

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

September 22, 2021

**INDEX**

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees of The Socorro Electric Cooperative, Inc. (SEC) was held on Wednesday, September 22, 2021, at 310 Abeyta Ave, Socorro, New Mexico.

**CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 2:03 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

Leroy Anaya, Trustee (via teleconference)  
Representative, District 3

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

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

**TRUSTEES ABSENT:** Michael Hawkes, Trustee  
Representative, District 4

**ALSO, PRESENT:** Joseph Herrera, General Manager  
Donna Wilkins, Administrative Assistant  
Rauni Montoya, Accounting Supervisor (via teleconference)  
David Montoya, Safety Compliance Officer (via teleconference)  
Steve Dettmer, Line Superintendent (via teleconference)  
Marilyn Madrid, Member Services Supervisor (via teleconference)  
Jimmy Capps, Director of Communications and Public Affairs (via teleconference)  
Lorna Wiggins, Wiggins, Williams, and Wiggins (via teleconference)

**SEC MEMBERS PRESENT:** None; due to Governor Lujan-Grisham's executive order restricting essential business to limit operations to only those absolutely necessary to carry out essential functions.

**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**

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Trustee Anaya made a motion to approve the Agenda as presented; motion seconded by Trustee Aguilar. Motion carried unanimously.

President Dorough approved the Agenda as presented.

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

Trustee Wolberg made a motion to approve the minutes from August 18, 2021, as distributed; motion seconded by Trustee Aguilar. Motion carried unanimously.

President Dorough approved the minutes from August 18, 2021, as distributed.

### **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 \$570,140.08 for August 2021.

President Dorough thanked Manager Herrera for the Expenditure Report for August 2021.

Manager Herrera reported the Visa credit card expenditures, complete with supporting receipts, made available to the Board of Trustees for August 2021.

President Dorough thanked Manager Herrera for the credit card report for August 2021.

Manager Herrera provided an update regarding COVID-19 that SEC continues to follow the NM COVID Safe Practices for Employers. Manager Herrera stated that masks are being worn indoors for all members and employees, no matter vaccination status. Manager Herrera reported that the CDC's current 7-day community transmission rate for most of SEC's service is high except Catron County, which is substantial.

President Dorough thanked Manager Herrera for the COVID-19 Update for August 2021.

Manager Herrera provided the Engineering Report stating that with the rodent that caused the outage on September 3, 2021, to the power transformer at the Socorro Local Substation. Manager Herrera stated the line crews did a great job of transferring the load to another transformer and restoring power to the southern end of the city of Socorro. Manager Herrera stated that he reached out to Tri-State's maintenance department, who dispatched Chuck Martinez to assess the situation, which he found to be optimistic. Manager Herrera reported the transformer low-side bushings and arrestors needed to be replaced. Manager Herrera stated that Mr. Martinez coordinated the repairs, and the transformer was back online on September 17, 2021. Manager Herrera explained the benefits of being a member of Tri-State and what would have had to be done had we not been a member. Manager Herrera reported that the West Area load is currently fed off the Magdalena substation due to the Quemado substation being offline. Manager Herrera stated that Tucson Electric Power is doing routine maintenance at the Springerville generation auxiliary equipment. Manager Herrera proceeded to answer questions posed by the Trustees.

President Dorough thanked Manager Herrera for the Engineering Report for August 2021.

Manager Herrera concluded by reporting that the Broadband Feasibility RFP has been posted to our website. Manager Herrera stated that the NM Department of Information Technology has an assistant program and accepts applications for funding such types of projects. Manager Herrera explained that he would be working on the application to submit to see if SEC qualifies for technical assistance; and proceeded to answer questions posed by the Trustees.

President Dorough thanked Manager Herrera for the Manager's Report for August 2021.

### **FINANCIAL REPORT**

Ms. Montoya carefully reviewed in detail the RUS Form 7 Report for August 2021 and proceeded to answer questions posed by the Trustees.

President Dorough thanked Ms. Montoya for the RUS Form 7 Report for August 2021.

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**SAFETY COMPLIANCE REPORT**

**SAFETY REPORT**

Mr. Montoya reviewed the August Safety Report and proceeded to answer questions posed by the Trustees.

**JOB BRIEFING**

Mr. Montoya reviewed the August Job Briefing Reports.

President Dorough thanked Mr. Montoya for the Safety Report for August 2021.

**OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE REPORT**

**CONSTRUCTION/MAINTENANCE REPORT**

Mr. Dettmer reported for August activities, crews cut 17 trees, completed 26 work orders, closed 23 work orders, and completed 53 service orders with most service orders for area lights.

**OUTAGE REPORTS**

Mr. Dettmer reviewed several major outages that either affected over 100 members or those for which the outage time was lengthy and proceeded to answer questions posed by the Trustees

President Dorough thanked Mr. Dettmer for the Operations and Maintenance Report for August 2021 and all the crews' hard work.

**MEMBER SERVICES REPORTS**

**ENERGY DELINQUENT REPORT**

Ms. Madrid presented the Energy Delinquent Report for August 2021.

**NM PRC MEMBER CONCERNS**

Ms. Madrid reported that SEC had no Member informal complaints filed with the NM PRC in August 2021.

President Dorough thanked Ms. Madrid for the Member Services Report for August 2021.

**COMMUNICATIONS AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS REPORT**

Mr. Capps reviewed the August 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 August 2021.

**TRI-STATE REPORT**

Trustee Anaya gave the Tri-State Board of Directors' activities report for September 2021. Trustee Anaya reported that Tri-State has a program where \$1,000 can be donated to a not-for-profit organization within our service area. Trustee Anaya stated this donation can be given to one organization or divided between several organizations and asked the Trustees for guidance as to who this donation should be given to within our service area.

After discussion, President Dorough asked that the Trustees consider who they would like to submit for the donation and decide at the October Board meeting.

President Dorough stated that Manager Herrera had sent an e-mail to the Trustees regarding supporting the Modified CTP Methodology filing to FERC.

Trustee Anaya made a motion to ratify the actions taken between September 7, 2021, thru September 13, 2021, in submitting the support letter to FERC regarding the Modified CTP Methodology; 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, Anaya, Bustamante, and Nelson

No: Trustee Wolberg

Motion carried.

President Dorough thanked Trustee Anaya for the Tri-State Report.

### **NMRECA REPORT**

Trustee Wolberg gave the NMRECA report for September 2021.

President Dorough thanked Trustee Wolberg for the NMRECA Report.

### **MRGEDA REPORT**

Trustee Wolberg gave the MRGEDA report for September 2021.

President Dorough thanked Trustee Wolberg for the MRGEDA Report.

### **PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

President Dorough reported that at the PRC meeting held on September 22, 2021, an agenda item was a request from Joe Maestas regarding a discussion about FERC and Tri-State.

President Dorough stated that during this discussion item, it was discovered that Tri-State is providing the qualifying renewable generation for the renewable portfolio standards, which are ahead of schedule. President Dorough reported that instead of discussing the termination payments, PRC decided that Tri-State was doing a good job.

### **FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT**

Trustee Aguilar gave the Finance Committee Report, which met on August 18, 2021.

President Dorough thanked Trustee Aguilar for the Finance Committee Report.

### **STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT**

Trustee Anaya reported on the Standing Committee Meeting held on September 15, 2021, with recommendations to the full Board of Trustees.

President Dorough thanked Trustee Anaya for the Standing Committee Report.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### **Board Policy 115 – Attendance at Regional, National, and Statewide Meetings**

Manager Herrera reported that the Standing Committee reviewed Board Policy 115 – Attendance at Regional, National, and Statewide Meetings, and the Committee recommended that the Board approve Board Policy 115 – Attendance at Regional, National, and Statewide Meetings as reviewed.

Trustee Anaya made a motion to accept the Standing Committee's recommendation of Board Policy 115 – Attendance at Regional, National, and Statewide Meetings as reviewed; motion seconded by Trustee Wolberg.

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

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

No: None

Motion carried unanimously.

#### **Board Policy 129 – Appointment to Board of Trustees of Tri-State Generation and Transmission Association, Inc.**

Manager Herrera reported that the Standing Committee reviewed Board Policy 129 – Appointment to Board of Trustees of Tri-State and Transmission Association, Inc., and the Committee recommended that the Board approve Board Policy 129 – Appointment to Board of Trustees of Tri-State and Transmission Association, Inc. as reviewed.

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Trustee Anaya made a motion to accept the Standing Committee's recommendation of Board Policy 129 – Appointment to Board of Trustees of Tri-State and Transmission Association, Inc. as reviewed; motion seconded by Trustee Aguilar.

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

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

No: None

Motion carried unanimously.

Board Policy 130 – Appointment to Board of Trustees of New Mexico Rural Electric Cooperative Association

Manager Herrera reported that the Standing Committee reviewed Board Policy 130 – Appointment to Board of Trustees of New Mexico Rural Electric Cooperative Association, and the Committee recommended that the Board approve Board Policy 130 – Appointment to Board of Trustees of New Mexico Rural Electric Cooperative Association as reviewed.

Trustee Aguilar made a motion to accept the Standing Committee's recommendation of Board Policy 130 – Appointment to Board of Trustees of New Mexico Rural Electric Cooperative Association as reviewed; motion seconded by Trustee Bustamante.

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

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

No: None

Motion carried unanimously.

Board Policy 131 – Board of Trustees Use of Socorro Electric Cooperative Electronic Communication Devices

Manager Herrera reported that the Standing Committee reviewed Board Policy 131 – Board of Trustees Use of Socorro Electric Cooperative Electronic Communication Devices, and the Committee recommended that the Board approve Board Policy 131 – Board of Trustees Use of Socorro Electric Cooperative Electronic Communication Devices with proposed revisions.

Trustee Anaya made a motion to accept the Standing Committee's recommendation of Board Policy 131 – Board of Trustees Use of Socorro Electric Cooperative Electronic Communication Devices with proposed revisions; motion seconded by Trustee Wolberg.

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

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

No: None

Motion carried unanimously.

Board Policy 132 – Member Access to Cooperative's Financial and Management Information

Manager Herrera reported that the Standing Committee reviewed Board Policy 132 – Member Access to Cooperative's Financial and Management Information, and the Committee recommended that the Board approve Board Policy 132 – Member Access to Cooperative's Financial and Management Information with proposed revisions.

Trustee Aguilar made a motion to accept the Standing Committee's recommendation of Board Policy 132 – Member Access to Cooperative's Financial and Management Information as corrected; motion seconded by Trustee Nelson.

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

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

No: None

Motion carried unanimously.

Consideration of Capital Credit Estate Retirements

Manager Herrera reported that the Finance Committee had reviewed the proposed Patronage Capital Retirement options, and the Committee recommended that the Board approve the Patronage Capital Retirement for fiscal years 1994-1995.

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Trustee Aguilar made a motion to accept the Finance Committee's recommendation to approve Patronage Capital Retirement for fiscal years 1994-1995; motion seconded by Trustee Bustamante.

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

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

No: None

Motion carried unanimously.

#### 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-Sept-21-A	\$945.00	\$9.72	\$143.45	\$119.59	\$621.20	\$39.73	\$0.00	\$1,878.69	\$1,257.49
EM-Sept-21-B	\$311.84	\$5.32	\$60.83	\$54.28	\$199.35	\$22.00	(\$63.26)	\$590.36	\$391.01
EM-Sept-21-C	\$850.86	\$20.00	\$58.10	\$38.24	\$267.59	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,234.79	\$967.20

#### 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-Sept-21-A	\$401.40	\$5.40	\$30.79	\$20.56	\$168.60	\$12.33	\$0.00	\$639.08	\$470.48
JM-Sept-21-B	\$810.59	\$13.18	\$82.37	\$63.70	\$353.80	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,323.64	\$969.84
JM-Sept-21-C	\$185.65	\$0.00	\$34.86	\$28.07	\$165.72	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$414.30	\$248.58

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 Bustamante.

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

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

No: None

Motion carried unanimously.

#### Consideration of Line Extension Contracts

Manager Herrera reported a line extension contract for Ray or Roxanne Heckman for \$8,105.15 was being presented to the Board for approval. Manager Herrera recommended that the Board approve the contract for Mr. and Mrs. Heckman.

After discussion, Trustee Nelson made a motion to postpone any action on the contract for Ray or Roxanne Heckman for \$8,105.15 until Manager Herrera has reviewed the line extension contract with legal counsel; motion seconded by Trustee Wolberg.

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

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

No: None

Motion carried unanimously.

#### Consideration of Trustee Travel

There were no Trustee Travel requests brought forward for consideration.

#### NRUCFC Voting and Alternate Delegate

Trustee Bustamante made a motion to nominate Trustee Wolberg as NRUCFC Voting Delegate; motion seconded by Trustee Anaya.

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President Dorough, hearing no other nominations, declared Trustee Wolberg as NRUCFC Voting Delegate by acclamation.

Trustee Nelson made a motion to nominate Trustee Anaya as NRUCFC Alternate Voting Delegate; motion seconded by Trustee Wolberg.

President Dorough, hearing no other nominations, declared Trustee Anaya as NRUCFC Alternate Voting Delegate by acclamation.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Trustee Aguilar made a motion to go into Executive Session to discuss potential litigation; motion seconded by Trustee Wolberg. Motion carried unanimously.

President Dorough called for an Executive Session.

The Board adjourned to Executive Session at 3:58 p.m.

**REGULAR SESSION**

Trustee Bustamante made a motion and seconded by Trustee Aguilar to return to Regular Session at 4:24 p.m.

President Dorough stated that there was no action taken during Executive Session.

**SET DATE/TIME FOR REGULAR MEETING**

After discussion, Trustee Bustamante made a motion to set the Committee meeting's date and the next regularly scheduled Board Meeting for October 27, 2021, with Committee meetings starting at 1:00 p.m.; motion seconded by Trustee Aguilar. Motion carried unanimously.

**ADJOURNMENT**

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

President Dorough adjourned the meeting at 4:26 p.m.

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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 September 22, 2021. 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