

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

October 22, 2025

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The Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees of The Socorro Electric Cooperative, Inc. (SEC) was held on Wednesday, October 22, 2025, at 310 Abeyta Ave, Socorro, New Mexico.

QUORUM

President Anaya asked Secretary Latasa to conduct Roll Call to determine a Quorum of Trustees present.

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 (virtual attendance)
Representative, District 5

ALSO PRESENT:

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

SEC MEMBERS PRESENT: none

GUESTS:

Lonnie Tucker, Tri-State G&T Member Relations Manager
Daniel Bruning, EleCo Solutions, LLC

CALL TO ORDER

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

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.

After discussion regarding the confidentiality of including items on the agenda that will be discussed during Executive Session, a motion was made by Trustee Rosas to approve the Agenda as presented; Trustee Alonzo seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously. President Anaya approved the Agenda as presented.

CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

SEPTEMBER 24, 2025 – REGULAR MEETING

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Trustee Alonzo made a motion to approve the Minutes from the Regular Meeting of September 24, 2025, as presented; Trustee Moore seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously. President Anaya approved the Minutes from September 24, 2025, as presented.

MEMBER COMMENTS

There were no members in attendance.

PRESIDENT'S REQUEST FOR EXECUTIVE SESSION

President Anaya stated a presentation will be made to the full Board and asked if there were any objections to go into Executive Session.

There were no objections, President Anaya called for Executive Session at 2:08 p.m.

President Anaya asked for a motion to come out of Executive Session.

Trustee Alonzo moved and was seconded by Trustee Moore to return to the Regular Session at 2:54 p.m. Motion carried.

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

CEO'S REPORT

CEO Gonzales presented the CEO Report for October 2025 and praised Socorro Electric Cooperative's senior staff for their exceptional work and dedication to which he highlighted key achievements, including Mr. Montoya's safety audit preparation, Mr. Capps's community outreach, Mr. Otero's transformer installation at Burris Substation, and Mr. Sousa's contributions before his departure. CEO Gonzales emphasized the team's commitment to maintaining service reliability, working long hours, and supporting members through challenging operational tasks, demonstrating the cooperative's strong work ethic and operational capabilities.

President Anaya thanked CEO Gonzales for the CEO Report for October 2025.

SAFETY COMPLIANCE REPORT

Mr. Montoya presented the Safety Compliance Report for October 2025. Mr. Montoya reported zero employee accidents, with one minor incident. Mr. Montoya noted that the crew completed annual bucket truck rescue certification and aerial device operations training. Mr. Montoya presented a technical demonstration of a primary underground wire fault, emphasizing the challenges of identifying and resolving electrical line issues. Mr. Montoya informed the Board about the upcoming safety audit by Federated Insurance, and he is preparing to accompany the inspector to review equipment, buildings, and trucks.

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

OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE REPORT

Mr. Otero presented the Operations and Maintenance Report for October 2025. Mr. Otero discussed the replacement of a transformer at the Burris Substation, which involved careful inspection and testing to ensure safe energization. Mr. Otero stated fiber technician/tree trimmer, Manuel Lucero, has been working with lineman apprentice, Zach Ortega and Mr. Montoya to close out service orders and will now focus on high fire risk areas. During a recent outage at Tech Hill, the crew faced challenges and had to roll out approximately 1,500 feet of primary wire in conduit to restore power.

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

Mr. Otero presented the Metering Report for October 2025. Mr. Otero highlighted the work of System Technician, Brooks Clifton, and Meter Apprentice, Levi Bustamante, in the meter department. Mr. Otero stated both employees conducted energy audits to assist members with high usage bills, including a visit to Napa Auto Parts where they used amperage readings to identify the source of high-power consumption. Mr. Otero explained how they determined that AC units were causing the increased power usage during high-temperature days. Additionally, Mr. Clifton and Mr. Bustamante supported Mr. Capps at the Socorro High School career fair demonstrating the department's commitment to community engagement and education.

President Anaya thanked Mr. Otero for the Metering Report for October 2025.

ENGINEERING REPORT

Mr. Sousa presented the Engineering Report for October 2025. Mr. Sousa informed the Board that SEC changed its policy to allow yard lights to be placed on meter poles again and the warehouse began stocking HPS bulbs to repair older lights. Mr. Sousa stated SEC submitted and received a rebate from Tri-State for \$56,794.79 for LED light upgrades. Mr. Sousa further stated this achievement highlighted the great teamwork across multiple departments

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demonstrating the cooperative's collaborative approach to energy efficiency and cost management.

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

FINANCIAL REPORT

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

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

Ms. Montoya presented the Accounting Department Report for October 2025. Ms. Montoya reported the accounting department will be identifying fraudulent activity on fuel cards and working with the credit card company to refund unauthorized charges. Ms. Montoya informed the Board that the 2026 budget presentation will be at the November board meeting.

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

HUMAN RESOURCES REPORT

Ms. Arellano presented the Human Resources Report for October 2025. Ms. Arellano announced the hiring of Reigh Romero for the collections clerk position, pending employment screening, and upcoming interviews for apprentice lineman. Ms. Arellano shared that her primary focus has been on employee insurance management and preparing for the upcoming enrollment period. Ms. Arellano highlighted Billing Clerk, Valentina Vargas, has been cross-training in the AMI (automated metering infrastructure) system to improve meter troubleshooting capabilities.

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

MEMBER SERVICES REPORT

Ms. Arellano presented the Member Services Report for October 2025 on behalf of Ms. Madrid. Ms. Arellano reported that in 2025, SEC's partnership with Tri-State to promote energy efficiency and rebate programs provided \$32,486.28 in rebates to members for qualifying products such as electric outdoor power equipment. Ms. Arellano stated the cooperative presented a \$20,000 check to the City of Socorro for LED light installation at the city park and a \$1,563.25 check to Magdalena for LED lighting at the rodeo grounds.

President Anaya thanked Ms. Arellano for the Member Services Report for October 2025.

COMMUNICATIONS AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS REPORT

Mr. Capps presented the Communications Report for October 2025. Mr. Capps highlighted his efforts to engage with high school counselors about upcoming scholarships and Youth Tour. Mr. Capps distributed calendars to the post offices and outlying businesses within SEC territory. Mr. Capps reported the social media metrics showed significant improvement, with engagements increasing almost 200%. Mr. Capps praised the line crew's efforts, particularly highlighting a "hard hat award" given to a member who helped identify an outage affecting 474 people. Mr. Capps shared that Team SEC conducted safety trailer demonstrations at Midway School, presenting to different grade levels and receiving positive feedback. Additionally, Mr. Capps promoted career paths at Socorro High School's career fair with fellow SEC employees.

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

President Anaya called for a recess break at 3:41 p.m.

President Anaya resumed the Regular Meeting Agenda at 3:54 p.m.

TRI-STATE REPORT

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

Mr. Lonnie Tucker, Tri-State G&T Member Relations Manager, emphasized the teamwork from SEC on successfully securing a rebate for street light replacements by working closely with Tri-State. Despite a typical \$20,000 project cap, they received full approval due to being a cooperative member. Mr. Tucker stated this achievement highlights the improving relationship between the City of Socorro and the cooperative, demonstrating their commitment to community development and energy efficiency during Co-op month.

President Anaya thanked Mr. Tucker for his assistance on securing the rebate.

NMREC REPORT

CEO Gonzales presented the NMREC activities report for October 2025.

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

PRESIDENT’S REPORT

President Anaya emphasized the importance of attending the NRECA Region 8 and 10 meeting later this morning and the Tri-State Regional Meeting in November 2025. President Anaya highlighted the need for Socorro Electric Cooperative to be actively involved, stressing the value of networking, sharing information, and staying visible in the cooperative community.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT

Trustee Rosas reported the Standing Committee met on October 22, 2025, and discussed Board Policy 515 “Foundation Awards.” Trustee Rosas stated the committee also reviewed the regular board meeting agenda template, noting that the current three-day posting requirement does not align with the cooperative’s bylaws, which specify a 24-hour notice period.

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

FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

Trustee Latasa reported the Finance Committee met on October 22, 2025, and reviewed the check register and credit card statements for September 2025. Trustee Latasa stated the committee also reviewed the CEO’s monthly expenses, general counsel expenses, and outside counsel expenses. Trustee Latasa further reported the committee also approved trustee expenses for September and October for those who submitted reimbursement requests.

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

NEW BUSINESS

Consideration of Capital Credit Estate Retirements

CEO Gonzales presented the Patronage Estate Capital Retirement request. All requests were reviewed by General Counsel, Lorna Wiggins Esq. and stated that they were in order and ready for the Board’s consideration.

ESTATE RETIREMENTS:

	Operating Margins	Plains G&T	Investment in Assoc. Orgs.	Cushion of Credit & Other Non-Ops	Tri-State	Gains	Unpaid Balance	Total	Total without Tri- State
Oct-25-A	\$299.91	\$4.53	\$24.71	\$18.62	\$0.00	\$128.06	\$0.00	\$347.77	\$347.77
Oct-25-B	\$752.77	\$16.68	\$49.83	\$35.32	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$854.60	\$854.60

JOINT ACCOUNT ESTATE RETIREMENTS:

	Operating Margins	Plains G&T	Investment in Assoc. Orgs.	Cushion of Credit & Other Non-Ops	Tri-State	Gains	Unpaid Balance	Total	Total without Tri-State
Oct-25-A	\$312.94	\$3.60	\$26.63	\$19.30	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$(300.57)	\$61.89	\$61.89

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

Consideration of Line Extension(s):

There were no Line Extensions for the Board’s consideration.

Consideration of Trustee Travel

Trustee Latasa requested Board approval to attend the 2026 NRECA Directors Conference in Palm Springs, CA on January 25-28, 2026.

Trustee Rosas moved to approve Trustee Latasa’s request to attend the 2026 NRECA Directors Conference in Palm Springs, CA on January 25-28, 2026; seconded by Trustee Moore. Motion carried.

Trustee Rosas, Anaya, Wade, Latasa, and Alonzo requested Board approval to attend the NMREC Winter Director’s School held on December 12, 2025, in Albuquerque, NM.

Trustee Alonzo moved to approve Trustee Rosas, Anaya, Wade, Latasa, and Alonzo’s request to attend the NMREC Winter Director’s School held on December 12, 2025, in Albuquerque, NM; seconded by Trustee Moore. Motion carried.

Consideration of Amendment – NRECA 401(k) Pension Plan

CEO Gonzales and Ms. Arellano explained the proposed changes of the NRECA 401(k) pension plan amendment to add a quasi-retirement option. CEO Gonzales stated the amendment would allow employees who are 59.5 years or older to draw from their 401(k) with more flexibility, potentially encouraging long-term employees to stay with the cooperative.

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Trustee Rosas moved to approve the Amendment of the NRECA 401(k) Pension Plan to add the quasi-retirement option; seconded by Trustee Latasa. Motion carried.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

President Anaya asked for a motion to go into 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 Alonzo. Motion carried.

President Anaya called for an Executive Session at 4:21 p.m.

REGULAR SESSION

President Anaya asked for a motion to come out of Executive Session.

Trustee Alonzo moved and was seconded by Trustee Rosas to return to the Regular Session at 5:47 p.m. Motion carried.

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 the next committee and regular board meetings for November 24, 2025, beginning at 12 p.m. with Standing Committee, with Finance Committee to follow, and the Regular Board Meeting at 2:00 p.m.; the motion was seconded by Trustee Latasa. The motion carried unanimously.

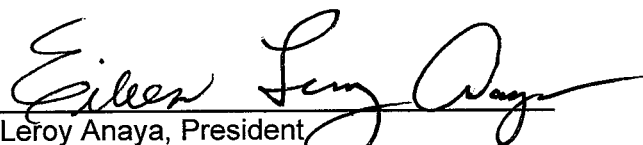
ADJOURNMENT

With no other items open for discussion, Trustee Rosas motioned to adjourn the meeting; seconded by Trustee Wade. The motion carried unanimously.

President Anaya adjourned the meeting at 5:50 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 October 22, 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