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

June 25, 2025

# **INDEX**

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees of The Socorro Electric Cooperative, Inc. (SEC) was held on Wednesday, June 25, 2025, at 310 Abeyta Ave, Socorro, New Mexico.

# **CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 1:00 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

Marilyn Madrid, Member Services Supervisor

Jimmy Capps, Director of Communications and Public Affairs

Adriana Arellano, Chief Human Resources Officer Jeffrey Sousa, Interim Director of Engineering

SEC MEMBERS PRESENT: Iliana Perez, Josefina Perez

GUESTS:

none

## **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

June 25, 2025

President Anaya asked for a motion to accept the Agenda as presented.

Trustee Rosas moved to approve the Agenda as presented; the motion was seconded by Trustee Dickey. The motion carried unanimously.

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

#### MAY 28, 2025 - REGULAR MEETING

Trustee Rosas made a motion to approve the Minutes from the Regular Meeting of May 28, 2025, as presented; the motion was seconded by Trustee Alonzo. The motion carried unanimously.

President Anaya approved the Minutes from May 28, 2025, as presented.

#### **MEMBER COMMENTS**

President Anaya welcomed and introduced Iliana Perez to the Board of Trustees and SEC Staff. While attending the Youth Tour 2025 in Washinton, D.C., Ms. Perez was elected amongst 40 other New Mexico students to represent the state of New Mexico on the Youth Leadership Council. Ms. Perez is the first SEC student to be selected as a representative on a national level.

Ms. Perez shared her experience in Washington, D.C. and her upcoming travel. She also shared her obligations she must complete during her term of 2025-2026.

President Anaya and CEO Gonzales expressed how proud they were of her accomplishment, and she has SEC's full support.

CEO Gonzales also thanked Jimmy Capps for the work that he does so that students like Ms. Perez have opportunities like this.

President Anaya thanked Ms. Perez for sharing her experience and information.

# **CEO'S REPORT**

CEO Gonzales gave an overview of his monthly activities and meetings. Beginning with the meeting with the Navajo Tribe Utility Authority (NTUA) regarding ARPA/DCA funding that is available for Alamo residents for new line extensions.

CEO Gonzales highlighted moments like Ms. Perez being elected as the Youth Leadership Council Representative for New Mexico goes to show the relationships SEC is building with government officials.

CEO Gonzales also provided the check register to the Board of Trustees and proceeded to answer questions posed by the Trustees.

President Anaya thanked CEO Gonzales for the CEO's Report and check register for June 2025.

# **FINANCIAL REPORT**

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

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

Ms. Montoya presented the Accounting Department Report and shared that she also participated in the ARPA meeting by coordinating with NTUA to obtain information for SEC members from the Alamo Navajo Reservation to take advantage of the available funding for new line extensions. Ms. Montoya also informed the Board of Trustees that the Wells Fargo Bank account was successfully updated with new authorized signers.

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

## OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE REPORT

Mr. Otero reported that NASS (Northern American Substation Services) was contracted to inspect and repair the Burris Substation transformer. In an earlier report, Mr. Otero stated Tri-

June 25, 2025

State found high internal temperatures in the transformer which caused gas in the oil and that was determined by oil samples obtained.

Mr. Otero shared with the Trustees that the line crew attended a transformer training course in Elephant Butte, NM conducted by Tri-State Generation and Transmission. The crews continue to take advantage of training opportunities.

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

President Anaya was informed the Safety Compliance Report agenda item was overlooked and asked Mr. Montoya to present his report.

## SAFETY COMPLIANCE REPORT

Mr. Montoya presented the Safety Compliance Report for June 2025. Mr. Montoya reported there was an accident with one of the bucket trucks involving an antelope. There was minor damage to the vehicle and the driver was not injured. SEC was able to arrange first aid and CPR training for all new employees and those who have not taken the course to be certified. A fire drill was held on June 11, 2025, to address the newly remodeled cashier station.

Mr. Montoya brought in items that were involved in an arc flash incident which included a meter, face shield, gloves and FR clothing. Mr. Montoya proceeded to answer questions posed by the Trustees.

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

#### **MEMBER SERVICES REPORT**

Ms. Madrid reported that the Pledge system is in full operation. This 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.

Ms. Madrid shared with the Trustees the completion of the long-awaited remodeling of the cashier station which helps ensure the safety of the member service representatives. This also provides ergonomic comfort for the member service representatives and Ms. Madrid thanked CEO Gonzales, management and the contractors for hearing their concerns and who worked quickly to complete the project.

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

# COMMUNICATIONS AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS REPORT

Mr. Capps presented the Communications and Public Affairs Report for June 2025. Mr. Capps shared that SEC had received the results for the American Customer Satisfaction Survey (ACSI). SEC members received an email and were asked to provide feedback regarding SEC's customer service anonymously. Mr. Capps stated SEC staff celebrated the positives and made note of the things to improve on.

Mr. Capps informed the Trustees that SEC will be participating in the upcoming Socorro County and Catron County fairs as well as the Pie Festival in Pie Town, NM.

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

# **HUMAN RESOURCES REPORT**

Ms. Arellano presented the Human Resources Report and shared SEC is working on completing the process of being VA (Veteran Affairs) certified. This program will assist veterans, and their family members to receive appropriate representation on their VA benefit claims.

Ms. Arellano informed the Trustees that 11 applications were received for the lineman apprentice position and will be conducting tests for the candidates.

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

# ENGINEERING REPORT

June 25, 2025

Mr. Sousa presented the Engineering Report for June 2025 and reported there was a total of 33 site visits, 15 estimates and 9 paid estimates for work requests ranging from new services to service upgrades. Mr. Sousa also provided an overview of his monthly activities like attending meetings and addressing member concerns.

President Anaya thanked Mr. Sousa for the Engineering Report for June 2025.

President Anaya called for a recess break at 2:17 p.m.

President Anaya resumed the Regular Meeting Agenda at 2:37 p.m.

## TRI-STATE REPORT

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

## **NMREC REPORT**

CEO Gonzales presented the NMREC activities report for June 2025.

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

#### PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President Anaya recapped the introduction of Ms. Perez as the New Mexico representative for NRECA's Youth Leadership Council.

President Anaya thanked SEC Staff and CEO Gonzales for the wonderful job they continue to do for SEC.

## STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT

Trustee Rosas reported on the Standing Committee Meeting held on June 25, 2025. Trustee Rosas informed the Board of Trustees that Board Policy #114 "Board of Trustees-General Manager Interrelationships" will be brought with the recommended changes to the full Board of Trustees for approval.

Trustee Rosas also stated Board Policy 116 Trustee Fees and Expenses will be further reviewed.

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

# FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

Trustee Latasa reported on the Finance Committee Meeting held on June 25, 2025. Trustee Latasa stated the committee did a short review of Board Policy 116 Trustee Fees and Expenses. Trustee Latasa also reported that the Finance Committee also approved requests for trustee and attorney invoices.

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

# **ETHICS COMMITTEE**

President Anaya reported on the Ethics Committee Meeting held on June 25, 2025. President Anaya stated the committee reviewed and discussed Board Policy 126 "Whistleblower Protection" and Board Policy 224 "Whistleblower Policy". The policies will be brought back to the Ethics Committee for further review.

# **OLD BUSINESS**

# Consideration of Capital Credit Estate Retirements

CEO Gonzales presented the recommended Capital Credit Estate Retirements from the May 2025 Regular Board Meeting which was previously reviewed by General Counsel Lorna Wiggins, Esq. and the requested information of the individual members has been provided.

#### **ESTATE RETIREMENTS:**

Page **4** of **7** 

	Operating	Plains	Investment in Associated	Cushion of Credit & Other			Unpaid		Total without
	Margins	G&T	<b>Organizations</b>	Non-Ops	Tri-State	Gains	<b>Balance</b>	Total	Tri-State
May-25-A	\$236.73	\$8.03	\$5.92	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$250.68	\$250.68
May-25-B	\$35.02	\$0.00	\$14.03	\$13.84	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$62.89	\$62.89
May-25-C	\$167.77	\$2.05	\$12.41	\$9.49	\$0.00	\$10.06	\$0.00	\$201.78	\$201.78

#### JOINT ACCOUNT ESTATE RETIREMENTS:

	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	
N/A	-			-	-	_	-		=	-

Trustee Latasa moved to approve the Retirement of Patronage Capital as presented, without any Tri-State allocations to the accounts mentioned above; the motion was seconded by Trustee Rosas. The motion carried unanimously.

# **NEW BUSINESS**

## Consideration of Capital Credit Estate Retirements

CEO Gonzales presented the Patronage Estate Capital Retirement request for June 2025. 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.

#### **ESTATE RETIREMENTS:**

	Operating Margins	Plains G&T	Investment in Associated Organizations	of Credit & Other Non-Ops	Tri-State	Gains	Unpaid Balance	Total	Total without Tri-State
June-25-A	\$314.16	\$5.45	\$31.11	\$24.84	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$375.56	\$375.56

# JOINT ACCOUNT ESTATE RETIREMENTS:

	Operating Margins	Plains G&T	Investment in Associated Organizations	of Credit & Other Non-Ops	Tri-State	Gains	Unpaid Balance	Total	Total without Tri-State
N/A	-			-	9-1	-	-		

After discussion, Trustee Latasa moved to approve the Retirement of Patronage Capital as presented without any Tri-State allocations to the accounts mentioned above; the motion was seconded by Trustee Rosas. The motion carried unanimously.

# Consideration of Line Extension(s):

Mr. Capps reported a line extension contract for Celia Navarette for \$11,494.52 was being presented to the Board for approval. Mr. Capps recommended that the Board approve the contract for Ms. Navarrate.

After discussion, Trustee Latasa moved to approve the contract for Celia Navarette for \$11,494.52; motion was seconded by Trustee Dickey. Motion carried unanimously.

# Consideration of Trustee Travel

Trustee Latasa, Alonzo, Rosas, and Anaya requested for Board approval to attend the NMRECA Summer School for Directors in Albuquerque, NM on August 12-13, 2025.

Trustee Latasa, Alonzo, and Anaya requested for Board approval to attend the NRECA Region 10 Meeting in Round Rock, TX on October 27-29, 2025.

June 25, 2025

Trustee Dickey moved to approve Trustee Latasa to attend the NMRECA Summer School for Directors in Albuquerque, NM on August 12-13, 2025, and NRECA Region 10 Meeting in Round Rock, TX on October 27-29, 2025; the motion was seconded by Trustee Alonzo. The motion carried unanimously.

Trustee Latasa moved to approve Trustee Alonzo to attend the NMRECA Summer School for Directors in Albuquerque, NM on August 12-13, 2025, and NRECA Region 10 Meeting in Round Rock, TX on October 27-29, 2025; the motion was seconded by Trustee Dickey. The motion carried unanimously.

Trustee Alonzo moved to approve Trustee Rosas to attend the NMRECA Summer School for Directors in Albuquerque, NM on August 12-13, 2025; the motion was seconded by Trustee Wade. The motion carried unanimously.

Trustee Alonzo moved to approve Trustee Anaya to attend the NMRECA Summer School for Directors in Albuquerque, NM on August 12-13, 2025, and NRECA Region 10 Meeting in Round Rock, TX on October 27-29, 2025; the motion was seconded by Trustee Rosas. The motion carried unanimously.

CEO Gonzales informed the Board that the remaining New Business Agenda items were to be discussed during Executive Session as it pertains to one of the following: individual employment matters, potential litigation and/or strategic and long-range business plans.

## **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Trustee Alonzo 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 3:00 p.m.

#### **REGULAR SESSION**

Trustee Alonzo moved and was seconded by Trustee Dickey to return to the Regular Session at 5:19 p.m.

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

## SEC Property

Trustee Dickey made a motion to table the SEC Property agenda item until more information is provided; the motion was seconded by Trustee Wade. The motion carried unanimously.

#### **SEC PRC Matter Stance**

Trustee Dickey made a motion to accept the statement as written regarding SEC's stance on the NM PRC matter; the motion was seconded by Trustee Rosas. Motion carried unanimously.

# **CEO Contract**

President Anaya stated the discussion will be brought back to the Board regarding the CEO Contract.

# Electric Safety Demo Trailer

President Anaya asked for input from the Board regarding the purchase of the Electric Safety Demo Trailer.

After discussion, to assist with the cost SEC will auction other vehicles for the Demo Trailer. Trustee Rosas moved to approve the purchase of the Electric Safety Demo Trailer for the purpose of safety demonstration; the motion was seconded by Trustee Latasa. The motion carried.

# **SET DATE/TIME FOR REGULAR MEETING**

After discussion, Trustee Alonzo moved to set the date and time of Committee Meetings for July 23, 2025, at 10 a.m. and the next regularly scheduled Board Meeting for July 23, 2025, at 1:00 p.m.; the motion was seconded by Trustee Rosas. The motion carried unanimously.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

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

President Anaya adjourned the meeting at 5:25 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 June 25, 2025. 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