

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

March 26, 2025

**INDEX**

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees of The Socorro Electric Cooperative, Inc. (SEC) was held on Wednesday, March 26, 2025, at 310 Abeyta Ave, Socorro, New Mexico.

**CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 2:00 p.m. by President Anaya.

**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

                                    Stephen Rosas, Trustee,  
                                    Representative, District 3

                                    David Lyn Wade, Trustee  
                                    Representative, District 4

TRUSTEE(S) ABSENT:      None

ALSO PRESENT:            Manuel Gonzales, Chief Executive Officer  
                                    Alyssa Cruz, Interim Executive Assistant  
                                    Rauni Montoya, Chief Financial Officer  
                                    David Montoya, Safety Compliance Officer  
                                    Jason Otero, Chief Operations Officer  
                                    Marilyn Madrid, Member Services Supervisor  
                                    Jimmy Capps, Director of Communications & Public Affairs  
                                    Adriana Arellano, Metering/Billing Supervisor/Human Resources Manager  
                                    Patty Williams, Wiggins, Williams and Wiggins

SEC MEMBERS PRESENT: Tony Gonzales, David Dickey

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

President Anaya approved the Agenda as presented.

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**CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL PREVIOUS MINUTES**

**FEBRUARY 26, 2025 – REGULAR MEETING**

Trustee Burnett moved to approve the Minutes from the Regular Meeting of February 26, 2025, as presented; the motion was seconded by Trustee Latasa. The motion carried unanimously.

President Anaya approved the Minutes from February 26, 2025, as presented.

**MEMBER COMMENTS**

There were no comments brought forth by SEC members.

**CEO'S REPORT**

CEO Gonzales informed the Board of Trustees they will see the development of the senior staff's strategy plan through their reports.

CEO Gonzales reported SEC staff have been doing an amazing job using and expanding on the technology that has been in place. Utilizing the technology has helped crews respond to outages upon receiving red flag warnings in conjunction with an outage on Tri-State Generation and Transmission substation and managing the 69 kV Line project, helped reach a milestone for the Magdalena substation being fed by the new 69 kV Line.

CEO Gonzales and Mr. Otero explained the red flag warning and the outage that took place in San Marcial. The red flag is put in place to help prevent wildfires should an energized line make contact with dry brush or tree branches due to high winds.

President Anaya thanked CEO Gonzales for his report for March 2025.

**FINANCIAL REPORT**

CFO Montoya presented her department report to the Board of Trustees. CFO Montoya provided an update on the financial audit and the report should be available to the Board of Trustees during their April meeting. The third request for reimbursement (RFR) was finalized from the Office of Broadband Access and Expansion for the Magdalena broadband project.

CFO Montoya carefully reviewed and presented the RUS Form 7 Report for March 2025.

President Anaya thanked Ms. Montoya for the Accounting Department Report and RUS Form 7 Report for March 2025.

**SAFETY COMPLIANCE REPORT**

**SAFETY REPORT**

Safety Compliance Officer Mr. Montoya reviewed the March 2025 Safety Report.

**JOB BRIEFING**

Mr. Montoya reviewed the March 2025 Job Briefing Reports.

Mr. Montoya shared with the Board of Trustees that he along with COO Otero have been overseeing the Merchant testing for the apprentices, and they have been doing well on their testing. Mr. Montoya also brought rubber gloves and sleeves to show the Board of Trustees what the line crew wears to protect themselves.

President Anaya thanked Mr. Montoya for the Safety Report for March 2025.

**OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE REPORT**

**CONSTRUCTION/MAINTENANCE REPORT**

COO Otero presented the Operations and Maintenance Department Report, highlighting construction and maintenance activity. Included is the completion of transferring the old 69 kV line to the new 69 kV line as well as the line crew's participation at IBEW 611 SEC Electric Linemen Apprenticeship Trade Career Day at Socorro High School which sparked interest in

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starting a summer program for students. Mr. Otero proceeded to answer questions posed by the Trustees.

**OUTAGE REPORTS**

Mr. Otero reviewed 11 outages during the month of February 2025. Mr. Otero proceeded to answer questions posed by the Trustees.

President Anaya thanked Mr. Otero for the Operations and Maintenance Department and Outage Reports for March 2025.

**MEMBER SERVICES REPORT**

Ms. Madrid presented the Member Service Department Report stated SEC continues to make better use of the technology in place within SEC's software for a more efficient work environment and better experience for our membership. Ms. Madrid shared some highlights on SEC's member service representatives who are pursuing employee development such as learning to speak Spanish to better assist SEC members. Ms. Madrid also reported on member service representatives' participation in community events and activities.

President Anaya thanked Ms. Madrid for the Member Services Report for March 2025.

**COMMUNICATIONS REPORT**

Director Capps presented the Communication Report for February 2025. Mr. Capps stated giveaways have been ordered and received for SEC's upcoming 80<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting and vendors have contributed to the door prizes. Mr. Capps proceeded to answer questions posed by the Trustees.

President Anaya thanked Director Capps for the Communications and Public Affairs Report for March 2025.

**TRI-STATE REPORT**

President Anaya gave the Tri-State Board of Director's activities report for February 2025. President Anaya proceeded to answer questions posed by the Trustees.

**NMREC REPORT**

CEO Gonzales presented the NMREC activities report for February 2025 and stated the upcoming 81<sup>st</sup> NMREC Statewide Annual Meeting will be held May 13-15, 2025, at the Isleta Resort and Casino. CEO Gonzales proceeded to answer questions posed by the Trustees.

President Anaya thanked CEO Gonzales for the NMREC Report for March 2025.

**PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

President Anaya shared information on the upcoming 80<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting which will be held on April 26<sup>th</sup>, 2025, at Macey Center on New Mexico Tech Campus. President Anaya also shared with the Board of Trustees that he along with Trustee Latasa and CEO Gonzales attended the NRECA PowerXchange in Atlanta, GA and went over the courses he attended.

**FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT**

Trustee Burnett reported on the Finance Committee Meeting held on March 26, 2025.

President Anaya thanked Trustee Burnett for the Finance Committee Report.

**STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT**

Trustee Rosas reported on the Standing Committee Meeting held on March 26, 2025. Board Policy #114 "Board of Trustees-General Manager Interrelationships" to general counsel for review.

President Anaya thanked Trustee Rosas for the Standing Committee Report.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**RUS FFB LOAN BB48 ADVANCE - RESOLUTION**



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Director Capps asked for the Board of Trustees consideration to adopt a loan resolution allowing SEC to advance the final portion of the RUS approved funds. The resolution will allow CEO Gonzales to sign and submit the appropriate documents.

Trustee Burnett moved to approve the board resolution requesting an FFB Loan of \$203,000.00; the motion was seconded by Trustee Rosas. The motion carried unanimously.

RUS CERTIFICATE OF AUTHORITY TO SUBMIT OR GRANT ACCESS TO DATA

Director Capps presented to the Board of Trustees a resolution and certificate of authority allowing CEO Gonzales and CFO Montoya to submit year-end financials and pertinent reporting information online.

Trustee Latasa moved to authorize CEO Gonzales and CFO Montoya to submit the RUS Certificate of Authority to Submit or Grant Access to Data; the motion was seconded by Trustee Burnett. The motion carried unanimously.

CO-BANK CO-LINK PERMISSION FORMS

Director Capps presented to the Board of Trustees the CoBank CoLink Permission Forms which will authorize CEO Gonzales and CFO Montoya to access CoBank's website and SEC's data.

Trustee McCartney moved to authorize CEO Gonzales and CFO Montoya allowing them permission to access CoBank's CoLink website; the motion was seconded by Trustee Rosas. The motion carried unanimously.

DISTRICT 3 SEAT VACANCY

CEO Gonzales reported that the administration is verifying information for one of the candidates for District 3 vacant seat and proceeded to answer questions posed by the Trustees.

A motion was made by Trustee McCartney to disqualify the 7<sup>th</sup> Candidate for the District 3 Trustee Vacancy. The motion died for lack of a second.

After discussion, Trustee McCartney moved to disqualify Candidate "TRJ" as a viable candidate for District 3 trustee position; the motion was seconded by Trustee Latasa. The motion carried unanimously.

President Anaya stated a Special Meeting will be held to review the remaining qualified candidates.

CONSIDERATION OF TRUSTEE TRAVEL

Trustees Latasa, Rosas and President Anaya requested Board approval to attend the NMREC 2025 Annual Meeting scheduled for May 13-15, 2025, at the Isleta Resort and Casino in Albuquerque, New Mexico.

Trustee McCartney moved to approve Trustees Latasa, Rosas and President Anaya to attend the NMREC 2025 Annual Meeting; the motion was seconded by Trustee Latasa. The motion received a unanimous vote.

Trustees Latasa, Rosas, Wade and President Anaya requested Board approval to attend the NRECA 2025 Summer School of Directors scheduled for July 11-15, 2025, in Colorado Springs, Colorado.

Trustee McCartney moved to approve Trustees Latasa, Rosas, Wade and President Anaya to attend the NRECA 2025 Summer School of Directors; the motion was seconded by Trustee Rosas. The motion carried unanimously.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Trustee Burnett moved to go into Executive Session to discuss Individual Employment Matters, Potential Litigation and Strategic and Long-range Business Plans; the motion was seconded by Trustee Rosas. The motion carried unanimously.

President Anaya called for an Executive Session.

The Board adjourned to Executive Session at 3:22 p.m.

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\*Trustee McCartney was excused from the Executive Session at 3:22 p.m. and did not return after the Regular Session.

**REGULAR SESSION**

Trustee Rosas moved and was seconded by Trustee Latasa to return to the Regular Session at 6:25 p.m. The motion carried unanimously.

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

**SET DATE/TIME FOR REGULAR MEETING**

President Anaya stated the next Board of Trustee meeting will be held after the 80<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting on April 26<sup>th</sup> at 3:00 p.m.

President Anaya also stated there would be no committee meetings this month due to the possibility of new board members and Election of Officers. The continuation meeting is set for April 30<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 p.m.

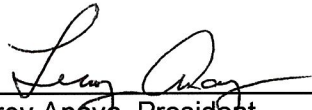
**ADJOURNMENT**

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

President Anaya adjourned the meeting at 6:31 p.m.

  
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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 February 26, 2025. 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.

  
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Eileen Latasa, Secretary/Treasurer