

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 September 22, 2022. All board members except Derik Midthun were present; Harold Harms attended remotely.

Vice President Mike Reem called the Board meeting to order at 9:15 a.m.

All team leaders were present for their reports. 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 September 22, 2022; agenda of the September 22, 2022 regular board meeting with one change to the agenda of moving the Confidential Discussion/Update to immediately following the Team and Financial Reports; and minutes of the August 25, 2022 regular board meeting.

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

2023 Estate and Write-Off Capital Credit Discount Rate

M/S/P to approve the 2023 Estate and Write-Off Capital Credit Discount Rate to be set at 4.5%.

Confidential Discussion/Update

The Board and CEO Sarah Cron went into confidential discussion at 10:20.

Sarah updated the Board on confidential issues.

M/S/P to give approval to Sarah Cron, MLEC CEO to engage McGough Construction in the preconstruction process.

Confidential Update concluded at 10:55.

VOTING

2.1 Recommended Write-offs

M/S/P to approve the recommended electric write-offs for this month in the amount of \$1,133.02.

2.2 Policy Review

M/S/P to approve revised policies:

- Policy No. 308 – Employee’s Expense Vouchers
- Policy No. 309 – Use of Cooperative’s Equipment, Loan Program & Services
- 309 Attachment A – Written Authorization for Ordering & Payroll Deductions

- 309 Attachment B – Personal Technology Loan
- 309A – PC & Communication Resources Use
- 309B – Remote Access to Cooperative’s Network Equipment
- Policy No. 310 – Loss Control

2.3 Board Activity Reports

GRE – GRE did not have a board meeting in August. Harold Harms gave a verbal report from the September Board Meeting.

MREA – MREA announced their next Director of Safety will be Kirk Wulf. His first day at MREA will be September 26, 2022.

RUS – None

CFC – None

NRECA – None

MAC – None

FEDERATED – None

NRTC – Non

NISC – None

Other – None

CoBank – None

M/S/P to accept the activity reports.

REPORTS

3.1 Safety Control

Deanna Soderberg of PLS presented *Highway Safety/Load Safety* on September 14th.

The next Safety Training is scheduled for October 12th with MREA presenting Regulators and Controls. Deanna Soderberg will conduct a *Field Audit* on October 18th.

The remaining 2022 Safety Training schedule was reviewed.

The 2022 Safety Cross was reviewed.

3.2 Cold Weather Rules Appeals Committee Update

Committee members were identified for the next cold weather season. The directors will contact the member in their district to confirm their willingness to serve.

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 Garrison Commercial Club Fall Membership Dinner and Meeting
Tuesday, October 11, 2022

JJ's Birds Nest, General Meeting – 6:00 p.m. Meal at 7:00 p.m.
Attending: No one.

4.3 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
Hotel reservations are done for the first session – November 16-18.

4.4 MREA Legislative Summit

November 17, 2022, Thursday, 10:00 – 2:00
Cancelled for 2022.

4.5 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
Hotel reservations for the second week will be made in October.

4.6 Other Meeting Information

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

- October 27th:
 - Guest David Saggau, GRE President and CEO
 - 2023 Preliminary Budget Review
 - 2022 General Capital Credit Retirement
 - NRECA Governance Article or Video
- Wednesday, November 23rd:
 - Updated 2023 Preliminary Budget Review
 - Mille Lacs Community Trust Board Update
 - NRECA Board Governance Article or Video
- December 22nd:
 - 2023 Budget Final Review and Approval
 - NRECA Board Governance Article or 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.

4.7 Board Meeting Dates

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

M/S/P to approve Thursday, December 22, 2022 Board meeting date.

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

Meeting adjourned at 11:30 a.m.

Aileen DeMenge, Secretary/Treasurer

Mike Reem, Vice President