

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 July 27, 2023. All board members were present.

President Harold Harms called the Board meeting to order at 9:25 a.m.

All team leaders were present for their reports with Stacy Cluff attending remotely. The Operations Team was represented by Tony Anderson, Supervisor of Staking Services and Cory Brix, Line Superintendent. 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 July 27, 2023; agenda of the July 27, 2023 regular board meeting; and minutes of the June 22, 2023 regular board meeting.

The team reports, financial report for the month ending June 2023, and electric write-offs in the amount of \$9,292.39 were reviewed and accepted upon motion. Also reviewed were the single year 2022 audit from Eide Bailly, the Community-Oriented Connectivity Broadband Grant Review and the RUS Audit.

VOTING

2.1 Policy Review

M/S/P to approve revised policies:

- Policy No. 601 – Resale of Materials and Supplies
- Policy No. 602 – Scrap and Junk Material Handling
- Policy No. 801 – Office Hours
- Policy No. 802 – Public Use of Meeting Facilities
- Policy No. 803 – Claims Against the Cooperative

2.2 Board Activity Reports

GRE – June 2023 GRE Board Report submitted by Harold Harms was reviewed.

MREA – June 2023 MREA Informal Board minutes were reviewed.

RUS – None

CFC – None

NRECA – June 2023 NRECA Board Update was reviewed.

MAC – None

NRTC – None

RESCO 2022 Patronage Refund information was reviewed. MLEC received a check in the amount of \$10,873.00.

NISC – None

Other – CoBank 2023 Board Election information was reviewed.

M/S/P to approve the nominating committee report.

M/S/P to accept the activity reports.

REPORTS

3.1 Safety Control

MREA presented *Trenching/Excavation* on July 12th.

Deanna Soderberg of PLS conducted a *Field Audit* on July 18th.

The next Safety Training is scheduled for August 16th with MREA presenting *At Risk Behaviors*.

The remaining 2023 Safety Training schedule was reviewed.

The 2023 Safety Cross was reviewed.

3.2 Quarterly Articles/Bylaws Review

The quarterly review of the Articles and Bylaws included the last third of the By-laws.

SCHEDULED MEETINGS

4.1 MREA Energy Issues Summit, Bloomington, MN

August 9 – 10, 2023

Attending: Harold Harms, Aileen DeMenge, Bruce Robinson, Mike Reem, and Deb Chute

4.2 GRE Meeting Special Guest Attendance

MLEC is invited to allow one board member to attend GRE's month board meeting on November 1 – 2, 2023, Wednesday – Thursday.

Attending: Mark Anderson. If Mark is not able to attend, Aileen DeMenge will attend.

4.3 Other Meeting Information

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

- August 31st:
 - NRECA Board Governance Video

- September 28th:
 - Estate Capital Credit Retirement
 - Cold Weather Rule Appeals Committee
 - NRECA Board Governance Video
- October 26th:
 - Unclaimed Property
 - 2023 General Retirement
 - Preliminary 2024 Budget Review
 - NRECA Governance Video

Discussion was held on having a system tour in September. Sarah and Deb will determine a date.

MREA 2023 Board Meeting Dates:

- Thursday - Friday, August 10-12
- 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.

4.4 Special Board Meeting

Friday, August 11, 2023

4.5 Board Meeting Dates

- Thursday, August 31, 2023
- Thursday, September 28, 2023
- Thursday, October 26, 2023

M/S/P to approve Friday, August 11, 2023 for a special board meeting, change the date of the August board meeting to August 31, 2023, and Thursday, October 26, 2023 Board meeting date.

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

Confidential Discussion/Update

Sarah updated the Board on confidential issues.

Regular Board Meeting Minutes
July 27, 2023

GRE Resolution

M/S/P to approve GRE resolution to extend the power purchase contract date.
Said resolution is attached to these minutes.

Board Executive Session

The board went into executive session at 11:50 and adjourned at 12:26.

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

Aileen DeMenge, Secretary/Treasurer

Harold Harms, President