

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 October 15, 2020. All board members were present.

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

CEO Sarah Cron and Executive Assistant Debra Chute were also present. Everyone joined in the Pledge of Allegiance.

These minutes being transcribed by or under the direction of Secretary/Treasurer, Barbara Welty, 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 October 15, 2020, agenda of the October 15, 2020 regular board meeting, and minutes of the September 23, 2020 regular board meeting.

The team reports and financial reports for the month of September 2020 were reviewed and accepted upon motion. Ann Espeseth, EMR/OMS/DIS Specialist explained kWh usage and KW demand charts that are included in the Operations Monthly Team Report.

2021 Preliminary Budget was presented for Board review and discussion.

A resolution to name authorized MLEC employees who can direct Great River Energy (GRE) to make payments on behalf of MLEC was presented for board consideration.

M/S/P to approve GRE resolution. Said resolution is attached to these minutes.

VOTING

2.1 Monthly Recommended Write-Offs

M/S/P to approve the recommended electric, long distance, and internet, write-offs for this month in the amount of \$1,400.36.

2.2 Policy Review

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

- Policy No. 201 – Financial Policy
- 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 Activity Reports

- GRE – The September 2020 GRE Board Report and Financials as submitted by Harold Harms was reviewed. Harold gave a verbal update on the October GRE Board Meeting.
- MREA – MREA October board meeting will be October 20 – 21. Barb will report at the November MLEC Board Meeting.
- 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

MREA presented *Digger Derrick Safety* on September 24th, and *Overhead Transformers* on October 14th.

The next safety meeting is scheduled for October 22nd with Deanna Soderberg of PLS presenting *Chain Saw Safety*.

The 2020 Safety Cross was reviewed.

3.2 Cold Weather Rule Appeals Committee Update

Committee members were contacted by MLEC's directors. Barb Welty will find someone to serve on the committee from her district.

3.3 Quarterly Articles/By-Laws Review

As part of the quarterly update, the Articles of Incorporation and By-Laws were reviewed.

3.4 Unclaimed Property

\$19,378.04 will be distributed in 2020 to seven area schools.

M/S/P to approve the distribution of Unclaimed property with Aileen DeMenge opposing how the distribution amounts were determined.

SCHEDULED MEETINGS

4.1 MREA Legislative Summit, Maple Grove, Thursday, November 12, 2020

MREA office or conference call

4.2 NRECA Annual Meeting, Online

February 18 – 24, 2021

4.3 MREA Annual Meeting
March 2 – 3, 2021, Tuesday - Wednesday
Attending: No final decision made at this meeting.

4.4 CoBank Regional Meeting, JW Marriott Mall of America, Minneapolis, MN
March 8 – 9, 2021, Monday - Tuesday
Attending: No final decision made at this meeting.

4.5 Other Information:

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

- November 19th:
 - Updated 2021 Preliminary Budget Review
 - NRECA Governance Videos
- December 17th:
 - 2021 Budget Review and Approval
 - Mille Lacs Community Trust Update
 - NRECA Governance Videos
- January 21st:
 - Review GRE Power Bill – January or February
 - NRECA Governance Videos

Remaining MREA 2020 Board Meeting Dates:

- Tuesday – Wednesday, October 20 - 21
- Tuesday – Wednesday, December 15 - 16

NOTE: If anyone is interested in attending a MREA Board meeting, please let Deb Chute and Director Barb Welty know so arrangements can be made.

- 4.6 Board Meeting Dates
- Thursday, November 19, 2020
 - Thursday, December 17, 2020
 - Thursday, January 21, 2021

M/S/P to approve Thursday, January 21, 2021 Board meeting date.

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

Confidential Discussion/Update

CEO Sarah Cron updated the Board on confidential issues.

Meeting adjourned at 1:00 p.m.

Barbara G. Welty, Secretary/Treasurer

Harold Harms, President