

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 September 20, 2019. All board members except Don Appel were present.

President Harold Harms called the regular monthly meeting of MLEC Board of Directors to order at 9:00 a.m.

All team leaders except Operations Manager William Fillion were present for their reports. The Operations Team was represented by Ann Espeseth, AMR/OMS/DIS Specialist. Executive Assistant Debra Chute was 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 the consent agenda items – Expense vouchers for the period ending September 20, 2019; agenda for the September 20, 2019 regular board meeting; the minutes of the August 16, 2019 regular board meeting and Work Order Inventories for the month of July 2019 in the amount of \$133,245.02.

The team reports for the month of August 2019 and financial reports for the month ending July 31, 2019 were reviewed and accepted upon motion.

The Board met in Executive Session.

Meeting recessed for lunch at 12:00 noon and reconvened at 1:00 p.m.

Voting

2.1 Recommended Write-offs

M/S/P to approve the recommended electric, long distance, and internet, write-offs for this month in the amount of \$8,778.73.

2.2 Policy Review

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

- Policy No. 507 – Outdoor Lights, Public Street and Highway Lighting Installations
- Policy No. 507B – Coop-Owned Outdoor Lighting Maintenance and Retrofits
- Policy No. 508 – Non-Standard Service: Neutral Isolation
- Policy No. 509 – Right-of-Way Clearing and Reclearing

M/S/P to eliminate the following policy:

- Administration Policy No. 507A – Member Owned Outdoor Lighting Repairs was approved.

2.3 Board Fees

Board of Director fees and expense reimbursement were discussed.
Per diem is currently \$299 per day. Stipend is currently \$511 per month.
M/S/P to continue Board of Directors fees as they currently are with no change.

2.4 Activity Reports

GRE – Harold Harms gave a verbal report on GRE's September Board Meeting.
MREA – 2019 August Board Meeting Notes were reviewed.
MREA August 2019 Report was reviewed.
RUS – No report.
CFC – No report.
NRECA – NRECA Legal Seminar 59 report submitted by Heinrich Brucker was reviewed. MLEC Executive Assistant Debbie Chute was instructed to write a thank you to Heinrich Brucker for his thorough and informative report.
MAC – No report.
FEDERATED – No report.
NRTC – No report.
RESCO – No report.
NISC – No report.
Other –
Touchstone Energy – Voting Delegate for Touchstone Energy's Annual Electronic Business Meeting.

M/S/P to name Barbara Welty as voting delegate for Touchstone Energy.

M/S/P to accept the activity reports.

REPORTS

3.1 Safety Control

There was no safety meeting conducted since our August board meeting.
MREA will conduct *Bucket Truck Safety and Inspections* on September 26th.

The monthly Safety Cross was reviewed.

3.2 Cold Weather Rule Appeals Committee Update

Committee members were identified for the next cold weather season. The directors will contact the member in their district to confirm their willingness to serve.

SCHEDULED MEETINGS

Garrison Commercial Club Fall Membership Dinner and Meeting
Tuesday, October 8, 6:00 p.m. at the Birds Nest
Attending: Barbara Welty

4.1 MREA Legislative Summit, Friday, November 22, 2019, MREA Office, Maple Grove

Or conference call
Attending: Barbara Welty

4.2 Other Meeting Information

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

- October 18th:
 - MLEC 990 Review
 - Unclaimed Property
 - Annual Technology Plan Update
 - System Tour

- November 14th:
 - 2019 Proposed General Retirement Calculation
 - Annual Approval of any Rate Changes known as of 1/1/20
 - NRECA Video CEO; and the Fiduciary Duties of the Director

- December 20th:
 - 2020 Budget Presentation
 - Mille Lacs Community Trust Update

Remaining MREA 2019 Board Meeting Dates:

- Tuesday/Wednesday = October 15 - 16
- Tuesday/Wednesday = December 17 - 18

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.

4.3 Board Meeting Dates

- Friday, October 18, 2019
- Thursday, November 14, 2019
- Friday, December 20, 2019

M/S/P to approve changing November Board Meeting Date to Thursday, November 14 and approve Friday, December 20, 2019 Board meeting date.

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

Confidential discussion/Update:

Sarah Cron updated the board on confidential issues.

Meeting adjourned at 2:00 p.m.

Barbara G. Welty, Secretary/Treasurer

Harold Harms, President