

MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
OF BARRON ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE
May 29, 2024

Call to Order

The regular meeting of the Board of Directors of Barron Electric Cooperative was held at the cooperative headquarters on May 29, 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, Staff Members Beaudette, Steines, Straw and Rob Richard, VP of Government Relations & External Affairs from WECA.

Approval of Agenda

The agenda was approved as presented.

Legislative Updates

Rob Richard, VP of Government Relations & External Affairs from WECA presented legislative updates to the board and staff.

Safety Message

Director Baker gave a safety message.

Minutes of Last Meeting

The minutes of the Regular Board Meeting, April 24, 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: #103021 through #103121 from CCF Bank in the amount of \$333,742 and capital credit estate checks in the amount of \$20,711. Total receipts in the office \$2,810,966; total receipts by wire and ACH \$2,324,076; disbursements by ACH, EFT, wire \$4,469,150; transfer of funds was made for payroll \$222,548 and the power bill was paid on 05/29/2024 in the amount of \$1,716,261.

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.

Staff Dismissed.

Break at 11:25 am

Resumed Meeting at 11:30 a.m.

Membership List

A membership list of 57 was presented and approved without objection.

Other Meetings Attended

Director Baker reported on the DPC Board Meeting he attended on May 15 & 16, 2024. The Directors discussed their scholarship presentations. Director Olson reported on the Safety Meeting he attended on May 15, 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 April included 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 April in the amount of \$315,770.73 was presented for approval and included new services \$20,237.42; change jobs \$12,776.38; Other Work Order Projects \$282,756.93 and 17 retirements. The Form 219 stood approved as presented.

Outage and Overtime

Outages year-to-date stand at 11,516.41 consumer hours off, which is 16.21% above 2023 hours of 9,909.78. Overtime year-to-date is 945.75 hours, which is 54.41% above 2023 hours of 612.50.

Professional Board Photo

The board discussed the option of a professional board photo and elected to not have a photo taken.

Donation Request – Barron Kiwanis

The directors reviewed the donation request from Barron Kiwanis asking for a donation to aid in the improvements the Barron soccer field. Director Mandel moved, Director Baker seconded, to donate \$500 to the Barron Kiwanis improvement to the Barron Soccer fields with funds to be derived from FYF. Motion carried.

Donation Request – Hunt Hill

The directors reviewed the donation request from Hunt Hill Audubon Sanctuary asking for a donation to assist in the purchase of an electric zero-turn lawnmower. Director Baker moved, Director Mandel seconded, to donate \$1,000 from FYF and request \$1,000 from CoBank's Sharing Success program. Motion Carried

OATI Rural Community Fund Update

The directors reviewed the update of the OATI Rural Community Fund Award Program. The ADRC of Washburn County was awarded the OATI Rural Community Fund Award in the amount of \$2,500. The ADRC of Washburn County had asked for assistance with the purchase of two AEDs and four LifeVac choking rescue devices in the amount of \$3,773.98 leaving \$1,273.98 needed to purchase their items. Director Warwick moved, Director Bol seconded, to table the request until the July meeting to give time for ADRC of Washburn County to get a response from other businesses they have reached out to for the additional funds to complete the donation request.

WECA District 3 Meeting

The WECA District 3 Meeting is scheduled for July 10, 2024 at the Barron Electric Cooperative headquarters. All directors will attend the meeting. Director Blaskowski was assigned as the Voting Delegate and Director Olson as the Alternate Voting Delegate.

Unclaimed Capital Credit Resolution

Director Mandel moved, and Director Bol seconded, to approve the resolution of unclaimed capital credits in the amount of \$60,408.50. Motion carried and signatures to be affixed. These funds will be deposited into the Federated Youth Foundation if not claimed by October 31, 2024.

RESOLUTION

Barron Electric Cooperative now has in its possession funds belonging to members, former members, patrons and others, which have remained unclaimed for a period of not less than three years nor more than five years from the date the funds first became available to the owners. Schedule A attached hereto and made a part of this resolution, identifies the owners of the unclaimed funds. Wisconsin Statutes Section 185.03(10) and the bylaws of the Cooperative provide that such funds may be forfeited to the Cooperative. Accordingly,

BE IT RESOLVED, that the unclaimed funds, described in schedule A, in the amount of **\$60,408.50** are hereby declared forfeited to the Cooperative unless the same are claimed on or before **OCTOBER 31, 2024**.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that notice be given to the owners that the funds shall be forfeited if not claimed by such specified date, by **OCTOBER 31, 2024**.

- (1) posting name of owners on the unclaimed list on the Cooperative's website and publishing notices in the Early Bird, Chetek Alert, and Spooner Advocate newspapers in the service area of the Cooperative, which publications shall be at least sixty (60) days before the date specified by which the funds must be claimed, and
- (2) mailing such notice to the last known address of each owner, after the publication in the newspaper and at least sixty (60) days prior to the date specified by which the funds must be claimed.

Solar Projects

General Manager Torud presented updates regarding the solar projects in Barron and Spooner. The board approved General Manager Torud to move forward with the projects.

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

Other Business

The DPC Annual Meeting is scheduled for June 5, 2024 in La Crosse. Directors Baker, Blaskowski, Effertz, Kessler, Mandel, Olson & Warwick will attend including General Manager Torud & Director of Member Services Beaudette.

Directors Baker, Bol, Cook, Mandel & Warwick are scheduled to attend the Financial Webinar Series for Directors on June 6, 2024.

Directors Baker & Mandel are scheduled to attend the Safety Field Visits/Audit on June 11, 2024.

The June Board Meeting is scheduled for June 26, 2024.

The WECA District 3 Meeting is scheduled for July 10, 2024 at the cooperative headquarters.

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 meeting was adjourned at 12:39 p.m.