

MILLE LACS ENERGY COOPERATIVE  
Aitkin, MN 56431

The regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the Mille Lacs Energy Cooperative was held virtually via Zoom on December 17, 2020. All board members were present.

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

All team leaders except Operations Manager Bill Fillion were present. 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, Barb 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 December 17, 2020, agenda for the December 17, 2020 regular board meeting, and minutes of the November 19, 2020 regular board meeting.

The team and financial reports for the month of November were reviewed and accepted upon motion.

#### PROPOSED 2021 BUDGET

The Management Team led by Accounting and Finance Manager Lincoln Messner presented the recommended 2021 budget.

#### Vote on 2021 Budget

M/S/P to approve the 2021 Proposed Budget as submitted by Management Team.

#### Feasibility Study Update - Widseth

A team from Widseth presented a feasibility study. The Board will review the information and discuss further at the January board meeting.

#### VOTING

##### 2.1 Recommended Write-offs

M/S/P to approve the recommended electric write-offs for this month in the amount of \$11,614.33.

##### 2.2 Policy Review

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

- Policy No. 311 – Sexual Harassment and Sexual Violence
- Policy No. 312 – Drug & Alcohol Policy for DOT Regulated Employees

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M/S/P to eliminate Policy No. 313 – Health Insurance Plan.

2.3 Board Activity Reports

GRE – The November 2020 GRE Report was submitted by Harold Harms for review.

Harold gave a verbal update from the December 2020 GRE Board Meeting

MREA – Barb Welty gave a verbal update on MREA December 2020 Board Meeting.

RUS – No report.

CFC – No Report

NRECA – No report.

MAC – No report.

FEDERATED – No report.

NRTC – No report.

RESCO – No report.

NISC – No report.

M/S/P to accept the activity reports.

2.4 2020 Banking

M/S/P to approve no banking changes be made at this time for 2021.

2.5 Mille Lacs Community Trust Update

M/S/P to approve the appointment of Darlene Stigen for District 3, Bethany Sellers for District 4 and Charles Schotzko for District 5 to Mille Lacs Community Trust Board of Directors as recommended by the Trust Board of Directors.

REPORTS

3.1 Safety Control

Deanna Soderberg presented *Spill Clean Up and Hearing Protection* on December 14th. The current 2020 Safety Cross were reviewed.

SCHEDULED MEETINGS

4.1 NRECA Annual Meeting, Online

February 22 – March 4, 2021

The voting delegate and alternate will be decided at the January meeting when the updated schedule has been reviewed.

4.2 MREA Annual Meeting, St. Paul.

Tuesday – Wednesday, March 2 – 3, 2021

Attending: Barb Welty will be attending as MREA Directors. Harold Harms, Don Appel, Aileen DeMenge, Mike Reem and Bruce Robinson will attend the online meetings.

4.3 CoBank Regional Meeting will be held online. Tentative dates are March 8 – 9, 2021.

4.4 Other Meeting Information

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

- January 21<sup>st</sup>:
  - Alison Deelstra of CFC – Review of KRTA
  - MLEC Building Update
  - NRECA Governance Video or Article
  
- February 18<sup>th</sup>:
  - Year End Presentation
  - Annual Report to Board on Policy 517
  - NRECA Governance Video or Article
  
- March 18<sup>th</sup>:
  - Review GRE Power Bill
  - Annual Audit Report
  - NRECA Governance Video or Article

4.5 Board Meeting Dates

Thursday, January 21, 2021

Thursday, February 18, 2021

Thursday, March 18, 2021

M/S/P to approve Thursday, March 18, 2021 as the March Board meeting date.

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

4.6 2021 MLEC Annual Meeting, Thursday, May 6, 20201

Discussion was held on a location for the 2021 MLEC Annual Meeting.

Confidential Discussion Update

CEO Sarah Cron updated the Board on confidential issues.

Meeting adjourned at 11:50 a.m.

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Barb Welty, Secretary/Treasurer

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Harold Harms, President