

MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
OF BARRON ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE  
June 26, 2024

Call to Order

The regular meeting of the Board of Directors of Barron Electric Cooperative was held at the cooperative headquarters on June 26, 2024. The meeting was called to order at 9:30 a.m. by President Cook. Board members present included Baker, Blaskowski, Bol, Cook, Effertz, Kessler, Mandel, Olson, and Warwick.

Others present were General Manager Torud, Executive Assistant/HR Administrator Horstman and Staff Members Beaudette, Steines & Straw.

Approval of Agenda

The agenda was approved as presented.

Safety Message

Director Blaskowski gave a safety message.

Minutes of Last Meeting

The minutes of the Regular Board Meeting, May 29, 2024, were approved as written.

Treasurer's Report

A report of vouchers for the month was presented as part of the board packet as follows: #103122 thru #103232 from CCF Bank in the amount of \$372,602 and capital credit estate checks in the amount of \$18,454. Total receipts in the office \$1,991,280; total receipts by wire and ACH \$269,378; disbursements by ACH, EFT, wire \$1,422,921; transfer of funds was made for payroll \$238,637 and the power bill was paid on 06/26/2024 in the amount of \$1,772,293.

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 written and oral reports of their activities for the month.

Policy Committee

Suggested changes for policies 110, 202, 301 (Policy & Rate Chart), 401, 402, 406, 412, 601, 624, 901, 903, 1001, 1005, 1006, 1011, 1017, 1019, 1021, 1028, 1029 and the Harassment Policy were presented and reviewed. The policy changes are to be effective July 1, 2024 except for Policy No. 301 – Rates and Policy & No. 401 - Delinquent Accounts are to be effective October 1, 2024. Policy No. 301 – Rate Table is to be effective January 1, 2025. Director Warwick moved, Director Bol seconded, to approve the changes to the policies as presented. Motion carried.

Staff Dismissed

Membership List

A membership list of 79 was presented and approved without objection.

Break at 10:58 a.m.

Resumed meeting at 11:04 a.m.

#### Other Meetings Attended

Director Baker reported on the DPC Board Education Day he attended on June 20, 2024. Directors Baker, Mandel, Kessler, Warwick, Effertz, Olson & Blaskowski reported on the DPC Annual Meeting they attended on June 5, 2024. Directors Cook, Mandel, Baker, Warwick & Bol reported on the director finance webinar they attended on June 6, 2024. Directors Baker & Mandel reported on the safety audit they performed on June 11, 2024. The directors reviewed the Monthly Safety Report from Denise Fox, Compliance Safety and Training Officer.

#### Reports

Reports listed in the board packet were reviewed for the month of May included the power bill, department statistics, fleet management and budget month-to-date.

#### Member Correspondence

The board reviewed the request from a member regarding a complaint that the cooperative requires an official death certificate to close a member's capital credit account. Director Effertz moved, seconded by Director Baker, to have a letter drafted by Attorney Harrington and sent to the member. Motion carried.

#### Inventory of Work Orders

Form 219 summarizing construction activity for the month of May in the amount of \$324,044.45 was presented for approval and included new services \$53,775.29; change jobs \$10,328.64; Other Work Order Projects \$259,940.52 and 5 retirements. The Form 219 stood approved as presented.

#### Outage and Overtime

Outages year-to-date stand at 16,448.20 consumer hours off, which is 49.12% above 2023 hours of 11,030.38. Overtime year-to-date is 1,286.50 hours, which is 42.59% above 2023 hours of 902.25.

#### Donation Request – Cooperative Family Fund

The directors reviewed the donation request from Cooperative Family Fund requesting \$1,000 annual from each cooperative to aid in the collection of funds for children that have lost a cooperative parent. The fund will set aside \$10,000 per child that can be accessed when the child reaches 18 years of age. Director Kessler moved to review the request at the July board meeting to get more information regarding the program. Motion carried.

#### NRECA Region 5 Meeting

The NRECA Region 5 Meeting will be held September 16 through September 18, 2024 in Minneapolis, Minnesota. Directors Baker, Blaskowski, Cook, Effertz, Mandel and Warwick will attend the meeting. Director Blaskowski was elected as the NRECA voting delegate and Director Effertz was elected as the alternate voting delegate. Director Warwick was elected as the CFC voting delegate and Director Cook was elected as the alternate voting delegate. Director Baker was elected as the RESCO voting delegate and Director Mandel was elected as the alternate voting delegate.

The board discussed Policy No. 202 - Reimbursement of Expenses. Director Mandel suggested a change to the per diem for webinars and the policy will be added to the July agenda for an amendment.

Other Business:

The WECA District 3 Meeting is scheduled for July 10, 2024 at the cooperative headquarters. All directors are registered to attend.

The July Board Meeting is scheduled for July 31, 2024.

Directors Baker, Bol, Cook, Mandel & Warwick are scheduled to attend the Financial Webinar Series for Directors on August 15, 2024.

Director Bol is scheduled to attend the Safety Meeting on August 22, 2024.

The August Board Meeting is scheduled for August 28, 2024.

The NRECA Region 5 Meeting is scheduled for September 16 – 18, 2024 in Minneapolis, Minnesota.

The September Board Meeting is scheduled for September 25, 2024.

Directors Baker, Bol, Cook, Mandel & Warwick are scheduled to attend the Financial Webinar Series for Directors on October 24, 2024.

The October Board Meeting is scheduled for October 30, 2024.

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

The meeting adjourned at 11:58 a.m.

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Patricia Mandel, Secretary