

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

November 24, 2020

INDEX

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees of The Socorro Electric Cooperative, Inc. (SEC), held on Tuesday, November 24, 2020, at 310 Abeyta Ave, Socorro, New Mexico.

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 2:00 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

 James Nelson, Trustee (via teleconference)
 Representative, District 2

 Donald Wolberg, Trustee (via teleconference) *
 Representative, District 3

 Michael Hawkes, Trustee (via teleconference)
 Representative, District 4

TRUSTEES ABSENT: Leroy Anaya, Trustee
 Representative, District 3

ALSO, PRESENT: Joseph Herrera, General Manager
 Donna Wilkins, Administrative Assistant
 Steve Dettmer, Line Superintendent (via teleconference)
 Marilyn Madrid, Member Services Supervisor (via teleconference)
 Jimmy Capps, Director of Communications and Public Affairs (via
 teleconference)

SEC MEMBERS PRESENT: None; due to Governor Lujan-Grisham's executive order restricting all groups to no more than five (5) individuals.

QUORUM

Secretary Bustamante declared a Quorum of Trustees present.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Manager Herrera led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance.

CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Trustee Aguilar made a motion to approve the Agenda as presented; motion seconded by Trustee Hawkes.

President Dorough approved the Agenda as presented.

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CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL PREVIOUS MINUTES

Trustee Wolberg made a motion to approve the minutes from October 28, 2020, as presented; motion seconded by Trustee Bustamante.

President Dorough approved the minutes from October 28, 2020, as presented.

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 \$733,192.75 for October 2020 and answered questions posed by the Trustees.

President Dorough thanked Manager Herrera for the Expenditure Report for October 2020.

Manager Herrera reported on the Visa credit card expenditures, complete with supporting receipts, made available to the Board of Trustees for October 2020.

President Dorough thanked Manager Herrera for the credit card report for October 2020.

Manager Herrera carefully reviewed in detail the RUS Form 7 Report for October 2020.

President Dorough thanked Manager Herrera for the RUS Form 7 Report.

Manager Herrera provided the Engineering Report stating that T&D Services is working on the SEC's four-year Work Plan projects. Manager Herrera reported these projects consist of the Magdalena Substation redesign, Magdalena to Socorro 69kV line, and fiber extending from the Socorro Substation to the Burris and Bernardo Substations. Manager Herrera stated that SEC continues to do site visits with members, with 44 site visits completed for October 2020.

President Dorough thanked Manager Herrera for the Engineering Report for October 2020.

Manager Herrera provided an update regarding the COVID-19 procedures that were taken after SEC received notice that it had two employees who tested positive for COVID. Manager Herrera reported that SEC has received high praises from the New Mexico Rapid Response team for the COVID-19 protocols in place, including the daily screening that each employee is completing. Manager Herrera stated that a few employees had reported leaving New Mexico and were completing 14-day self-quarantines as required by the travel restrictions in place by Governor Lujan-Grisham.

Trustee Hawkes complimented Manager Herrera on a job well done regarding the COVID-19 procedures in place.

President Dorough thanked Manager Herrera for the COVID-19 Update for October 2020.

Manager Herrera concluded by reporting that SEC received numerous 4-H thank you cards and proceeded to answer questions posed by the Trustees.

President Dorough thanked Manager Herrera for the Manager's Report for October 2020.

SAFETY COMPLIANCE REPORT

Manager Herrera reported no report was available for October as David Montoya was not available due to self-quarantine for leaving New Mexico. Manager Herrera reported that Mr. Montoya would be presenting two (2) months reports at the next Board meeting.

OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE REPORT

Manager Herrera reported that Mr. Dettmer had lost connection and was in the process of getting reconnected. Manager Herrera requested that the Board proceed to the next agenda item until Mr. Dettmer could get reconnected.

MEMBER SERVICES REPORTS

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ENERGY DELINQUENT REPORT

Ms. Madrid presented the Energy Delinquent Report for October 2020.

NM PRC MEMBER CONCERNS

Ms. Madrid reported that SEC had no Member complaints filed with the NM PRC in October 2020.

President Dorough thanked Ms. Madrid for the Member Services Report for October 2020.

OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE REPORT

CONSTRUCTION/MAINTENANCE REPORT

Mr. Dettmer reported that the October activities crews completed 30 work orders, closed 31 work orders, and completed 54 service orders with most of the service orders for security lights. Mr. Dettmer reported that crews also trimmed 623 trees.

OUTAGE REPORTS

Mr. Dettmer reviewed several major outages that either affected over 100 members or those for which the outage time was lengthy.

President Dorough thanked Mr. Dettmer for the Operations and Maintenance Report for October 2020.

COMMUNICATIONS AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS REPORT

Mr. Capps reviewed the October Communications and Public Affairs Report and proceeded to answer questions posed by the Trustees.

President Dorough thanked Mr. Capps for the Communications and Public Affairs Report for October 2020.

TRI-STATE REPORT

Manager Herrera reported that Tri-State had requested support letters from its members to provide supportive comments and intervene with FERC for their filing of an "Open Season" option for partial requirement contracts with its members. Manager Herrera answered questions posed by the Trustees.

NMRECA & MRGEDA REPORT

President Dorough stated that Trustee Wolberg was having technical difficulties connecting and would return to this agenda item when he reconnected.

* Trustee Wolberg lost connection at the beginning of this agenda item at 2:44 p.m.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President Dorough reported Committee meetings would be rearranged for December, with the Standing Committee postponing until January 2021, the Finance Committee meeting after the December Board Meeting, and the Ethics Committee will still need to meet in December. President Dorough stated that Ethics Committee would meet to determine if the Board of Trustees is in compliance with Board Policy 108 – Standards of Conduct, Board Policy 109 – Conflicts of Interest, Board Policy 110 – Ethics and Conflicts of Interest in Relationships with Vendors and Board Policy 111 – Ethics and Conflicts of Interest in Outside Business & Related Activities.

FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

Trustee Aguilar reported on the Finance Committee Meeting held on November 18, 2020, with recommendations to the full Board of Trustees.

President Dorough thanked Trustee Aguilar for the Finance Committee Reports.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT

Trustee Hawkes made a motion to postpone the Standing Committee report until the December Board Meeting; motion seconded by Trustee Wolberg. Motion carried unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

Board Policy 109 – Conflicts of Interest

Manager Herrera reported that the Standing Committee reviewed Board Policy 109 – Conflicts of Interest and the Committee recommended that the Board approve Board Policy 109 – Conflicts of Interest as reviewed.

Trustee Bustamante made a motion to accept the Standing Committee's recommendation of Board Policy 109 – Conflicts of Interest as reviewed; motion seconded by Trustee Aguilar.

A roll call vote was conducted by President Dorough and is as follows:

Yes: Trustee Aguilar, Bustamante, Hawkes, and Nelson

No: None

Motion carried unanimously.

Board Policy 117 – Communications with Member-Owners

Manager Herrera reported that the Standing Committee reviewed Board Policy 117 – Communications with Member-Owners and the Committee recommended that the Board approve Board Policy 117 – Communications with Member-Owners as reviewed.

Trustee Aguilar made a motion to accept the Standing Committee's recommendation of Board Policy 117 – Communications with Member-Owners as reviewed; motion seconded by Trustee Bustamante.

A roll call vote was conducted by President Dorough and is as follows:

Yes: Trustee Aguilar, Bustamante, Hawkes, Nelson, and Wolberg

No: None

Motion carried unanimously.

* Trustee Wolberg returned to the meeting at the beginning of this agenda item at 2:53 p.m.

Board Policy 122 – Retention of Corporate Records

Manager Herrera reported that the Standing Committee reviewed Board Policy 122 – Retention of Corporate Records and the Committee recommended that the Board approve Board Policy 122 – Retention of Corporate Records with revisions.

Trustee Bustamante made a motion to accept the Standing Committee's recommendation revisions of Board Policy 122 – Retention of Corporate Records; motion seconded by Trustee Nelson.

A roll call vote was conducted by President Dorough and is as follows:

Yes: Trustee Aguilar, Bustamante, Hawkes, Nelson, and Wolberg

No: None

Motion carried unanimously.

Tri-State Special Meeting Voting & Alternate Delegate

Manager Herrera reported that Tri-State will be holding a Special Meeting regarding proposed By-Laws amendments in accordance with the partial requirements contract and has requested a Voting Delegate & Alternate designee from each member. Manager Herrera reported that Tri-State had requested the previous delegates nominated for Tri-State's Annual Meeting be retained. Manager Herrera stated previously, SEC designated Trustee Anaya as Voting Delegate and Trustee Bustamante as Alternate Delegate

Trustee Wolberg made a motion to retain Trustee Anaya as Tri-State Special Meeting Voting Delegate and Trustee Bustamante as Tri-State Special Meeting Alternate Delegate; motion seconded by Trustee Bustamante.

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A roll call vote was conducted by President Dorough and is as follows:

Yes: Trustee Aguilar, Bustamante, Hawkes, Nelson, and Wolberg

No: None

Motion carried unanimously.

Consideration of 2021 Truck Quotes

Manager Herrera reported that the Finance Committee reviewed quotes for two (2) 2021 Trucks, and the Committee recommended that the Board approve the purchase of two (2) 2021 Dodge Ram 2500 vehicles from Melloy Dodge.

After discussion, Trustee Hawkes made a motion to accept the Finance Committee's recommendation of purchasing two (2) 2021 Dodge Ram 2500 vehicles from Melloy Dodge; motion seconded by Trustee Aguilar.

A roll call vote was conducted by President Dorough and is as follows:

Yes: Trustee Aguilar, Bustamante, Hawkes, and Nelson

No: None

Motion carried unanimously.

* Trustee Wolberg lost connection during the discussion of this agenda item at 3:01 p.m.

Consideration of Pole Decay Inspection Quotes

Manager Herrera stated that the RUS guidelines require SEC to inspect 10% of our poles annually for decay. Manager Herrera reported the Finance Committee reviewed the quotes and the Committee recommended that the Board approve the quote from RAM Utilities.

Trustee Hawkes made a motion to accept the Finance Committee's recommendation of approving the RAM Utilities for the Pole Decay Inspection; motion seconded by Trustee Bustamante.

A roll call vote was conducted by President Dorough and is as follows:

Yes: Trustee Aguilar, Bustamante, Hawkes, Nelson, and Wolberg

No: None

Motion carried unanimously.

* Trustee Wolberg returned to the meeting during this agenda item at 3:03 p.m.

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:

	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-Nov-20-A	\$561.98	\$14.79	\$28.01	\$16.35	\$142.52	\$75.24	\$0.00	\$838.89	\$696.37
EM-Nov-20-B	\$557.92	\$14.24	\$40.74	\$29.07	\$166.68	\$32.33	\$0.00	\$840.98	\$674.30
EM-Nov-20-C	\$543.51	\$13.12	\$48.42	\$38.41	\$187.55	\$28.19	\$0.00	\$859.20	\$671.65

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
JM-Nov-20-A	\$309.60	\$6.62	\$29.89	\$24.11	\$116.67	\$26.94	\$0.00	\$513.83	\$397.16
JM-Nov-20-B	\$499.12	\$12.22	\$28.99	\$19.42	\$118.58	\$52.91	\$0.00	\$731.24	\$612.66
JM-Nov-20-C	\$344.01	\$5.77	\$29.63	\$21.96	\$145.42	\$22.74	(\$43.06)	\$526.47	\$381.05

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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 Hawkes.

A roll call vote was conducted by President Dorough and is as follows:

Yes: Trustee Aguilar, Bustamante, Hawkes, Nelson, and Wolberg

No: None

Motion carried unanimously.

Consideration of Line Extension Contracts

Manager Herrera reported a line extension contract for Danny Ulibarri in the amount of \$2,778.15 was being presented to the Board for approval. Manager Herrera recommended that the Board approve the contract for Mr. Ulibarri.

Trustee Bustamante made a motion to approve the contract for Danny Ulibarri in the amount of \$2,778.15; motion seconded by Trustee Hawkes.

A roll call vote was conducted by President Dorough and is as follows:

Yes: Trustee Aguilar, Bustamante, Hawkes, and Wolberg

No: None

Motion carried unanimously.

Consideration of Trustee Travel

Trustee Nelson, Wolberg, and President Dorough requested Board approval to attend the NRECA Winter School Online scheduled December 14-17, 2020.

Trustee Nelson, Wolberg, and President Dorough requested Board approval to attend the Tri-State Special Meeting scheduled for December 8, 2020.

Trustee Bustamante made a motion to approve Trustee Nelson, Wolberg, and President Dorough to attend the NRECA Winter School Online and the Tri-State Special Meeting; motion seconded by Trustee Hawkes.

A roll call vote was conducted by President Dorough and is as follows:

Yes: Trustee Aguilar, Bustamante, Hawkes, Nelson, and Wolberg

No: None

Motion carried unanimously.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

There were no items to discuss in Executive Session.

President Dorough reminded all Trustees that even though the Board Meetings are currently in a virtual environment, Executive Sessions are private, confidential, and all Trustees must make every effort to ensure that they have a private area to go into for Executive Sessions. President Dorough stated if a private area is not possible, the Trustee should recuse themselves or call into the meeting via phone, when a more private area is secured.

NMRECA REPORT

Trustee Wolberg gave the NMRECA report for November 2020.

President Dorough thanked Trustee Wolberg for the NMRECA Report.

MRGEDA REPORT

Trustee Wolberg reported on the MRGEDA activities for November 2020.

President Dorough thanked Trustee Wolberg for the MRGEDA Report.

SET DATE/TIME FOR REGULAR MEETING

Trustee Bustamante made a motion to set the Ethics Committee meeting's date and time for December 16, 2020, at 1:00 p.m., followed by the next regularly scheduled Board Meeting at 2:00 p.m., and followed by the Finance Committee; motion seconded by Trustee Aguilar.

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A roll call vote was conducted by President Dorough and is as follows:

Yes: Trustee Aguilar, Bustamante, Hawkes, Nelson, and Wolberg

No: None

Motion carried unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

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

President Dorough adjourned the meeting at 3:35 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 November 24, 2020. 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.



Paul Bustamante, Secretary/Treasurer