

MILLE LACS ENERGY COOPERATIVE
Aitkin, MN 56431

The regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the Mille Lacs Energy Cooperative was held at its office in Aitkin, Minnesota on May 20, 2024. All board members were present.

President Harold Harms called the meeting to order at 9:15 a.m.

All team leaders were present for their reports. Mark Vosacek, MLEC Accountant, represented the Accounting and Finance Department. Everyone joined in the Pledge of Allegiance.

These minutes being transcribed by or under the direction of Secretary/Treasurer, Aileen DeMenge, the following proceedings were had: (all action being first duly moved and seconded, and all action taken being upon the unanimous vote of the Board, or without dissenting vote or abstention, unless otherwise stated).

M/S/P to approve the Consent Agenda Items - Expense vouchers for the period ending May 20, 2024, agenda of the May 20, 2024 regular board meeting, and minutes of the April 25, 2024 regular board meeting.

The team reports and financial statement for the month of April 2024 were reviewed and accepted upon motion.

M/S/P to approve the recommended electric write-offs for this month in the amount of \$6,086.10.

BANKING AUTHORIZATION RESOLUTION CHANGES

M/S/P to approve resolution to remove Lincoln Messner from our financial accounts listed below, and add Mark Vosacek, MLEC Accountant.

CoBank
CFC
RUS
Deerwood Bank – Lock Box Account
Neighborhood National Bank – General Fund Account
Capital Credit Account
Flex Spending Account
E-Bill Account
Security State Bank – Construction Account
Community Connectivity Fund

M/S/P to approve resolution to close Security State Bank Accounts (Construction Account and Community Connectivity Fund) and to open new Construction Account with Neighborhood National Bank.

Banking Resolutions are attached to these minutes.

VOTING

2.1 Policy Review

M/S/P to approve the following revised policies:

- Policy No. 315 – Drug and Alcohol Policy for All Employees
- Policy No. 317 – Temporary Light Duty Work/Workers Compensation
- Policy No. 318 - Commercial Driver’s License Policy
- Policy No. 318 – Attachment – Return-to-Work Agreement
- Policy No. 319 – Health Insurance Portability Accountability (HIPPA)
- Policy No. 320 – Employment Reference
- Policy No. 321 – Mobile Device

2.2 Activity Reports

GRE – The May 2024 GRE Board Report submitted by Harold was reviewed.

MREA – MREA Legislative Bulletins from April 26, May 3 and 10, 2024 were reviewed.

RUS – None

CFC – 2024 Annual Meeting will be June 17, 2024 at the JW Marriott Indianapolis.

M/S/P to appoint Sarah Cron as the voting delegate.

CFC Cooperative System Integrity Fund – Due to a healthy balance in the fund, the CFC Board of Directors voted to not seek contributions to the Integrity Fund this year.

NRECA – April 2024 Board Update was reviewed.

MAC – None

FEDERATED – Federated 2024 Safety and Loss Prevention Assessment was reviewed.

Federated April 2024 Member Update was reviewed.

NRTC – None

RESCO – None

NISC – None

OTHER – CTC 2024 Annual Meeting will be held virtually on June 5, 2024, 11:00 a.m. Director election ballot needs to be returned by May 27, 2024.

M/S/P to vote for Tyler Glenn and Nate Thiesse.

CTC Taste of Technology dates and locations were reviewed.

M/S/P to accept the activity reports.

REPORTS

3.1 Safety Control

The next safety training is scheduled for May 28th with MREA presenting Chainsaw Safety, and June 5th with Deanna Soderberg presenting Poisonous Plants and Bug Bites. Deanna is also scheduled to do a Field Audit on May 23rd.

The 2024 Safety Meeting Scheduled was reviewed.

The 2024 Safety Cross was reviewed.

SCHEDULED MEETINGS

- 4.1 GRE Annual and Monthly Meeting
June 5 - 6, 2024
A guest director is invited to attend. Attending: Mike Reem
- 4.2 Neighboring Cooperative Annual Meetings
Crow Wing Power, Saturday, June 15, 2024, Forest View Middle School
- 4.3 MREA District 2 Meeting
Friday, July 12, 2024, Lake Country Power, Cohasset, MN
Attending: Harold Harms, Mike Reem, Bruce Robinson, and Mark Anderson.
Aileen DeMenge will be attending as MREA Director.
- 4.4 NRECA Legal Seminar
July 15 – 17, 2024, Traverse City, MI
Attending: Henry Brucker
- 4.5 MREA Energy Issues Summit
August 7 – 8, 2024, Bloomington, M
Attending: Mark Anderson, Mike Reem, and Bruce Robinson.
Aileen DeMenge will be attending as MREA Director.
- 4.6 NRECA Regional Meeting
September 16 – 18, 2024, Minneapolis, MN
Attending: Decision will be made at a future meeting.
- 4.7 NRECA Credentialed Cooperative Director Training
December 4 – 5, 2024
Wednesday – Thursday, Maple Grove
- 4.8 Other Meeting Information

Three months look ahead @ MLEC Board meeting NON-Reoccurring Agenda Items:

- June 27th:
 - Board Fees
 - NRECA Governance Video or Article
- July 25th:
 - NRECA Board Governance Video or Article
- August 22nd:
 - NRECA Governance Video or Article

Remaining MREA 2024 Board Meeting Dates:

- Tuesday/Wednesday - June 18 - 19
- Tuesday/Wednesday - August 8 - 9
- Tuesday/Wednesday - October 15 – 16
- Tuesday/Wednesday – December 10 - 11

NOTE: If anyone is interested in attending a MREA Board meeting, please let Deb Chute and Director Aileen DeMenge know so arrangements can be made

4.9 Board Meeting Dates

- Thursday, June 27 2024
- Thursday, July 25, 2024
- Thursday, August 22, 2024

4.10 CFC Strategic Business Plan Meeting

September 10 – 11, 2024, Tuesday – Wednesday, MLEC Meeting Room

4.11 2024 MLEC Annual Meeting and Open House

Thursday, September 19, 2024, MLEC New Headquarters

M/S/P to approve Thursday, August 22, 2024 Board Meeting date.

M/S/P to approve director participation at all scheduled meetings.

Confidential Discussion/Update

Sarah updated the Board on confidential issues.

The Board went into Executive Session at 10:57 a.m.

M/S/P to accept Derik Midthun’s resignation from the Board of Directors, and to appoint Carol Pundt to serve as District 2 board member for the next three months.

M/S/P to review and increase MLEC’s CEO Sarah Cron’s salary.

Harold Harms will contact Great River Energy (GRE) regarding a 360 review.

The meeting adjourned at 11:46 a.m.

Aileen DeMenge, Secretary/Treasurer

Harold Harms, President