

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

OF

WHITE RIVER ELECTRIC ASSOCIATION, INC.

October 17, 2024

The meeting of the Board of Directors of White River Electric Association, Inc. (WREA) was held on October 17th, 2024, at 1:30 P.M. with the following Directors present:

Rogers, Hilkey, Ducey, Dearman, Phelan, Sheridan, and Pearce

Directors Absent: None

~~Vice President Rogers~~ called the meeting to order. **BD.**

Dale Dunbar was appointed as Recording Secretary.

- Agenda** The Directors reviewed the September 2024 agenda as presented. Upon motion, properly seconded, the Directors approved the agenda as presented.
- Public Comment** None
- Guests** Visitors present included General Manager Michalewicz, Staff Members Dunbar, Tupy, Berthelson, Reidinger, and Attorney Webb.
- Minutes** The minutes of the regular meeting of September 19th, 2024, had been posted to Boardpaq. Upon motion, properly seconded, the Directors adopted the meeting minutes as presented.
- Bills and Checks** The bills and checks for the month of September 2024 were reviewed by the Directors. Upon motion, properly seconded, the Directors approved the checks, with Director Ducey abstaining.
- The bank balances and investments were also reviewed by the Directors.
- Safety** Operations Manager Berthelson presented the Safety Report. The Directors reviewed the information from the Safety Committee meeting on October 7, 2024. The meeting minutes were presented. Operations Manager Berthelson discussed rubber sleeves, new hire training, and ladder refinish products. The outage reports were reviewed by the Board. Upon motion by Director Dearman, seconded by Director Phelan, the Safety Report was approved unanimously by the Directors.
- Donations** The year-to-date donations were reviewed. A request from the Youth Zone for donations was reviewed. Directors requested more information regarding the application of funds and postponed a decision pending further information.
- Org Chart** The annual organization chart was reviewed by the Directors and accepted as presented.
- COLA** The annual cost of living data was presented to the Directors. The Directors reviewed YTD inflation rates and other data from the Employers Council regarding wage adjustments for the area. Upon motion by Director Ducey, seconded by Director Dearman, a 5% Cost of Living adjustment ("COLA") for all employees for 2025 was approved unanimously by the Directors. The wage and salary schedule with the new rates was reviewed by the Directors.
- Board Policies** The Directors discussed the Board Policies and determined that there were no changes needed at the present time.
- Youth** Upon motion by Director Dearman, seconded by Director Rogers, it was approved unanimously by the Directors to participate in the 2025 Youth Tour and Youth Camp.
- Annual Meeting** It was consensus of the Board to set the WREA annual meeting date for July 18, 2025.

Management Reports

- Cyber** Several Cyber items were discussed with the Board. Mike Dinwiddie mentioned his recent trip to Washington, D.C. Dinwiddie and Manager of Engineering Reidinger presented information on cybersecurity services provided by various cybersecurity experts.
- Power Bill** Manager Michalewicz reported on the operations of WREA for the month of September 2024. The power bill for the month of September was \$2,775,005.36. There were 39,266,978 worth of kWh purchased, the demand was 61,004 Kw, the cost per kilowatt-hour was 70.6702 mills per kWh. The member system billing load factor was 88.3998. The Directors reviewed the statistical information for the month of August.
- Other**
- Federal/FEMA** Engineering Manager Reidinger presented an update on the Federal Grant applications.
- Drone** The Board reviewed the Drone Patrol Results as presented.
- Thank You Notes** Several thank you notes were presented to the Directors to review.

- Attorney Report Attorney Webb updated the board on her attendance at the CREA legal seminar and the presentations held at it. She also mentioned items of employment law, and pole attachments she had been reviewing.
- Executive Upon motion by Director Dearman, seconded by Director Hilkey, the Board unanimously approved entering into executive session to discuss confidential consumer account matters, potential transfer of transmission equipment, and confidential revenue analysis.
- Upon motion by Director Dearman, seconded by Director Hilkey, the Board unanimously approved reconvening the public portion of the regular meeting.
- Travel Upon motion by Director Rogers, seconded by Director Hilkey, the Board unanimously approved travel to the CEO Close-up, Director's Conference, and the Cooperative Financial Certificate conference.
- Firewall Upon motion by Director Dearman, seconded by Director Rogers, it was approved unanimously by the Directors to spend up to \$30,000 on new firewall protection devices.
- Cyber Upon review of certain IT measures that will be ending in the future, and upon motion by Director Ducey, seconded by Director Rogers, it was approved unanimously by the Directors to obtain services from another source in the amount of \$52,290.
- Associated Director Rogers gave an update on CREA and the upcoming auction.
- Director Rogers also gave an update on Western United Electric Supply.
- Director Hilkey submitted his Tri-State report and other items to Boardpaq.
- With no further business appearing before the Board, the meeting was adjourned.


Bryce R. Ducey, Secretary