

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 August 25, 2022. All board members were present with Mike Reem coming a little late.

President Harold Harms called the Board meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

All team leaders except Lincoln Messner were present for their reports. Executive Assistant Debra Chute was also in attendance. 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 Consent Agenda Items - Expense vouchers for the period ending August 25, 2022; agenda of the August 25, 2022 regular board meeting; and minutes of the July 28, 2022 regular board meeting.

The team reports and financial report for the month ending July 2022 were reviewed and accepted upon motion.

## **VOTING**

### **2.1 Recommended Write-offs**

M/S/P to approve the recommended electric write-offs for this month in the amount of \$6,453.56.

### **2.2 Policy Review**

M/S/P to approve revised policies:

- Policy No. 304 – Physical Examinations
- Policy No. 305 – Equal Employment Opportunity and Nondiscrimination
- Policy No. 306 - Retirement
- Policy No. 307 – Employee/Director Recognition

### **2.3 Board Activity Reports**

GRE – July 2022 GRE Board Report submitted by Harold Harms was reviewed.

MREA – August 2022 MREA Informal Board minutes were reviewed.

Mark Anderson and Derik Midthun gave a verbal report on MREA's New Director Orientation and MREA's Energy Issues Summit. Aileen DeMenge also reported on MREA's Energy Issues Summit.

Harold Harms gave a verbal report on MREA's Board Chair Roundtable Discussion.

RUS – None

CFC – Notice of CFC District Meeting and Director Candidate and Elections were reviewed.  
M/S/P to approve CFC Nominating Committee Report.  
M/S/P to vote for Anthony Larson as District 6 Director.  
NRECA – NRECA Legal Seminar Report submitted by Heinrich Brucker was reviewed.  
MAC – None  
FEDERATED – Federated Rural Electric Insurance Exchange Notice of Nomination and Election was reviewed.  
NRTC – MLEC received a check from NRTC in the amount of \$11,192.94. This represents the remainder of the 2005 patronage balance, and 30 % of 2021 NRTC Patronage.  
RESCO – MLEC received a check from RESCO in the amount of \$9,300.00. This represents 20% of 2021 patronage dividend allocation and the remainder of 2011 retirement.  
NISC – None  
Other –  
CoBank – 2022 Director Election Ballot and candidate information was reviewed.  
M/S/P to vote for Christopher Piotrowski as Central Region CoBank Director.

M/S/P to accept the activity reports.

## REPORTS

### 3.1 Safety Control

MREA presented *Traffic Safety* on August 3<sup>rd</sup>. Deanna Soderberg of PLS conducted a Field Audit on August 10<sup>th</sup>.

The next Safety Training is scheduled for September 14<sup>th</sup> with Deanna Soderberg presenting *Highway Safety/Load Safety*.

The remaining 2022 Safety Training schedule was reviewed.  
The 2022 Safety Cross was reviewed.

## SCHEDULED MEETINGS

### NRECA Director Online Courses

A list of online courses was reviewed. Please let Deb Chute know if you would like to take any of the courses.

### 4.1 GRE Meeting Special Guest Attendance

MLEC is invited to allow one board member to attend GRE's month board meeting on October 5 - 6, 2022, Wednesday – Thursday.  
Attending: Derik Midthun

### 4.2 NRECA Credentialed Cooperative Director Training

November 16 – 18, 2022 AND November 30 – December 2, 2022  
Wednesday – Friday, Maple Grove  
Attending: Mark Anderson and Derik Midthun

4.3 MREA Legislative Summit

November 17, 2022, Thursday, 10:00 – 2:00

Location: TBD. There will also be an online option.

Attending: A final decision will be made at a future meeting.

4.4 Other Meeting Information

Three months look ahead @ MLEC Board meeting non-reoccurring Agenda Items:

- September 22<sup>nd</sup>:
  - Cold Weather Rule Appeals Committee
  - NRECA Board Governance Video
- October 27<sup>th</sup>:
  - Guest David Saggau, GRE President and CEO
  - 2023 Preliminary Budget Review
  - NRECA Governance Video
- November 23<sup>rd</sup>:
  - Updated 2023 Budget Review
  - NRECA Board Governance Video

MREA 2022 Board Meeting Dates:

- Tuesday – Wednesday, October 18-19
- Tuesday – Wednesday, December 20-21

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.

4.5 Board Meeting Dates

- Thursday, September 22, 2022
- Thursday, October 27, 2022
- Wednesday, November 23, 2022

M/S/P to approve Wednesday, November 23, 2022 Board meeting date.

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

Confidential Discussion/Update

Sarah updated the Board on confidential issues.

**BOARD EXECUTIVE SESSION**

The board met in executive session starting at 10:49.

Regular Board Meeting Minutes  
August 25, 2022

**BOARD RESOLUTION**

A resolution authorizing the withdrawal of Connexus Energy as a member of Great River Energy (GRE) was discussed by the Board and approved.

M/S/P on resolution.

Said resolution is attached to these minutes.

Meeting adjourned at 11:34 a.m.

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Aileen DeMenge, Secretary/Treasurer

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Harold Harms, President