

MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
OF BARRON ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE
August 27, 2025

Call to Order

The regular board meeting of the Board of Directors of Barron Electric Cooperative was held at the cooperative headquarters on August 27, 2025. The meeting was called to order at 9:30 a.m. by President Cook. Board members present included Baker, Blaskowski, Bowers, Cook, Effertz, Kessler, Mandel, Olson & Warwick

Others present were General Manager Torud, Executive Assistant/HR Administrator Horstman, Director of Member Services Beaudette, Director of Operations Steines & Director of Finance Straw.

Approval of Agenda

The agenda was approved as presented.

Safety Message

Director Effertz gave a safety message.

Minutes of Last Meeting

The minutes of the Regular Board Meeting, July 30, 2025, were approved as written.

Treasurer's Report

A report of vouchers for the month was presented as part of the board packet as follows: #104579 through #104671 from CCF Bank in the amount of \$195,928 with capital credit estate checks totaling \$13,832. Total receipts in the office \$2,446,733; total receipts by wire and ACH \$1,359,780; disbursements by ACH, EFT, wire \$3,157,697; transfer of funds was made for payroll \$241,140 and the power bill was paid on 08/27/2025 in the amount of \$2,761,195.

Voucher Review

A list of vouchers was reviewed by the board.

Manager and Staff Reports

General Manager Torud and Staff members Beaudette, Steines & Straw presented a written and oral reports of their activities for the month.

Auditor Engagement Letter

The board reviewed the Auditor Engagement Letter from CarlsonSV, LLP. Director Kessler moved, Director Olson seconded, to accept CarlsonSV, LLP as the auditors to perform the cooperative's 2025 audit. Motion carried.

A-Item to the 2025 Budget

Director of Operations Steines presented information to the board regarding Trucks 217 and 264 recommending approving an A-Item to the 2025 budget for the upfitting of the new Trucks 217 and 264, as well as the sale of the existing Trucks 217 & 264 with the understanding that the sale and upfitting will be of equal value. Discussion.

Director Bowers moved, Director Blaskowski seconded, to approve the A-Item to the 2025 budget as presented. Motion carried.

DPC Cooperative Contributions Program

The board reviewed the DPC Cooperative Contributions Program which allows Dairyland Power Cooperative members to request a \$1,000 contribution in our cooperative's service area. President Cook requested that the DPC Cooperative Contributions Program is reviewed at the September board meeting for further discussion. There were no objections.

Scholarship Selection Information

The board discussed the email correspondence and the 2007 memo from FYF regarding scholarship selection criteria.

Future Meeting Dates

The board reviewed the future meeting dates for November and December 2025. The 2026 preliminary budget will be presented on November 18, 2025. The November Board Meeting is scheduled for November 26, 2025. A meeting to review the 2026 Preliminary Budget with Director of Finance Straw and General Manager Torud was scheduled for December 10, 2025. The final 2026 budget will be presented on December 23, 2025 along with the All Employee & Director Christmas lunch. The December Board Meeting is scheduled for December 30, 2025.

Staff Members were dismissed.

Break at 10:53 a.m.

Reconvened at 11:00 a.m.

Membership List

A membership list of 46 was presented and approved without objection.

Other Meetings Attended

Director Baker discussed the DPC Meeting he attended on August 21, 2025. Directors Baker & Effertz reported on the Board Leadership Course they attended on August 4, 2025. Directors Baker, Blaskowski, Bowers, Kessler, Mandel & Warwick reported on the WECA Directors Conference they attended on August 6, 2025. Director Bowers reported on the DPC "A Day with Your G&T" he attended on August 13, 2025. Directors Baker, Blaskowski, Mandel & Warwick reported on the Directors Financial Webinar they attended on August 14, 2025. Director Blaskowski reported on the Safety Meeting he attended on August 20, 2025. The Monthly Safety Report from Denise Fox, Compliance Safety and Training Officer was available for review as well.

Reports

Reports listed in the board packet were available for review for the month of July including the power bill, department statistics, fleet management and budget month-to-date.

Inventory of Work Orders

Form 219 summarizing construction activity for the month of July in the amount of \$449,580.99 was presented for approval and included new services \$20,625.94; change jobs \$14,030.43; Other Work Order Projects \$414,924.62 and 5 retirements. The Form 219 stood approved as presented.

Outage and Overtime

Outages year-to-date stand at 66,870.64 consumer hours off, which is 54.68% above 2024 hours of 43,230.56.

Overtime year-to-date is 2,179.50 hours, which is 7.19% above 2024 hours of 2,033.25.

2025 WECA Annual Meeting

The 2025 WECA Annual Meeting is scheduled for November 12 & 13, 2025 in Wisconsin Dells. All directors will be attending. Director Bowers was selected as the WECA Voting Delegate.

Executive Session

Director Warwick moved, Director Blaskowski seconded, to enter Executive Session. Motion carried.

The board entered Executive Session at 11:47 a.m.

The board resumed their Regular Board Meeting at 12:48 p.m.

Policy Review

The board reviewed Policy 1011 – Scholarship Policy. After discussion, the directors revised the policy to state the following under II. Content, A. A scholarship program including three (3) separate types of scholarships has been established by the Board of Directors. ~~totaling \$30,000~~, a change to letter a. ~~Cooperative School~~ District Draw Scholarship and iii. ~~3 2~~ - \$1,000 Scholarships per ~~Barron Electric Board School~~ District.

Policy No. 202 – Reimbursement of Expenses

The board reviewed Policy No. 202 – Reimbursement of Expenses. After discussion, the directors revised the policy to state under C.2. If ground travel is selected as the means, the lesser of **actual mileage round trip for the direct route from home to meeting site or total of air fare, mileage to and from the airport and parking expenses for dates of air travel** ~~provided transportation or mileage reimbursement~~ shall be the amount paid for expenses.

Policy No. 203 – Board of Directors Compensation

The board reviewed Policy No. 203 – Board of Directors Compensation and no changes were made to the policy.

The changes to Policy No. 1011 and Policy No. 202 will be brought to the September board meeting for approval.

The director's expense accounts for the month were reviewed and approved by the board without objection.

Other Business:

Directors Blaskowski & Effertz are scheduled to attend DPC's "A Day with Your G&T" on August 28, 2025.

The office will be closed on September 1, 2025 in observance of Labor Day.

All directors are scheduled to attend the DPC Rate Education virtual training on September 16, 2025.

The September Board Meeting is scheduled for September 23, 2025, due to the NRECA Region 5 Meeting.

Directors Baker, Blaskowski, Bowers, Cook, Effertz, Kessler & Warwick are scheduled to attend the NRECA Region 5 Meeting September 23 – 25, 2025 in Madison.

Director Blaskowski, Mandel & Warwick are scheduled to attend the Director's Financial Webinar on October 9, 2025.

Directors Effertz, Mandel & Olson are scheduled to attend the Board Leadership Courses on October 14 & 15, 2025.

The October Board Meeting is scheduled for October 29, 2025.

The WECA Annual Meeting is scheduled for November 12 & 13, 2025 in Wisconsin Dells.

The November Board Meeting is scheduled for November 26, 2025.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:52 p.m.

Patricia Mandel, Secretary