

MILLE LACS ENERGY COOPERATIVE
Aitkin, MN 56431

The regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the Mille Lacs Energy Cooperative was held via Zoom on March 18, 2021. All board members were present.

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

All team leaders were present for their reports. Executive Assistant Debra Chute were also present. Also present for a portion of the meeting via Zoom was Lois Fokken of Great River Energy. Everyone joined in the Pledge of Allegiance.

These minutes being transcribed by or under the direction of Secretary/Treasurer, Barbara Welty, 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 March 18, 2021; agenda for the March 18, 2021 regular board meeting; and minutes of the February 18, 2021 regular board meeting.

Management team and financial reports for February 2021 were reviewed and accepted upon motion.

PRESENTATION

Lois Fokken of Great River Energy presented a GRE Power Bill Review to the Board.

VOTING

2.1 Recommended Write-offs

M/S/P to approve the recommended electric and internet write-offs for this month in the amount of \$2,206.10.

2.2 Policy Review

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

- Policy No. 314 – Unpaid Leaves of Absences
- Policy No. 321 – Employment References
- Policy No. 322 – Mobile Devices
- Policy No. 323 – Procurement Conflict of Interest

2.3 ACTIVITY REPORTS

- GRE – February 2021 GRE Board Report submitted by Harold Harms was reviewed. Harold gave a verbal report from the March 2021 GRE Board meeting. A commentary titled *Minnesota Businesses are Paying too Much for Electricity*

included in GRE News Clips of February 22, 2021 was reviewed.

- MREA – March 2021 Board of Directors meeting informal summary minutes were reviewed.
- 2021 MREA Annual Business Meeting notes submitted by Carol Pundt were reviewed.
- MREA Legislative Bulletins from February 12, 19, and March 5, 2021 were reviewed.
- RUS – No report.
- CFC – Letter from CFC regarding promissory notes between CFC and MLEC paid in full was reviewed.
- NRECA – 2021 Annual Meeting notes as submitted by Harold Harms were reviewed.
- MAC – No report.
- FEDERATED – No report.
- NRTC – No report
- RESCO – No report.
- NISC – Patronage check in the amount of \$4,595.38 was received from NISC in February 2021.
- Other – None.

M/S/P to accept the activity reports.

REPORTS

3.1 Safety Control

There was no safety training session between February and March board meetings.

The next safety meeting is scheduled for March 16th with Deanna of PLS conducting *Field Audit*.

The 2021 Safety Meeting schedule was reviewed.

The 2021 Safety Cross was reviewed.

3.2 ACRE/REPAC Donations

Board members and employees will make ACRE/REPAC donations if they wish.

SCHEDULED MEETINGS

4.1 NRECA 2021 Directors Conference, Tuesday – Wednesday, March 23 – 24, 2021, Online
Attending: Don Appel will be registered and will attend at MLEC office. Other directors will also attend as their schedules permit.

4.2 Riverwood Healthcare Center Annual Meeting, Wednesday, March 31, 2021, via Zoom
5:30 p.m.

Attending: No one.

4.3 GRE Annual Meeting, Wednesday, April 7, 2021, Online

Attending: All directors will attend at MLEC office.

4.4 MLEC Annual Meeting, Grand Casino Mille Lacs

Thursday, May 6, 2021

Attending: All directors

4.5 Other Meeting Information:

- April 22nd:
 - Annual Audit Report
 - Quarterly AMI Update
 - NRECA Governance Video or Article

- May 27th:
 - Election of Officers/Reorganization
 - Annual Board Duties and Responsibilities Review
 - NRECA Governance Video or Article

- June 24th:
 - Board Fees
 - NRECA Governance Video or Article

MREA 2021 Board Meeting Dates:

- Tuesday/Wednesday – April 20-21
- Tuesday/Wednesday – June 15-16
- Tuesday/Wednesday – August 17-18
- Tuesday/Wednesday – October 19-20
- Tuesday/Wednesday – December 21-22

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

4.6 Board Meeting Dates:

- Thursday, April 22, 2021
- Thursday, May 27, 2021
- Thursday, June 24, 2021

M/S/P to approve Thursday, June 24, 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.

NRECA Board Governance Article "What to Expect of a Cooperative Director" was reviewed.

Meeting adjourned at 12:19 p.m.



Barbara G. Welty, Secretary/Treasurer



Harold Harms, President