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

July 23, 2025

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The Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees of The Socorro Electric Cooperative, Inc. (SEC) was held on Wednesday, July 23, 2025, at 310 Abeyta Ave, Socorro, New Mexico.

# **CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 3:00 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 Jason Otero, Chief Operations Officer

Marilyn Madrid, Member Services Supervisor

Jimmy Capps, Director of Communications and Public Affairs

Jeffrey Sousa, Interim Director of Engineering

SEC MEMBERS PRESENT: none

**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**

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

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

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

# JUNE 25, 2025 - REGULAR MEETING

Trustee Rosas made a motion to approve the Minutes from the Regular Meeting of June 25, 2025, as presented; the motion was seconded by Trustee Dickey. The motion carried unanimously.

President Anaya approved the Minutes from June 25, 2025, as presented.

#### **MEMBER COMMENTS**

There were no comments brought forth by SEC members.

#### **CEO'S REPORT**

CEO Gonzales gave an overview of his monthly activities and meetings, which included the NM PRC meetings and SEC purchasing a safety trailer that educates the public on procedures and precautions the crews utilize during an outage or maintenance. CEO Gonzales also shared that SEC employees contributed to a local school supply drive by giving a monetary donation of \$500.00 and highlighted for their contributions during the construction process of the new middle school. A special mention was made about Mr. Sousa from the school staff and contractors for his professionalism and coordination to keep the construction on track.

President Anaya thanked CEO Gonzales for his monthly report for July 2025.

CEO Gonzales also provided the check register to the Board of Trustees.

President Anaya thanked CEO Gonzales for the check register for July 2025.

#### SAFETY COMPLIANCE REPORT

Mr. Otero presented the Safety Compliance Report on behalf of Mr. Montoya.

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

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

Mr. Otero presented the Operations and Maintenance Report for July 2025. The report included a discovery of a low-voltage issue from the Burris and Bernardo substations and how it was resolved. Mr. Otero shared with the Trustees information on an outage that took place on June 30, 2025, in Socorro. A storm passed through and knocked over a pole which caused a large outage. Oil samples were sent to a company to determine whether the transformers contained PCB (polychlorinated biphenyls) which is hazardous and needs to be properly treated and cleaned. Mr. Otero proceeded to answer questions from the Trustees.

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

# **ENGINEERING REPORT**

Mr. Sousa presented the Engineering Report for July 2025 and thanked Mr. Otero, COO and the line crew for their assistance with the construction of the new middle school.

Mr. Sousa also reported that SEC has been working with SGS on updating Spill Prevention, Control and Countermeasure (SPCC) plans for all substations. Mr. Sousa provided an update on the ARPA/DCA funding available for Navajo Nation tribal members who request to install a new electric service. There was a total of 32 site visits completed, 15 estimates sent out and 8 invoices were paid. The grant funding obtained by GIS Technician, Angelica Trujillo, allows SEC to hire a consultant to provide us with a wildfire mitigation plan. The engineering team has met with the line crew and accounting team to review and process true-ups for work orders that have been completed.

A question was posed by Trustee Moore regarding the joint-use agreement for a broadband project. Mr. Sousa informed the Board that Resound Network will be installing and attaching broadband fiber to SEC structures throughout Belen to Veguita. SEC is working on finalizing a

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joint-use agreement as well as make-ready costs for poles that are not rated for the additional attachment.

Mr. Sousa informed the Board that the SEC is also actively working to obtain funding and information to install a generator for the cell tower which loses service during outages that affect members living in Alamo, NM.

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

# **FINANCIAL REPORT**

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

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

Ms. Montoya presented the Accounting Department Report and went over some activities that happened in the month of July. SEC partnered with the City of Socorro to sponsor an inaugural golf tournament in Socorro, NM which helped raise funds for the Community Alliance Fund. Ms. Montoya reported that the tree trimming contract was evaluated and SEC made the decision to end the contract with Windy Tree LLC and will be hiring for a tree trimming/fiber technician. All accounting personnel attended the safety trailer demonstration and Ms. Montoya shared Accounts Payable Clerk, Carol Dotson's personal goal of making hats that she will donate to local hospitals, Toys for Tots and other charities.

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

# **HUMAN RESOURCES REPORT**

CEO Gonzales presented the Human Resources Report on behalf of Ms. Arellano.

President Anaya thanked CEO Gonzales for the Human Resources Report for July 2025.

#### **MEMBER SERVICES REPORT**

Ms. Madrid presented the Member Services Report for July 2025. A support ticket was submitted to add the collection automated non-pay disconnect software feature and expect to have the feature added and operational by the next board meeting. Ms. Madrid gave an overview of the Delinquent Report and totals. A question was asked by Trustee Dickey about the medical certificates to which Ms. Madrid provided information and explained the balance. Ms. Madrid shared that the member service representatives participated in the safety trailer demonstration and felt educated about downed power lines.

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

#### COMMUNICATIONS AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS REPORT

Mr. Capps presented the Communications and Public Affairs Report for July 2025. Mr. Capps stated there will be a calendar for offering safety training utilizing the new "SEC Safety Training Trailer" to public events and the July Co-op Corner newsletter included monsoon safety tips and information on NM 811 for safe digging. Mr. Capps reported that Youth Leadership Council (YLC) representative, Iliana Perez, was in Washington, D.C. to attend the "YLC Basecamp" and social media metrics for June 2025 showed an increase in engagement by 17%. Mr. Capps shared SEC continues to receive grade reports from Spring 2025 for scholarship recipients as they prepare to enroll for Fall 2025 courses. Mr. Capps participated in "SEC Fairway Fundraiser" and reported there were 84 players and over \$4,000 was raised for the Community Alliance Fund. Mr. Capps also shared the local school supply drive which SEC participated in.

A suggestion was made by Trustee Latasa to have Ms. Perez promote her Youth Tour experience at each high school in SEC's service area.

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

# TRI-STATE REPORT

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

## **NMREC REPORT**

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CEO Gonzales presented the NMREC activities report for July 2025 and shared the NMRECA Annual Meeting will be held on May 26-29, 2026, at the Isleta Resort and Casino in Albuquerque, NM.

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

## PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President Anaya extended his condolences to Trustee Latasa and Trustee Alonzo on the loss of their relatives. President Anaya shared his appreciate to all the Trustees who attended and completed their Credentialed Cooperative Director Certificate at the NRECA Summer School in Colorado Springs, CO.

# STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT

Trustee Rosas reported on the Standing Committee Meeting held on July 23, 2025. Trustee Rosas informed the Board of Trustees that Board Policy #515 "Foundation Awards" was reviewed and will be adding vocational and trades to be included under this policy.

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

## FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

Trustee Latasa reported on the Finance Committee Meeting held on July 23, 2025. Trustee Latasa stated the committee approved requests for trustee and CEO Gonzales's expense report.

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

# **OLD BUSINESS**

## **SEC Property**

CEO Gonzales informed the Board of Trustees that this item will be discussed in Executive Session.

# **NEW BUSINESS**

# Consideration of Capital Credit Estate Retirements

CEO Gonzales presented the Patronage Estate Capital Retirement request for July 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	Cushion of Credit		Gains	Unpaid Balance	Total	Total without Tri-State
				& Other					
					Tri-State				
July-25-A	\$308.37	\$5.57	\$23.58	\$14.96	\$0.00	\$76.83	\$0.00	\$429.31	\$429.31

# 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	-			-	-	-	-		- '-

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):

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Mr. Capps reported a line extension contract for Adrian Melero-Contreras for \$10,167.46 was being presented to the Board for approval. Mr. Capps recommended that the Board approve the contract for Mr. Melero-Contreras.

After discussion, Trustee Latasa moved to approve the contract for Adrian Melero-Contreras for \$10,167.46; motion was seconded by Trustee Dickey. Motion carried unanimously.

#### Consideration of Trustee Travel

No travel requests were brought forward.

Board Policy #114 "Board of Trustees-Chief Executive Officer Interrelationships"

CEO Gonzales reported that Board Policy #114 "Board of Trustees-Chief Executive Officer Interrelationships" was reviewed by the Standing Committee and General Counsel and now is being brought to the full Board for consideration of approval with changes.

Trustee Rosas moved to approve Board Policy #114 "Board of Trustees-Chief Executive Officer Interrelationships" with changes; Trustee Alonzo seconded the motion. Motion carried.

# **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

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

President Anaya called for an Executive Session.

The Board adjourned to Executive Session at 4:14 p.m.

\*Trustee Rosas excused himself at 5:30 p.m. during Executive Session and did not return to the meeting.

# **REGULAR SESSION**

Trustee Alonzo moved and was seconded by Trustee Dickey to return to the Regular Session at 5:58 p.m.

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

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

After discussion, Trustee Latasa moved to set the date and time of Committee Meetings for August 26, 2025, beginning at 10 a.m. and the next regularly scheduled Board Meeting for August 26, 2025, at 2:00 p.m.; the motion was seconded by Trustee Moore. The motion carried unanimously.

Trustee Moore requested for Board approval to attend the Region 8 and 10 Meeting in Round Rock, TX on October 27-29, 2025.

Trustee Dickey moved to approve Trustee Moore to attend the Region 8 and 10 Meeting in Round Rock, TX on October 27-29, 2025; seconded by Trustee Latasa. Motion carried.

# **ADJOURNMENT**

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

President Anaya adjourned the meeting at 6:02 p.m.

Eileen Latasa, Secretary/Tréasurer

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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 July 23, 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