

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 November 23, 2022. All board members except Aileen DeMenge were present.

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

All team leaders except Stacy Cluff and Mary Ward were present for their reports. Executive Assistant Debra Chute was also present. Everyone joined in the Pledge of Allegiance.

These minutes being transcribed by or under the direction of Assistant Secretary/Treasurer, Bruce Robinson, 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 November 23, 2022, agenda of the November 23, 2022 regular board meeting, and minutes of the October 27, 2022 regular board meeting.

The team reports and financial reports for the month of October 2022 were reviewed and accepted upon motion.

BOARD RESOLUTIONS

The following resolutions were discussed by the board and approved.

M/S/P to approve a board resolution needed so MLEC can apply for the ReConnect Grant.

M/S/P to approve a board resolution authorizing MLEC CEO Sarah Cron to open a new bank account for ReConnect 3 Grant funds.

Said resolutions are attached to these minutes.

Preliminary 2023 Budget Review

An updated 2023 Preliminary Budget was presented for Board review and discussion.

VOTING

2.1 Monthly Recommended Write-Offs

M/S/P to approve the recommended electric write-offs for this month in the amount of \$3,421.16

2.2 Policy Review

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

- Policy No. 316 – Anti-Harassment Policy
- Policy No. 317 – Temporary Light Duty Work/Workers” Compensation
- Policy No. 318 – Commercial Driver’s License Policy
- Attachment to Policy 318 – Return to Work Agreement

2.3 Mille Lacs Community Trust Update

M/S/P to approve the appointment of Lisa Anderson for District 1 and Kim Waffensmith for District 2 to Mille Lacs Community Trust Board of Directors as recommended by the Trust Board of Directors.

2.4 Activity Reports

- GRE – The November 2022 GRE Board Minutes as submitted by Harold Harms were reviewed.
- GRE Resolution – Discussion was held on a resolution for Great River Energy.
M/S/P to approve resolution. Said resolution is attached to these minutes.
- MREA – MREA September 2022 Report was reviewed.
M/S/P to appoint Aileen DeMenge as the 2023 Voting Delegate and Bruce Robinson as the alternate for MREA annual and district meetings.
- RUS – none
- CFC – none
- NRECA – none
- MAC – none
- FEDERATED – none
- NRTC – none
- RESCO – none
- NISC – none
- OTHER – none

M/S/P to accept the activity reports.

REPORTS

3.1 Safety Control

Deanna Soderberg conducted a Field Audit on October 18th. Deanna also presented *Incident Command System, ICS Emergency Restoration Plan and ERP* on November 12th.

The next safety meeting is scheduled for December 13th with Deanna Soderberg presenting *Hearing Conservation/Oil Spill Cleanup*.

The 2022 Safety Meeting Schedule and 2022 Safety Cross were reviewed.

SCHEDULED MEETINGS

NRECA Director Online Courses

A list of online courses offered by NRECA for January – May was reviewed. Please let Deb Chute know if you would like to take any of the courses.

4.1 NRECA Credentialed Cooperative Director Training

November 30 – December 1, 2022

Wednesday – Thursday, Maple Grove

Attending: Mark Anderson

4.2 MREA Annual Meeting, St Paul RiverCenter

February 21 – 22, 2023, Tuesday - Wednesday

Aileen DeMenge will be attending. A final decision on other directors attending will be made at a future meeting.

4.3 NRECA Annual Meeting, Nashville, TN

March 5 – 8, 2023

A final decision on who will be attending will be made at a future meeting.

4.4 CoBank Regional Meeting, Minneapolis, MN

Thursday – Friday, March 16 – 17, 20223

A final decision on the directors attending will be made at a future meeting.

4.5 Other Information:

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

- December 22:
 - 2023 Budget Review and Approval
 - NRECA Governance Video or Article
- January 26th:
 - NRECA Governance Video or Article
- February 23rd:
 - Year End Presentation
 - Annual Report to Board on Policy 517
 - NRECA Board Governance Video or Article

Remaining MREA 2021 Board Meeting Dates:

- Tuesday – Wednesday, December 20-21
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MREA 2023 Board Meeting Dates:

- Monday, February 20
- Tuesday – Wednesday, April 18-19
- Tuesday, June 27
- Thursday – Friday, August 10-11
- Tuesday – Wednesday, October 17-18
- Tuesday – Wednesday, December 12-13

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.

4.6 Board Meeting Dates

- Thursday, December 22, 2022
- Thursday, January 26, 2023
- Thursday, February 23, 2023

M/S/P to approve Thursday, February 23, 2023 Board meeting date.

4.7 2023 MLEC Annual Meeting

Discussion on date and location of the 2023 Annual Meeting was held.

M/S/P to contact Minnesota National Golf Course, McGregor, MN on availability for Thursday May 18, 2023 to hold MLEC Annual Meeting in their meeting room.

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

Confidential Discussion/Update

Sarah updated the Board on confidential issues.

The meeting adjourned at 12:00 noon.

Bruce Robinson, Assistant Secretary/Treasurer

Harold Harms, President