

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

May 28, 2025

INDEX

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees of The Socorro Electric Cooperative, Inc. (SEC) was held on Wednesday, May 28, 2025, at 310 Abeyta Ave, Socorro, New Mexico.

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 2:00 p.m. by Leroy Anaya, President.

ROLL CALL

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

TRUSTEES PRESENT: Leroy Anaya, President
 Representative, District 3

 Stephen Rosas, Vice-President
 Representative, District 3

 Eileen Latasa, Secretary/Treasurer
 Representative, District 2

 Jayson Moore, Trustee
 Representative, District 1

 Robert Alonzo, Trustee
 Representative, District 3

 David L. Wade, Trustee
 Representative, District 4

 David Dickey, Trustee
 Representative, District 5

TRUSTEE(S) ABSENT: none

ALSO PRESENT: Manuel Gonzales, Chief Executive Officer
 Alyssa Cruz, Executive Assistant
 Rauni Montoya, Chief Financial Officer
 David Montoya, Safety Compliance Officer
 Jason Otero, Chief Operations Officer
 Jeffrey Sousa, Interim Director of Engineering
 Marilyn Madrid, Member Services Supervisor
 Jimmy Capps, Director of Communications and Public Affairs
 Adriana Arellano, Chief Human Resources Officer

SEC MEMBERS PRESENT: None

GUESTS: Justin Proctor, Vice-President/Managing Consultant of Guernsey

QUORUM

Secretary Latasa declared a Quorum of Trustees present.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

President Anaya led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance.

CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL OF AGENDA

REGULAR BOARD MEETING CONTINUATION

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Trustee Latasa raised a concern from the last Board of Trustee Regular Meeting, restating her request regarding the expenditure report be included on the agenda.

Trustee Latasa recommended adding Clarify the Electing of NMRECA Board of Director and Alternate under New Business due to confusion on the meeting minutes.

Trustee Latasa made a motion to add to the Agenda Under New Business the Election of the NMREC Delegate and Alternate to the NMREC Board of Directors for clarification purposes; seconded by Trustee Wade. Motion carried unanimously.

With no further discussion or questions, Trustee Rosas moved to approve the agenda with the addition; the motion was seconded by Trustee Dickey. The motion carried unanimously.

CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

APRIL 26, 2025 – REGULAR MEETING

Trustee Latasa made a motion to approve the Minutes from the Regular Meeting of April 26, 2025, as presented; the motion was seconded by Trustee Alonzo. The motion carried unanimously.

President Anaya approved the Minutes from April 26, 2025, as presented.

APRIL 30, 2025 – CONTINUATION OF REGULAR MEETING

Trustee Dickey made a motion to approve the Minutes from the Continuation of Regular Meeting of April 30, 2025, as presented; the motion was seconded by Trustee Alonzo.

Trustee Latasa recommended a change under "Consideration and Approval of Agenda" statement from "Trustee Latasa posed a question to CEO Gonzales regarding the credit card expenditure report" to "monthly expenditure report or bill list"

President Anaya approved the Minutes from April 9, 2025, as presented with changes.

MEMBER COMMENTS

There were no comments brought forth by SEC members.

CEO'S REPORT

CEO Gonzales presented his report reviewing the activities during the month of May. CEO Gonzales shared with the Board of Trustees about the overwhelming positivity from the community and within the Cooperative. CEO Gonzales attended a wildfire mitigation meeting held by New Mexico PRC and thanked them for hosting the meeting. As well as attending the NMREC Annual Meeting in Isleta along with some Trustees and two SEC employees. At the NMREC Annual Meeting, CEO Gonzales was a keynote speaker and showcased SEC's 80th Annual Meeting video and the attending employees stated Representative Armstrong acknowledged SEC. CEO Gonzales informed the Trustees of SEC's involvement with the Socorro County Job Program. CEO Gonzales proceeded to answer questions posed by the Trustees.

President Anaya thanked CEO Gonzales for the CEO's Report for May 2025.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Ms. Montoya carefully reviewed the Report for April 2025 RUS Form 7 in detail.

President Anaya thanked Ms. Montoya for the RUS Form 7 Report for April 2025.

Ms. Montoya presented the Accounting Department Report and highlighted Accounts Payable Clerk, Carol Dotson, who received compliments from a member whom she assisted with an insurance claim. Ms. Montoya shared with the Board of Trustees that she attended the NMREC Annual Meeting earlier in May and thanked accounting department Accounts Receivable, Margaret Vaughn, for putting together baskets filled with local goodies to be raffled at the NMREC Annual Meeting.

President Anaya thanked Ms. Montoya for the Accounting Department Report for May 2025.

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SAFETY COMPLIANCE REPORT

Mr. Montoya presented the Safety Compliance Report for May 2025. Mr. Montoya reported the line crew is staying up to date on their safety training by completing the Hurt Man and Bucket Rescue training which is done annually. A safety concern was brought to the Trustees, regarding a recent incident where a pole was cut down and an energized transformer was taken. The police department was contacted but an update had not been provided.

President Anaya thanked Mr. Montoya for the Safety Report for May 2025.

OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE, AND ENGINEERING REPORT

Mr. Otero reported that Altitude is finishing up on the 69 kV Line, however, after inspection they will need to go back and make corrections. SEC advocated for the members by avoiding any scheduled outages for the Magdalena Substation. Altitude was able to plan the work while the lines were energized and reassured SEC, they would be able to complete it safely.

Mr. Otero stated SunZia has been working near the Bernardo Substation. SunZia had requested an outage on the Bernardo Substation which is also feeding the Burris Substation load. This outage would affect multiple members. SEC advocated for the members and worked with Tri-State G&T and SunZia to obtain a mobile substation as the outage would last for 3 hours or more.

Mr. Otero informed the Board of Trustees that a contractor of SunZia requested to take an outage that would affect multiple fuel pump stations. SEC had discussions with SunZia and their contractor. SunZia agreed to provide generators for the fuel stations. Mr. Otero proceeded to answer questions posed by the Trustees.

President Anaya thanked Mr. Otero for the Operations and Maintenance Report for May 2025.

MEMBER SERVICES REPORT

Ms. Madrid reported that the Member Service Department continues to make significant progress by implementing software features that are improving the Collections workflow. One feature, the Pledge system, enables the Member Service Representatives to track utility assistance notifications from the initial Promise to Pay to the agency payment. This helps ensure meters are not mistakenly disconnected for non-payment while assistance payment is pending. With the Pledge system, SEC is preparing to implement the Auto Non-Pay Disconnect feature.

Ms. Madrid highlighted the Auto-Reconnect feature which was implemented on February 5, 2025. Since its launch, SEC has conducted 7 non-pay disconnect campaigns. The Auto-Reconnect feature successfully reconnected a total of 456 meters. Ms. Madrid proceeded to answer questions posed by the Trustees.

President Anaya thanked Ms. Madrid for the Member Services Report for May 2025.

Mr. Otero asked to approach the Board of Trustees. Mr. Otero addressed that the Engineering Report was not completed and asked if the Interim Director of Engineering, Jeff Sousa, present the report.

ENGINEERING REPORT

Mr. Sousa reported that response times to new work requests have improved and shared a graph with the Trustees on the number of site visits performed, which was 33, 15 estimate packets sent out and 5 invoices paid which initiate a work order packet to the Line Crew for scheduling.

Mr. Sousa shared with the Trustees on Employee Development that GIS Technician/Engineering Aide, Angelica Trujillo, has enrolled in college courses to obtain a degree specializing in GIS, Surveying and AutoCAD. Ms. Trujillo submitted for state funding and was awarded full tuition to be covered. Mr. Sousa stated that he will also be pursuing a degree in Electrical Engineering with a focus in Power Systems Engineering to work towards becoming a Professional Engineer. This will help Members who are interested in getting power to their property but must pay permits for canal crossings or railroad crossings stamped by a Professional Engineer which could incur costs up to \$10,000.00.

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The Trustees asked if Mr. Sousa could share where he came from and Mr. Sousa gave an introduction and proceeded to answer questions posed by the Trustees.

President Anaya thanked Mr. Sousa for the Engineering Report for May 2025 and welcomed him to Socorro.

COMMUNICATIONS AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS REPORT

Mr. Capps presented the Communications and Public Affairs Report for May 2025. Mr. Capps shared that SEC continues to receive positive feedback regarding the 80th SEC Annual Meeting and gave praise to CEO Gonzales and SEC Staff who helped contribute to its success.

Mr. Capps informed the Trustees that SEC would be participating in the 4th Annual Socorro Community BBQ held at Sedillo Park on May 31st, 2025. Socorro General Hospital provides the food and Socorro Fire Department will be cooking the food while SEC will provide chips and drinks. A blood drive will be held at the event as well.

SEC is also assisting with the follow advertising efforts in support of events coming up: Alamo Dreamers AAU Basketball Team trip, Magdalena Burro Stampede, Socorro County 4-H Council Shooting Team – National Competition and Socorro County Fair Book ad.

Mr. Capps thanked Trustee Rosas, Dickey and Wade for assisting with the SEC Foundation Awards. SEC awarded 10 scholarships from Socorro High School, Belen High School, and Quemado High School. Tri-State G&T awarded a student from Belen High School and a homeschooled student. Trustee Latasa stated that she discussed with Trustee Anaya and CEO Gonzales that the SEC Foundation review the scholarship requirements and committee selections.

President Anaya thanked Mr. Capps for the Communications and Public Affairs Report for May 2025.

HUMAN RESOURCES REPORT

Ms. Arellano presented the Human Resources Report and shared SEC will be participating in the Socorro County Intern Program for students. This intern program primarily receives interest from City of Socorro residents.

A new multi-factor authentication process has been implemented for the Senior Team and linemen who have work phones and iPads. With this process, it will help enhance the security, reduce risk of unauthorized access, and strengthen SEC's protection against phishing attacks.

Ms. Arellano shared that NRECA personnel held a presentation at SEC to review 401k and retirement plans offered for SEC employees.

President Anaya thanked Ms. Arellano for the Human Resources Report for May 2025.

President Anaya called for a recess break at 3:17 p.m.

President Anaya resumed the Regular Meeting Agenda at 3:27 p.m.

TRI-STATE REPORT

President Anaya presented the Tri-State Board of Director's activities for May 2025

NMREC REPORT

CEO Gonzales presented the NMREC activities report for May 2025.

President Anaya thanked CEO Gonzales for the NMREC Report for May 2025.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President Anaya and CEO Gonzales presented Trustee Latasa the NRECA Credentialed Cooperative Directore (CCD) Certificate.

President Anaya thanked SEC Staff and CEO Gonzales for the wonderful job they have done for SEC.

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President Anaya acknowledged the Board of Trustees in their interest for receiving certified board training and recommended that all Trustees receive an orientation.

President Anaya informed the Board that the Form 990 was ratified and signed. Trustees asked questions regarding the filing of the Form 990 to which Mr. Capps proceeded to answer.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT

Trustee Rosas reported on the Standing Committee Meeting held on May 28, 2025. Trustee Rosas informed the Board of Trustees that Board Policy #114 "Board of Trustees-General Manager Interrelationships" was still being reviewed by General Counsel.

President Anaya thanked Trustee Rosas for the Standing Committee Report for May 2025.

FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

Trustee Latasa reported on the Finance Committee Meeting held on May 28, 2025. Trustee Latasa recommended to the Standing Committee to review Board Policy 116 Trustees' Fees and Expenses to determine what can be covered for reimbursement for Trustees that prefer to drive or fly for training purposes.

President Anaya thanked Trustee Latasa for the Finance Committee Report for May 2025.

ETHICS COMMITTEE

President Anaya reported on the Ethics Committee Meeting held on May 28, 2025. President Anaya stated they reviewed Board Policy 126 "Whistleblower Protection" and requested CEO Gonzales provide recommendations.

NEW BUSINESS

Set 2026 Annual Meeting Date:

CEO Gonzales stated there are currently three dates available in April 2026 for the proposed Annual Meeting and the staff is recommending April 25, 2026.

Mr. Capps elaborated on the availability of Macey Center with the proposed dates of April 4, 2026, April 18, 2026, and April 25, 2026.

After discussion, Trustee Latasa moved to set the SEC 81st Annual Meeting on April 18, 2026 at Macey Center on New Mexico Tech Campus; the motion seconded by Trustee Rosas. The motion passed unanimously.

Consideration of Trustee Travel

There were no Trustee Travel requests submitted for consideration.

Consideration of Capital Credit Estate Retirements

CEO Gonzales stated there are three Patronage Estate Capital Retirement requests. All requests were reviewed by General Counsel, Lorna Wiggins Esq. and stated that they appeared to be in order and were ready for the Board's consideration. President Anaya questioned if the Board wishes to table this item due to lack of information.

After discussion, Trustee Alonzo moved to table the Consideration of Capital Credit Estate Retirements to next month's meeting; the motion was seconded by Trustee Latasa. The motion carried unanimously.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Trustee Latasa moved to go into Executive Session to discuss employment matters and strategic and long-range business plans; the motion was seconded by Trustee Dickey. The motion carried unanimously.

President Anaya called for an Executive Session.

The Board adjourned to Executive Session at 3:57 p.m.

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REGULAR SESSION

Trustee Alonzo moved and was seconded by Trustee Dickey to return to the Regular Session at 6:51 p.m.

President Anaya stated that no action was taken during the Executive Session.

SET DATE/TIME FOR REGULAR MEETING

After discussion, Trustee Rosas moved to set the date and time of Committee Meetings for June 25, 2025, at 11 a.m. and the next regularly scheduled Board Meeting for June 25, 2025, at 1:00 p.m.; the motion was seconded by Trustee Dickey. The motion carried unanimously.

Clarification on Electing NMREC Board of Director and Alternate was acted upon after the Board set the upcoming Committee Meetings and Regular Board Meeting.

Clarification on Electing NMREC Board of Director and Alternate

Trustee Latasa stated there was confusion when reviewing the last Board Meeting video and the minutes. For clarification purposes, Trustee Latasa recommends the Board vote on the Representative for the NMREC Board of Directors and Alternate.

Trustee Dickey moved to elect CEO Manuel Gonzales as the Representative of Board of Directors and Trustee Latasa as Alternate; the motion was seconded by Trustee Rosas. The motion carried unanimously.

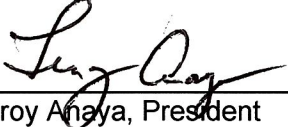
ADJOURNMENT

With no other items open for discussion, Trustee Alonzo moved to adjourn; the motion was seconded by Trustee Latasa. The motion carried unanimously.

President Anaya adjourned the meeting at 6:56 p.m.


Eileen Latasa, Secretary/Treasurer

APPROVED:


Leroy Anaya, President

I, Eileen Latasa, 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 April 20, 2024, and the Regular Meeting Continuation held on April 24, 2024. 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.


Eileen Latasa, Secretary/Treasurer