawkes, Nelson, and Wolberg No: None Motion carried unanimously.

Consideration of Capital Credit Estate Retirements

Manager Herrera reported that SEC General Counsel Lorna Wiggins Esq. had previously reviewed the Patronage Estate Capital Retirement requests as provided in the Trustee's BoardPaq. Ms. Wiggins reviewed the retirement documents and stated that they appeared to be in order and were ready for the Board's consideration:

ESTATE RETIREMENTS:

REGULAR BOARD MEETING

October 27, 2021

	Operating Margins	Plains G&T	Investment in Associated Organizations	Cushion of Credit & Other Non-Ops	Tri-State	Gains	Unpaid Balance	Total	Total without Tri-State
EM-Oct-21-A	\$347.09	\$6.48	\$31.52	\$24.17	\$146.82	\$23.93	\$0.00	\$580.01	\$433.19

JOINT ACCOUNT ESTATE RETIREMENTS:

	Operating Margins	Plains	Investment in Associated	Cushion of Credit & Other Non-Ons	Tri-Stata	Gaine	Unpaid Balanco	Total	Total without Tri-State
	Margins	G&T	Organizations	Non-Ops	Tri-State	Gains	Balance	Total	Tri-State
JM-Oct-21-A	\$197.84	\$0.00	\$37.09	\$28.35	\$196.22	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$459.50	\$263.28

After discussion, Trustee Aguilar made a motion to approve the Retirement of Patronage Capital as presented, absent any Tri-State allocations, to the accounts mentioned above; motion seconded by Trustee Bustamante.

A roll call vote was conducted by President Dorough and is as follows: Yes: Trustee Aguilar, Anaya, Bustamante, Hawkes, Nelson, and Wolberg No: None Metion carried upanimously

Motion carried unanimously.

### Consideration of Line Extension Contracts

Manager Herrera reported the previous Line Extension Contract is awaiting new signatures after the updated corrections to the contract. Manager Herrera reported there were no other Line Extension Contracts open for consideration.

## Consideration of Trustee Travel

Trustees Anaya, Bustamante, Hawkes, and Wolberg requested Board approval to attend the NMRECA Director Training held in Albuquerque, New Mexico, on December 15-16, 2021.

Trustee Aguilar made a motion to approve for Trustees Anaya, Bustamante, Hawkes, and Wolberg to attend the NMRECA Director Training; motion seconded by Trustee Nelson.

A roll call vote was conducted by President Dorough and is as follows: Yes: Trustee Aguilar, Anaya, Bustamante, Hawkes, Nelson, and Wolberg No: None Motion carried unanimously.

## **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Trustee Hawkes made a motion to go into Executive Session to discuss employment matters; motion seconded by Trustee Wolberg. Motion carried unanimously.

President Dorough called for an Executive Session.

The Board adjourned to Executive Session at 3:32 p.m.

### **REGULAR SESSION**

Trustee Aguilar made a motion and seconded by Trustee Wolberg to return to Regular Session at 3:51 p.m.

President Dorough stated that there was no action taken during Executive Session.

## SET DATE/TIME FOR REGULAR MEETING

After discussion, Trustee Wolberg made a motion to set the next committee meeting's date and the next regularly scheduled Board Meeting for November 17, 2021, with Committee meetings starting at 1:00 p.m.; motion seconded by Trustee Nelson. Motion carried unanimously.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no other items open for discussion, Trustee Aguilar moved to adjourn; motion seconded by Trustee Wolberg. Motion carried unanimously.

Page 5 of 6

REGULAR BOARD MEETING October 27, 2021

President Dorough adjourned the meeting at 3:55 p.m.

Paul Bustamante, Secretary/Treasurer

APPROVED:

Anne Dorough, President

I, Paul Bustamante, do hereby certify that I am the Secretary of the Board of Trustees of The Socorro Electric Cooperative, Inc., herein called the "Cooperative," and the above is a true and exact copy of the Minutes of the Regular Meeting held on October 27, 2021. A Quorum of Trustees was present and acted upon throughout the meeting, and none of the Minutes of the above have been rescinded or modified.

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Paul Bustamante, Secretary/Treasurer