

MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
OF BARRON ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE
July 30, 2025

Call to Order

The regular board meeting of the Board of Directors of Barron Electric Cooperative was held at the cooperative headquarters on July 30, 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.

New Employee Introduction

Spooner Lineworker Austin Miller was introduced to the board prior to the board meeting.

Safety Message

President Cook gave a safety message.

Minutes of Last Meeting

The minutes of the Regular Board Meeting, June 23, 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: #104460 through #104578 from CCF Bank in the amount of \$359,567 with capital credit estate checks totaling \$12,892. Total receipts in the office \$2,931,679; total receipts by wire and ACH \$1,501,883; disbursements by ACH, EFT, wire \$3,995,764; transfer of funds was made for payroll \$232,580 and the power bill was paid on 07/30/2025 in the amount of \$2,434,145.

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.

General Retirement Resolution

The board reviewed the Resolution to Retire Barron Electric Cooperative Capital Credits.

Resolution to Retire Barron Electric Cooperative Capital Credits

BE IT RESOLVED that Barron Electric Cooperative will retire capital credits for the year 2005, 2006, 2007 at 100% of the remaining balance of the cooperative portion; year 2008 at 14.75% of the remaining balance of the cooperative portion, and for the year of 1997 at 100% of the remaining balance of the G&T portion, with the total not to exceed the amount of \$1,214,500; and

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the minimum check amount is \$10.00, except for the final payout of inactive accounts. Retirement amounts under \$10.00 for active members will be applied to member's billing accounts. Approximately \$20,100 will be applied to bad debts.

I, Patricia Mandel, Secretary of Barron Electric Cooperative, do hereby certify that the above is a true and correct excerpt from the minutes of the regular board meeting of the Board of Directors of Barron Electric Cooperative, held this 30th day of July 2025, at which meeting a quorum was present.

Director Kessler moved, Director Effertz seconded, to approve the resolution to retire Barron Electric Cooperative capital credits as presented. Motion carried.

Midwest Wood Specialties

Director of Member Services Beaudette presented information to the board regarding Midwest Wood Specialties and requested to give the General Manager authority to terminate the contract and waive facilities charges. Discussion. Director Blaskowski moved, Director Bowers seconded, to give the General Manager the authority to terminate the contract and waive facilities charges. Motion carried.

Economic Development Loans

A report of the past and current Economic Development loans was presented for review.

Policy Committee

Suggested changes for policies 202, 203, 302, 303, 401, 411, 412, 607, 612, 613, 614, 619, 801, 901, 1003, 1006, 1013, 1019, 1021, 1022, 1028 and the Harassment Policy were presented. Discussion. Director Kessler moved, Director Baker seconded, to approve all policies as presented with exception to Policy No. 202 and Policy No. 203 which will be reviewed at the August board meeting with suggested changes. Motion carried.

Scholarship Committee

A report from the Scholarship Committee Meeting held on July 9, 2025 was included for review and discussion. President Cook requested that the Scholarship Committee report at the August board meeting. There were no objections.

Staff Members were dismissed.

The board took a break at 11:15 a.m.

The board reconvened at 11:23 a.m.

Membership List

A membership list of 87 was presented and approved without objection.

Other Meetings Attended

Director Baker discussed the DPC Meeting he attended on July 16 & 17, 2025. Other reports available for the directors to review were the Safety Meeting attended by Director Bowers on July 22, 2025, and the Monthly Safety Report from Denise Fox, Compliance Safety and Training Officer.

Reports

Reports listed in the board packet were available for review for the month of June 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 June in the amount of \$165,387.93 was presented for approval and included new services \$19,284.88; change jobs \$25,532.56; Other Work Order Projects \$120,570.49 and 5 retirements. The Form 219 stood approved as presented.

Outage and Overtime

Outages year-to-date stand at 55,900.17 consumer hours off, which is 51.75% above 2024 hours of 36,836.79.

Overtime year-to-date is 1,756.25 hours, which is 10.25% below 2024 hours of 1,956.75.

CoBank Sharing Success History and Review

The CoBank Sharing Success history and the remaining funds available for matching for 2025 were available for review.

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 August board meeting for further discussion. There were no objections.

Donation Request – Barron Public Library

The board reviewed the donation request from the Barron Public Library requesting a monetary donation to aid in the cost of the Summer Reading Program Block Party for prizes, raffle baskets and assistance with funding for the party. Director Kessler moved, Director Mandel seconded, to donate \$1,000 to the Barron Public Library for the Summer Reading Program Block Party. Discussion. Vote was taken by voice, but the results were unclear. President Cook requested a hand vote to confirm the outcome. The motion failed with 5 opposed and 3 in favor.

Executive Session

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

The board entered Executive Session at 11:45 a.m.

General Manager's Evaluation

President Cook presented information and a report of the General Manager's Evaluation to the board for discussion.

Minutes of the General Manager's Evaluation are printed as a confidential part of the minutes.

The board resumed their Regular Board Meeting at 12:40 p.m.

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

Other Business:

Directors Baker & Effertz are scheduled to attend the Board Leadership Course on August 5, 2025.

Directors Baker, Blaskowski, Bowers, Kessler, Mandel & Warwick are scheduled to attend the WECA Directors Conference on August 6, 2025.

Director Bowers is scheduled to attend DPC's "A Day with Your G&T" on August 13, 2025.

Director Baker, Blaskowski, Mandel & Warwick are scheduled to attend the Director's Financial Webinar on August 14, 2025.

Director Blaskowski is scheduled to attend the Safety Meeting on August 20, 2025.

The August Board Meeting is scheduled on August 27, 2025.

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 Baker, 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 12:41 p.m.

Patricia Mandel, Secretary