

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

OF

WHITE RIVER ELECTRIC ASSOCIATION, INC.

November 14, 2024

The meeting of the Board of Directors of White River Electric Association, Inc. (WREA) was held on November 14th, 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.

Dale Dunbar was appointed as Recording Secretary.

- Agenda The Directors reviewed the November 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, Matrisciano, Berthelson, Reidinger, and Attorney Webb.
- Youth Camp, Youth Tour, and Outdoor Experience attendees made presentations and expressed their appreciation to the Board.
- Minutes The minutes of the regular meeting of October 17, 2024, had been posted to BoardEffect. Upon motion, properly seconded, the Directors adopted the meeting minutes as presented.
- Bills and Checks The bills and checks for the month of October 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.
- RB Credit Union Upon motion by Director Ducey, seconded by Director Dearman, the Board unanimously approved to open an account deposit \$100,000 with the Rio Blanco Schools Federal Credit Union.
- Safety Operations Manager Berthelson presented the Safety Report. The Directors reviewed the information from the Safety Committee meeting on November 12, 2024. The meeting minutes were presented. Operations Manager Berthelson discussed the paper cutter, no close calls were noted, CREA visit, and fire alarms. Also, training for all employees was on Narcan and its uses. The outage reports were reviewed by the Board. Upon motion by Director Dearman, seconded by Director Sheridan, the Safety Report was approved unanimously by the Directors.
- Donations Donations for the month were reviewed with none out of the ordinary.
- Power Quality A Power Quality Policy was presented to the Board. It was noted that there needs to be additional work on it. This will be brought back to the Board at a later time.
- Travel The annual travel calendar was submitted to the Board. Upon motion by Director Hilkey, seconded by Director Dearman, the travel calendar was unanimously approved.
- Board Meetings The annual Board meeting calendar was submitted for the approval of the Board. Upon motion by Director Sheridan, seconded by Director Dearman, the Board meeting date calendar for 2025 was unanimously approved.
- Interest Rates The annual interest rate paid on consumer deposits set by the Colorado PUC was reviewed. It was noted that the rates did not change from last year. Upon motion by Director Phelan, seconded by Director Dearman, the interest rate will remain the same for 2025.
- HVAC It was reported that the HVAC system in Kilowatt Korner needs replaced. Upon motion by Director Sheridan, seconded by Director Ducey, the Board unanimously approved to replace the present system with a new system for the quoted amount of \$18,722.
- SCADA A request to purchase a SEL Blueframe SCADA Management Device for \$32,512 was presented to the Board. Upon motion by Director Phelan, seconded by Director Dearman, the request was unanimously approved.
- Drone A request for 2025 drone line inspection for \$75,00 was presented to the Directors. Upon motion by Director Sheridan, seconded by Director Hilkey, the inspection project was unanimously approved.
- Legal A discussion was held on the present legal representation of WREA. The firm of Ireland, Stapleton, Pryor & Pascoe, PC currently represents WREA. Upon motion by Director

Sheridan, seconded by Director Hilkey, it was unanimously approved to retain the services of the firm.

Handbook The Directors discussed the handbook and determined that there were a couple of minor typographical changes needed at the present time. Upon motion by Director Phelan, seconded by Director Ducey, the Handbook was approved with corrections.

2025 Budget The 2025 Budget was tabled until December

### Management Reports

Cyber An update on ransomware attacks on cooperatives was discussed in the cyber update.

Power Bill Manager Michalewicz reported on the operations of WREA for the month of October 2024. The power bill for the month of October was \$2,903,998.82. There were 41,488,074 worth of kWh purchased, the demand was 63,296 Kw, the cost per kilowatt-hour was 69.9960 mills per kWh. The member system load factor was 88.0996. The Directors reviewed the statistical information for the month of September.

### Other

Christmas The annual company Christmas party will be held on December 19<sup>th</sup>

Bill Design A bill design update was presented to the Board for their review.

Hydro A history of the production of the Miller Creek Hydro was reviewed.

Overstory The inspection results from the Overstory Satellite Inspection was tabled.

Fiber An agreement has been tentatively reached with RBC for the original upriver fiber program. RBC will make yearly payments to WREA over the next 10 years for the County Road 8 fiber usage. In addition, they will pay a \$25,000 maintenance fee and will be required to pay costs for any installations. Upon motion by Director Dearman, seconded by Director Ducey, the Directors unanimously approved the agreement as presented.

Water Rights An application to make the Miller Creek Ditch Hydropower right absolute has been filed.

GVP Engineering With the unexpected passing of the Engineer at Grand Valley Power (GVP), discussion was held on temporarily sharing engineering services with GVP. Upon motion by Director Phelan, seconded by Director Hilkey, the Board unanimously approved to allow this, and to donate \$750 to a scholarship fund in his name.

Moon Lake There was discussion with Moon Lake on the Western end transmission line.

Thank You's There were several thank you notes for the Board to review

Attorney There was no non-privileged attorney report.

Executive Upon motion by Director Dearman, seconded by Director Hilkey, the Board unanimously approved entering into executive session to discuss the NRECA subaward agreement, actions related to Colowyo Mine transition, negotiations with Tri-/state on Wholesale electric service contract, Tri-State load development rate, 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.

Bill Credit The Directors discussed a bill credit and the financial condition of the cooperative. Upon motion by Director Sheridan, seconded by Director Dearman, the Board unanimously approved to issue a bill credit in the total amount of \$2 million dollars to electric consumers of WREA in the December billing.

Travel There was no travel out of the ordinary to approve.

CREA The annual meeting for CREA will be February 8-11, 2025, in Denver.

Associated Director Rogers gave an update on CREA.

Director Rogers also gave an update on Western United Electric Supply.

Director Hilkey submitted his Tri-State report and other items to Boardpaq.

Energy Summit The Energy Summit was discussed by the Board.

With no further business appearing before the Board, the meeting was adjourned.

  
Bryce R. Ducey, Secretary