

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 on January 26, 2023. All board members were present. Sarah Cron, MLEC CEO, Lincoln Messner, MLEC Accounting and Finance Manager, and Debra Chute, MLEC Executive Assistant were also present.

President Harold Harms called the meeting to order at 9:15 a.m. Everyone joined in the Pledge of Allegiance. Harold recognized Mark Anderson on receiving NRECA's Credentialed Cooperative Director certificate.

These minutes being transcribed by or under the direction of Secretary/Treasurer, Aileen DeMenge, the following proceedings have: (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 January 26, 2023, agenda for the January 26, 2023 regular board meeting, and minutes of the December 22, 2022 board meeting.

Jeff Borling, GRE Economic Development Lead, attended the meeting via Zoom. Jeff and Lincoln Messner presented an update to MLEC's Revolving Loan Fund Plan, a resolution in support of the RLF Plan, an economic development proposal and a resolution to approve Weitnauer Properties, LLC economic development loan.

M/S/P to appoint Aileen DeMenge as MLEC Board representative on MLEC Economic Development Committee.

M/S/P to approve plan updates, and resolutions.

Said resolutions are attached to these minutes.

All team leaders were present for their reports.

The team and financial reports for December 2022 and recommended electric write-offs for the month in the amount of \$1,598.36 were reviewed and accepted upon motion.

Board Resolution

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

Said resolution is attached to these minutes.

## VOTING

### 2.1 Policy Review

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

- Policy No. 401 – Collection Procedures
- Policy No. 401A – Guidelines for Denying Consumer Request for Additional Services
- Policy No. 402 – Defaulted Check/ACH Payment Service Charge
- Policy No. 403 – Adjustments for Billing Inaccuracies
- Policy No. 501 – Application for Membership and/or Electric Service
- Policy No. 502 – Line extension and Service Rebuilds

### 2.2 Board Activity Reports

GRE – The December 2022 and January 2023 GRE Board Reports submitted by Harold Harms were reviewed.

MREA – MREA Winter 2022 Report was reviewed.

MREA January 13, 2023 Legislative Bulletin was reviewed.

RUS – No report

CFC – No report

NRECA – Winter 2022 Board of Directors report was reviewed.

MAC – No report

FEDERATED – No report.

NRTC – No report

RESCO – No report.

NISC – 2022 Capital Credit Summary from NISC was reviewed.

Other: MLEC received a thank you from CRC (Cooperative Response Center, Inc.) for our membership.

M/S/P to accept the activity reports.

## REPORTS

### 3.1 Safety Control

MREA presented *Working on URD Lines* on January 4<sup>th</sup>. Deanna Soderberg of PLS conducted a *Field Audit* on January 11<sup>th</sup>.

The next safety training is scheduled on February 15, 2023 with Deanna Soderberg presenting *AWAIR, Bloodborne Pathogens, RTK, Emergency Action Plans, Fire Prevention/Response*.

The 2023 Safety Meeting Schedule was reviewed.

The December 2022 Safety Cross was reviewed.

### 3.2 Quarterly Articles/Bylaws Review

The first third of the By-Laws was reviewed as part of the quarterly update.

#### SCHEDULED MEETINGS

4.1 NRECA Director Online Courses

Online courses offered between January – May 2023 are open for registration.

4.2 GRE Region Meeting, Hinckley

Thursday, February 9, 2023, 8:30 – 12:00

Attending - GRE Director Harold Harms, Aileen DeMenge, Bruce Robinson, and Sarah Cron.

4.3 MREA Annual Meeting, RiverCenter, St. Paul, and Online

Tuesday – Wednesday, February 21 – 22, 2023

Attending – Aileen DeMenge and Bruce Robinson

2023 Voting Delegate – Bruce Robinson; Alternate: Aileen DeMenge

M/S/P to appoint Bruce Robinson as the voting delegate for MREA's Annual Meeting.

4.4 NRECA Annual Meeting, Nashville, TN

March 3 – 8, 2023

Attending: No one will be attending.

Voting at the Annual Meeting will be in person only.

2022 Voting Delegate was Harold Harms, Alternate was Bruce Robinson.

M/S/P to appoint Harold Harms as 2023 NREC Voting Delegate and Bruce Robinson as the Alternate.

4.5 CoBank Regional Meeting Hyatt Regency Hotel, Minneapolis, MN

Thursday and Friday, March 16 – 17, 2023

Attending: Harold Harms, Mike Reem, Bruce Robinson, Sarah Cron and Lincoln Messner

4.6 Other Meeting Information:

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

- February 23<sup>rd</sup>:
  - Year End Presentation
  - Annual Report to the Board on Policy 517
  - NRECA Governance Video or Article

January 26, 2023

- March 23<sup>rd</sup>:
  - Audit Report by Eide Bailly
  - NRECA Governance Video or Article
- April 27<sup>th</sup>:
  - NRECA Governance Video or Article

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.

4.7 Board Meeting Dates

- Thursday, February 23, 2023
- Thursday, March 23, 2023
- Thursday, April 27, 2023

4.8 MLEC Annual Meeting - Thursday, May 18, 2023,  
Minnesota National Golf Course, McGregor, MN  
Attending: All Directors

M/S/P to approve Friday, April 27, 2023 Board meeting date.

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

The meeting was adjourned at 12:30 p.m.

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Aileen DeMenge, Secretary/Treasurer

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Harold Harms, President