

MINUTES  
REGULAR MEETING  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
THE SOCORRO ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC.

October 30, 2024

**INDEX**

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees of The Socorro Electric Cooperative, Inc. (SEC) was held on Wednesday, October 30, 2024, at 310 Abeyta Ave, Socorro, New Mexico.

**CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m. by Leroy Anaya, President.

**ROLL CALL**

Secretary Latasa called the roll and reported those present and attending as follows:

TRUSTEES PRESENT:       Leroy Anaya, President  
                                  Representative, District 3

                                  Ron Burnett, Vice President  
                                  Representative, District 5

                                  Eileen Latasa, Secretary/Treasurer  
                                  Representative, District 2

                                  Ward McCartney, Trustee\*  
                                  Representative, District 1

                                  M Kenneth Bowden, Trustee  
                                  Representative, District 3

                                  Stephen Rosas, Trustee,  
                                  Representative, District 3

                                  David Lyn Wade, Trustee  
                                  Representative, District 4

TRUSTEE(S) ABSENT:     None

ALSO PRESENT:           Donna Wilkins, Interim General Manager  
                                  Jimmy Capps, Chief Financial Officer  
                                  David Montoya, Safety Compliance Officer  
                                  Jason Otero, Line Superintendent  
                                  Marilyn Madrid, Member Services Representative  
                                  Jerrid Williams, Director of Communication and Public Affairs

SEC MEMBERS PRESENT: Karyn DeBont, Prescilla Mauldin, Charles Zimmerly

**QUORUM**

Secretary Latasa declared a Quorum of Trustees present.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

President Anaya led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Trustee Burnett moved to approve the Agenda as presented; the motion was seconded by Trustee Bowden. The motion carried unanimously.

President Anaya approved the Agenda as presented.

**CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL PREVIOUS MINUTES**

October 30, 2024

Trustee McCartney moved to approve the Minutes from the Regular Meeting of September 25, 2024, as presented; the motion was seconded by Trustee Rosas. The motion carried unanimously.

President Anaya approved the Minutes from September 25, 2024, as presented.

### **MEMBER COMMENTS**

Karyn DeBont, a District 3 member, stated that she understood trees growing into the lines and needing line clearance but had questions regarding the SEC contractor cutting trees. Ms. DeBont stated that the SEC contractor cut the trees last year at her location, so she believed the trees did not need to be cut so soon.

### **MANAGER'S REPORT**

Interim Manager Wilkins reported on the expenditure check register totaling \$2,970,240.99 for September 2024.

President Anaya thanked Interim Manager Wilkins for the Expenditure Report for September 2024.

Interim Manager Wilkins reported the Visa Credit Card expenditures, complete with supporting receipts, made available to the Board of Trustees for September 2024.

President Anaya thanked Interim Manager Wilkins for the Visa Credit Card Report for September 2024.

Interim Manager Wilkins reported on the Engineering Report for August that SEC had 27 site visits scheduled and sent out 18 estimate packets to members. Interim Manager Wilkins reported that at US Highway 60, the new line is close to the existing line as the Altitude contractor is placing the new line within the same co-location as the existing line on the NM Tech property. Interim Manager Wilkins stated that as the 69kV line makes its way toward the Tri-State substation, the new poles are so close that they are causing outages during high winds. Interim Manager Wilkins reported that due to the issues SEC has been dealing with EMRTC regarding getting permission, training, and badging to go through the EMRTC site, Altitude has been forced to work with a minimal crew. Interim Manager Wilkins stated that SEC has been trying to work with EMRTC to get the necessary access within the northern sensitive explosives area, but EMRTC has stated that SEC must sign a contract and pay for the cost and fees of escorting in this area, which will total \$30,000. Interim Manager Wilkins reported that General Counsel Wiggins had reviewed the agreement, and all was in order to proceed forward with it. Interim Manager Wilkins reported that while line spots were being called in, it was discovered that AT&T had an underground fiber line that required a crossing agreement with AT&T. Interim Manager Wilkins stated that General Counsel Wiggins reviewed the agreement, and all was in order. Interim Manager Wilkins reported that AT&T has approved the signed agreement and will not charge SEC for the crossing. Interim Manager Wilkins reported that sub-contractors for Altitude have completed the foundation for the 19 poles and have moved on to the 69kV underground duct bank by the Tri-State substation due to it being congested coming out of the substation. Interim Manager Wilkins reported that Interstate, the Magdalena substation contractor, is 95% completed; however, one voltage regulator has not been delivered, which is holding up the testing. Interim Manager Wilkins reported that Altitude is also working on the Magdalena underground feeder getaways as they exit the new substation to go to an overhead pole transition. Interim Manager Wilkins stated that there are four feeder circuits out of the Magdalena substation and proceeded to answer questions posed by the Trustees.

President Anaya thanked Interim Manager Wilkins for the Engineering Report for September 2024.

Interim Manager Wilkins reported that SEC had received Patronage Capital Allocations from Western United Electric Supply of \$1,772.26.

President Anaya thanked Interim Manager Wilkins for the Manager's Report for September 2024.

### **FINANCIAL REPORT**

Mr. Capps carefully reviewed the RUS Form 7 Report for September 2024 RUS Form 7 in detail and answered questions the Trustees posed.

October 30, 2024

President Anaya thanked Mr. Capps for the RUS Form 7 Report for September 2024.

### **SAFETY COMPLIANCE REPORT**

#### **SAFETY REPORT**

Mr. Montoya reviewed the September Safety Report and proceeded to answer questions posed by the Trustees.

#### **JOB BRIEFING**

Mr. Montoya reviewed the September Job Briefing Reports.

President Anaya thanked Mr. Montoya for the Safety Report for September 2024.

### **OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE REPORT**

#### **CONSTRUCTION/MAINTENANCE REPORT**

Mr. Otero reported on September activities, with crews completing 45 service orders and 49 work orders, and answered questions the Trustees posed.

#### **OUTAGE REPORTS**

Mr. Otero reviewed the outages occurring in September 2024 and answered questions the Trustees posed.

President Anaya thanked Mr. Otero for the Operations and Maintenance Report for September 2024.

### **MEMBER SERVICES REPORTS**

#### **ENERGY DELINQUENT REPORT**

Ms. Madrid reported on the Energy Delinquent Report for September 2024. Ms. Madrid reported that for September 2024, SEC had 35 members with medical certificates totaling \$131,317.63 and proceeded to answer questions posed by the Trustees.

#### **NM PRC MEMBER CONCERNS**

Ms. Madrid reported that no SEC Member complaints were filed with the NM PRC in September 2024.

President Anaya thanked Ms. Madrid for the Member Services Report for September 2024.

### **COMMUNICATIONS AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS REPORT**

Mr. Williams reviewed the September 2024 Communications and Public Affairs Report.

President Anaya thanked Mr. Williams for the Communications and Public Affairs Report for September 2024.

### **TRI-STATE REPORT**

President Anaya stated that he had received a donation from Tri-State, awarded to the Socorro County Historical Society on behalf of Socorro Electric.

Mr. Zimmerly, President of the Socorro County Historical Society, thanked the Board and Tri-State for this award and stated it would be utilized at the Hammel Museum.

President Anaya gave the Tri-State Board of Directors' activities report for October 2024.

### **NMREC REPORT**

Trustee Burnett presented the NMREC activities report for October 2024.

President Anaya thanked Trustee Burnett for the NMREC Report for October 2024.

October 30, 2024

**PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

President Anaya reported about the NRECA Region 8 & 10 meeting he attended.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**RUS FFB Loan BB48 Advance - Resolution**

Interim Manager Wilkins reported on the cost of the upcoming projects SEC is working on, and it is recommending that SEC withdraw from RUS \$8,722,000 to pay for these costs. Interim Manager Wilkins proceeded to answer questions posed by the Trustees.

After discussion, Trustee Latasa moved to approve the board resolution requesting an FFB Loan of \$8,722,000; the motion was seconded by Trustee Rosas. The motion carried unanimously.

(copy of Resolution attached hereto and made a part hereof)

**Consideration of Capital Credit Estate Retirements**

Interim Manager Wilkins reported that SEC General Counsel Lorna Wiggins Esq. had previously reviewed the Patronage Estate Capital Retirement requests as provided in the Trustee's BoardPaq and proceeded to answer questions posed by the Trustees. Ms. Wiggins reviewed the retirement documents and stated that they appeared to be in order and were ready for the Board's consideration:

**ESTATE RETIREMENTS:**

	Operating Margins	Plains G&T	Investment in Associated Organizations	Cushion of Credit & Other Non-Ops	Tri-State	Gains	Unpaid Balance	Total	Total without Tri-State
Oct-24-A	\$330.05	\$5.03	\$27.63	\$16.94	\$167.32	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$546.97	\$379.65
Oct-24-B	\$353.07	\$6.60	\$25.88	\$15.52	\$132.99	\$88.52	\$0.00	\$622.58	\$489.59

**JOINT ACCOUNT ESTATE RETIREMENTS:**

	Operating Margins	Plains G&T	Investment in Associated Organizations	Cushion of Credit & Other Non-Ops	Tri-State	Gains	Unpaid Balance	Total	Total without Tri-State
Oct-24-A	\$160.17	\$3.59	\$11.77	\$7.72	\$45.15	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$228.40	\$183.25
Oct-24-B	\$357.11	\$6.85	\$11.05	\$0.00	\$89.06	\$305.35	\$0.00	\$769.42	\$680.36
Oct-24-C	\$156.23	\$4.44	\$3.08	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$128.47	\$0.00	\$292.22	\$292.22

After discussion, Trustee Burnett moved to approve the Retirement of Patronage Capital as presented, absent any Tri-State allocations, to the accounts mentioned above; the motion was seconded by Trustee McCartney. The motion carried unanimously.

**Consideration of Line Extension Contracts**

There were no Line Extension Contracts open for consideration.

**Consideration of Trustee Travel**

Trustees Bowden, Burnett, Rosas, and Wade requested Board approval to attend the Tri-State Region Meeting scheduled for October 30, 2024, in Albuquerque, New Mexico.

Trustee Latasa moved to approve Trustees Bowden, Burnett, Rosas, and Wade to attend the Tri-State Region Meeting; the motion was seconded by Trustee McCartney. The motion carried unanimously.

Trustees Latasa, Rosas, and President Anaya requested Board approval to attend the NMREC Director's December Training scheduled for December 11, 2024, in Albuquerque, New Mexico.

REGULAR BOARD MEETING

October 30, 2024

Trustee Burnett moved to approve Trustees Latasa, Rosas, and President Anaya to attend the NMREC Director's December Training; the motion was seconded by Trustee Bowden. The motion carried unanimously.

Trustee Latasa requested Board approval to attend the NRECA Director's Conference scheduled for January 25-28, 2025, in Ponte Vedra Beach, Florida.

Trustee Burnett moved to approve Trustee Latasa to attend the NRECA Director's Conference; the motion was seconded by Trustee Rosas. The motion carried unanimously.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Trustee Burnett moved to go into Executive Session to discuss employment matters and strategic and long-range business plans; the motion was seconded by Trustee Latasa. The motion carried unanimously.

President Anaya called for an Executive Session.

The Board adjourned to Executive Session at 11:38 a.m.

\* Trustee McCartney was excused from the Executive Session at 11:38 a.m. and did not return after the Regular Session.

**REGULAR SESSION**

Trustee Burnett moved and was seconded by Trustee Rosas to return to the Regular Session at 12:05 p.m. The motion carried unanimously.

President Anaya stated that no action was taken during the Executive Session.

**SET DATE/TIME FOR REGULAR MEETING**

After discussion, Trustee Burnett moved to set the date and time of the Committee meetings for November 21, 2024, at 12:30 p.m. and the next regularly scheduled Board Meeting for November 21, 2024, at 2:00 p.m.; the motion was seconded by Trustee Latasa. The motion carried unanimously.

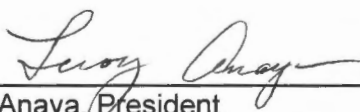
**ADJOURNMENT**

With no other items open for discussion, Trustee Latasa moved to adjourn; the motion was seconded by Trustee Bowden. The motion carried unanimously.

President Anaya adjourned the meeting at 12:07 p.m.

  
Eileen Latasa, Secretary/Treasurer

APPROVED:

  
Leroy Anaya, President

I, Eileen Latasa, do hereby certify that I am the Secretary of the Board of Trustees of The Socorro Electric Cooperative, Inc., herein called the "Cooperative," and the above is a true and exact copy of the Minutes of the Regular Meeting held on October 30, 2024. A Quorum of Trustees was present and acted upon throughout the meeting, and none of the Minutes of the above have been rescinded or modified.

  
Eileen Latasa, Secretary/Treasurer

Form of Resolution to Accompany  
RUS Form 675

Resolved, That Donna Wilkins, Interim General  
Manager, Leroy Anaya, President, and  
Eileen Latasa, Secretary -Treasurer, be  
authorized to sign RUS Form Number 595, Financial Requirement and  
Expenditure Statement.

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CERTIFICATE OF SECRETARY

I, Eileen Latasa, hereby certify that I am  
Secretary-Treasurer of Socorro Electric Cooperative, Inc.,  
and that the foregoing is a true and exact copy of an excerpt from the minutes of  
board meeting of the directors held October 30, 2024  
and that a quorum was present and acted throughout the meeting.

*Eileen Latasa*  
Secretary

