

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

June 23, 2021

**INDEX**

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees of The Socorro Electric Cooperative, Inc. (SEC) held on Wednesday, June 23, 2021, at 310 Abeyta Ave, Socorro, New Mexico.

**CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 2:00 p.m. by Anne Dorough, President.

**ROLL CALL**

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

TRUSTEES PRESENT: Anne L. Dorough, President (via teleconference)  
Representative, District 5

Luis Aguilar, Vice President (via teleconference)  
Representative, District 3

Paul Bustamante, Secretary/Treasurer (via teleconference)  
Representative, District 1

Leroy Anaya, Trustee (via teleconference)  
Representative, District 3

James Nelson, Trustee (via teleconference)  
Representative, District 2

Donald Wolberg, Trustee (via teleconference)  
Representative, District 3

TRUSTEES ABSENT: Michael Hawkes, Trustee\*, \*\* (via teleconference)  
Representative, District 4

ALSO, PRESENT: Joseph Herrera, General Manager  
Donna Wilkins, Administrative Assistant  
Rauni Montoya, Accounting Supervisor (via teleconference)  
Steve Dettmer, Line Superintendent (via teleconference)  
Marilyn Madrid, Member Services Supervisor (via teleconference)  
Lorna Wiggins, Wiggins, Williams, and Wiggins (via teleconference)

SEC MEMBERS PRESENT: None; due to Governor Lujan-Grisham's executive order restricting essential business to limit operations to only those absolutely necessary to carry out essential functions.

**QUORUM**

Secretary Bustamante declared a Quorum of Trustees present.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Manager Herrera led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Trustee Wolberg made a motion to approve the Agenda as presented; motion seconded by Trustee Anaya. Motion carried unanimously.

June 23, 2021

President Dorough approved the Agenda as presented.

**CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL PREVIOUS MINUTES**

Trustee Wolberg made a motion to approve the minutes from May 26, 2021, June 15, 2021, and June 16, 2021, as presented; motion seconded by Trustee Anaya. Motion carried unanimously.

President Dorough approved the minutes from May 26, 2021, June 15, 2021, and June 16, 2021, as presented.

\* Trustee Hawkes joined the meeting during the discussion of this agenda item at 2:02 p.m.

**MEMBER COMMENTS**

Manager Herrera reported that no Members had called in or were present for Member Comments.

**LONG-RANGE PLAN PRESENTATION**

Manager Herrera reported that as per RUS guidelines, SEC must have a Long-Range Plan, and Jorge Garza and Robert Perea from T&D Services were joining to present the 2021-2032 Long-Range Plan.

Mr. Perea and Mr. Garza thanked the Board of Trustees for allowing them to present and went over the presentation, answering questions posed by the Trustees.

After discussion, Trustee Wolberg made a motion to approve the 2021-2032 Long-Range Plan; motion seconded by Trustee Nelson.

A roll call vote was conducted by President Dorough and is as follows:

Yes: Trustee Aguilar, Anaya, Bustamante, Hawkes, Nelson, and Wolberg

No: None

Motion carried unanimously.

**MANAGER'S REPORT**

Manager Herrera reported on the expenditure check register totaling \$935,831.72 for May 2021.

President Dorough thanked Manager Herrera for the Expenditure Report for May 2021.

Manager Herrera reported on the Visa credit card expenditures, complete with supporting receipts, made available to the Board of Trustees for May 2021, and proceeded to answer questions posed by the Trustees.

President Dorough thanked Manager Herrera for the credit card report for May 2021.

Manager Herrera provided an update regarding COVID-19, stating that with New Mexico opening on July 1, 2021, SEC will ask that members and employees who are not vaccinated to wear a mask. Manager Herrera stated that members and employees who report as being vaccinated would not be required to wear a mask as per CDC guidelines. Manager Herrera reported the lobby would continue to be roped off, allowing only three (3) members at a time. Manager Herrera stated SEC is waiting to see what requirements New Mexico will be asking of businesses. Manager Herrera stated that the intention for July's Board meeting is to meet in person.

President Dorough thanked Manager Herrera for the COVID-19 Update for May 2021.

Manager Herrera provided the Engineering Report stating that SEC is working on the line design for the Socorro Magdalena 69 kVA transmission line and is currently 30% complete. Manager Herrera stated that SEC has been in contact with member landowners to move the poles over to help avoid the washing out of the poles from the arroyos. Manager Herrera reported that the design for the inset of poles from the Burris substation to the Bernardo substation is also being worked on and is about 25% complete. Manager Herrera reported that the Outage Management System (OMS) is still in a "soft-live" with the web map now available on the SEC website. Manager Herrera stated SEC is still working through some items, and by July 2021, the OMS map will be available on SEC mobile app. Manager Herrera reported members would be able to report outages, get alerts, and see where an outage may be.

June 23, 2021

Manager Herrera stated the line crew would also be getting training to help determine the outage's location. Manager Herrera proceeded to answer questions posed by the Trustees.

President Dorough thanked Manager Herrera for the Engineering Report for May 2021 and complimented the new OMS map located on our SEC website.

Manager Herrera concluded by reporting that the SEC Burris outpost was broken into again, but this time the metal container where more equipment is located was entered. Manager Herrera reported that a trailer, which had a lock, was also taken. Manager Herrera stated that due to the number of break-ins, it was decided to close the Burris outpost until a plan can be determined to make the outpost more secure. Manager Herrera reported the air conditioning unit within the main office had been replaced after the old unit stopped working. Manager Herrera stated that he has also be re-elected as the Secretary/Treasurer for the New Mexico Self-Insurer's Fund for another term. Manager Herrera also reported that SEC had received a thank you card from a 2021 scholarship awarded from the SEC Foundation.

President Dorough thanked Manager Herrera for the Manager's Report for May 2021.

### **FINANCIAL REPORT**

Ms. Montoya carefully reviewed in detail the RUS Form 7 Report for July 2021 and proceeded to answer questions posed by the Trustees.

President Dorough thanked Ms. Montoya for the RUS Form 7 Report for July 2021.

### **SAFETY COMPLIANCE REPORT**

#### **SAFETY REPORT**

Manager Herrera reported that as Mr. Montoya was out today, he would present the May Safety Report. Manager Herrera reported the line department had taken the Unexploded Ordnance training, enabling crews access to White Sands Missile Range. Manager Herrera stated that a member damaged four transformers causing an oil spill at the Jones Dairy. Manager Herrera reported that Environmental Advantage Solutions came in to remove the affected soil. Manager Herrera also reported that Mr. Montoya is working NMRECA on the wildfire mitigation plan and proceeded to answer questions posed by the Trustees.

#### **JOB BRIEFING**

Manager Herrera reported the May Job Briefing Reports had been made available for the Board of Trustees.

President Dorough thanked Manager Herrera for the Safety Report for May 2021.

### **OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE REPORT**

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

Mr. Dettmer reported for May activities, crews trimmed four (4) trees, cut nine (9) trees, completed 13 work orders, closed nine (9) work orders, and completed 39 service orders with most service orders for area lights. Mr. Dettmer reported that crews are still working on the pole replacement projects on Bullock Street in Socorro and are waiting for the telephone and cable lines to be moved before crews can finish. Mr. Dettmer stated the White Sands Missile Range linework is almost complete, and crews are still working on the power supply for a wind farm project near the Arizona border.

#### **OUTAGE REPORTS**

Mr. Dettmer reviewed several major outages that either affected over 100 members or those for which the outage time was lengthy and proceeded to answer questions posed by the Trustees

President Dorough thanked Mr. Dettmer for the Operations and Maintenance Report for May 2021 and all the crews' hard work.

### **MEMBER SERVICES REPORTS**

#### **ENERGY DELINQUENT REPORT**

June 23, 2021

Ms. Madrid presented the Energy Delinquent Report for May.

**NM PRC MEMBER CONCERNS**

Ms. Madrid reported that SEC had no Member informal complaints filed with the NM PRC in May 2021.

President Dorough thanked Ms. Madrid for the Member Services Report for May 2021.

**COMMUNICATIONS AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS REPORT**

Manager Herrera report that as Mr. Capps was out today, he would present the May Communications and Public Affairs. Manager Herrera stated that SEC was informed that the Socorro County Fair would be happening this year, and SEC plans to participate. Manager Herrera reported SEC has not yet heard from the other counties if they will have county fairs. Manager Herrera also reported the Magdalena Chamber of Commerce would be having a 4<sup>th</sup> of July parade on July 3, 2021, and SEC will be participating.

President Dorough thanked Manager Herrera for the Communications and Public Affairs Report for May 2021.

**TRI-STATE REPORT**

Trustee Anaya gave the Tri-State Board of Director's activities report for June 2021.

President Dorough thanked Trustee Anaya for the Tri-State Report.

**NMRECA REPORT**

Trustee Wolberg gave the NMRECA report for June 2021. Trustee Wolberg also congratulated Manager Herrera for being re-elected as Secretary/Treasurer for the NMRE Self-Insurer's Fund board.

President Dorough thanked Trustee Wolberg for the NMRECA Report.

**MRGEDA REPORT**

Trustee Wolberg gave the MRGEDA report for June 2021.

President Dorough thanked Trustee Wolberg for the MRGEDA Report.

**PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

President Dorough reported on the letter received, which a copy had also been sent to each Trustee.

After discussion, President Dorough reported a response letter would be sent to the member for them to contact Manager Herrera.

**FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT**

Trustee Aguilar gave the Finance Committee Report, which met on June 16, 2021.

President Dorough thanked Trustee Aguilar for the Finance Committee Report.

**STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT**

Trustee Anaya reported on the Standing Committee Meeting held on June 16, 2021, with recommendations to the full Board of Trustees.

President Dorough thanked Trustee Anaya for the Standing Committee Report.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Board Policy 128 – Trustee's Oath of Office and Orientation**

June 23, 2021

Manager Herrera reported that the Standing Committee reviewed Board Policy 128 – Trustee’s Oath of Office and Orientation, and the Committee recommended that the Board approve Board Policy 128 – Trustee’s Oath of Office and Orientation as reviewed.

Trustee Anaya made a motion to accept the Standing Committee’s recommendation of Board Policy 128 – Trustee’s Oath of Office and Orientation as reviewed; motion seconded by Trustee Wolberg.

A roll call vote was conducted by President Dorough and is as follows:

Yes: Trustee Aguilar, Anaya, Bustamante, Nelson, and Wolberg

No: None

Motion carried with one Trustee not responding.

\*\* Trustee Hawkes left the meeting during the discussion of this agenda item at 3:21 p.m.

#### 2021 Federated Rural Electric Insurance Exchange Renewal

Manager Herrera reported that SEC’s two-year renewal is up with Federated Rural Electric Insurance Exchange. Manager Herrera stated the premium of \$199,253 includes a 3% increase and is due to the number of additional vehicles added to the fleet.

Trustee Wolberg made a motion to accept the 2021 Federated Rural Electric Insurance Exchange Renewal; motion seconded by Trustee Aguilar.

A roll call vote was conducted by President Dorough and is as follows:

Yes: Trustee Aguilar, Anaya, Bustamante, Nelson, and Wolberg

No: None

Motion carried with one Trustee not responding.

#### Consideration of Capital Credit Estate Retirements

Manager Herrera reported that SEC General Counsel Lorna Wiggins Esq. had previously reviewed the Patronage Estate Capital Retirement requests as provided in the Trustee’s BoardPaq. 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
EM-June-21-A	\$353.93	\$7.12	\$34.44	\$25.12	\$136.48	\$0.00	(\$120.63)	\$436.46	\$299.98
EM-June-21-B	\$43.67	\$0.00	\$5.20	\$3.83	\$40.84	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$93.54	\$52.70
EM-June-21-C	\$469.07	\$8.84	\$40.82	\$30.43	\$193.67	\$49.52	\$0.00	\$792.35	\$598.68
EM-June-21-D	\$2,886.19	\$68.26	\$211.01	\$155.42	\$833.72	\$114.20	\$0.00	\$4,268.80	\$3,435.08

#### 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
JM-June-21-A	\$173.15	\$5.53	\$3.04	\$0.66	\$0.00	\$30.50	\$0.00	\$212.88	\$212.88
JM-June-21-B	\$127.77	\$0.00	\$27.02	\$22.63	\$113.68	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$291.10	\$177.42
JM-June-21-C	\$438.46	\$1.19	\$39.49	\$27.14	\$218.18	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$724.46	\$506.28
JM-June-21-D	\$119.85	\$0.00	\$23.74	\$19.85	\$112.30	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$275.74	\$163.44

After discussion, Trustee Anaya made a motion to approve the Retirement of Patronage Capital as presented, absent any Tri-State allocations, to the accounts mentioned above; motion seconded by Trustee Bustamante.

A roll call vote was conducted by President Dorough and is as follows:

Yes: Trustee Aguilar, Anaya, Bustamante, Nelson, and Wolberg

No: None

Motion carried with one Trustee not responding.

#### Consideration of Line Extension Contracts

June 23, 2021

There were no Line Extension Contracts open for consideration.

Consideration of Trustee Travel

Trustees Anaya, Bustamante, Nelson, and Wolberg requested Board approval to attend the NMRECA Director Training scheduled for August 13, 2021.

Trustee Wolberg made a motion to approve Trustees Anaya, Bustamante, Nelson, and Wolberg to attend the NMRECA Director Training; motion seconded by Trustee Bustamante.

A roll call vote was conducted by President Dorough and is as follows:

Yes: Trustee Aguilar, Anaya, Bustamante, Nelson, and Wolberg

No: None

Motion carried with one Trustee not responding.

Trustees Anaya, Bustamante, Nelson, and Wolberg requested Board approval to attend the Tri-State Annual Meeting scheduled for August 4-6, 2021.

Trustee Aguilar made a motion to approve Trustees Anaya, Bustamante, Nelson, and Wolberg to attend the Tri-State Annual Meeting; motion seconded by Trustee Bustamante.

A roll call vote was conducted by President Dorough and is as follows:

Yes: Trustee Aguilar, Anaya, Bustamante, Nelson, and Wolberg

No: None

Motion carried with one Trustee not responding.

Trustees Anaya, Bustamante, Nelson, and Wolberg requested Board approval to attend the NMRECA Annual Meeting scheduled for August 25-26, 2021.

Trustee Wolberg made a motion to approve Trustees Anaya, Bustamante, Nelson, and Wolberg to attend the NMRECA Annual Meeting; motion seconded by Trustee Bustamante.

A roll call vote was conducted by President Dorough and is as follows:

Yes: Trustee Aguilar, Anaya, Bustamante, Nelson, and Wolberg

No: None

Motion carried with one Trustee not responding.

Trustee Nelson requested Board approval to attend the NRECA Summer School scheduled for August 13, 2021.

Trustee Bustamante made a motion to approve Trustee Nelson to attend the NRECA Summer School.

A roll call vote was conducted by President Dorough and is as follows:

Yes: Trustee Aguilar, Anaya, Bustamante, Nelson, and Wolberg

No: None

Motion carried with one Trustee not responding.

Tri-State Annual Meeting Voting and Alternate Voting Delegate

Trustee Wolberg made a motion to nominate Trustee Anaya as Tri-State Annual Meeting Voting Delegate.

President Dorough, hearing no other nominations, declared Trustee Anaya as Tri-State Annual Meeting Voting Delegate by acclamation.

Trustee Anaya made a motion to nominate Trustee Bustamante as Tri-State Annual Meeting Alternate Voting Delegate.

President Dorough, hearing no other nominations, declared Trustee Bustamante as Tri-State Annual Meeting Alternate Voting Delegate by acclamation.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Trustee Bustamante made a motion to go into Executive Session to discuss pending litigation and employment matters; motion seconded by Trustee Wolberg. Motion carried unanimously.

REGULAR BOARD MEETING

June 23, 2021

President Dorough called for an Executive Session.

The Board adjourned to Executive Session at 3:51 p.m.

**REGULAR SESSION**

Trustee Bustamante made a motion and seconded by Trustee Wolberg to return to Regular Session at 4:00 p.m.

President Dorough stated that there was no action taken during Executive Session.

**SET DATE/TIME FOR REGULAR MEETING**

Trustee Wolberg made a motion to set the Committee meeting's date and time for July 21, 2021, at 12:30 p.m. and the next regularly scheduled Board Meeting for July 28, 2021, at 2:00 p.m.; motion seconded by Trustee Bustamante. Motion carried unanimously.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no other items open for discussion, Trustee Wolberg moved to adjourn; motion seconded by Trustee Anaya. Motion carried unanimously.

President Dorough adjourned the meeting at 4:03 p.m.

June 23, 2021

  
Paul Bustamante, Secretary/Treasurer

APPROVED:

  
Anne Dorrough, President

I, Paul Bustamante, 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 June 23, 2021. 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.

  
Paul Bustamante, Secretary/Treasurer