

HIGHLINE ELECTRIC ASSOCIATION
REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
June 15, 2023

A regular meeting of the Board of Directors of Highline Electric Association was held at the office of the Association in Holyoke, Colorado at 9:00 A.M. on June 15, 2023.

ROLL CALL

President Mike Bennett presided at the meeting. Directors present in person were:

Mike Bennett	Pam Stieb
Brad Stromberger	Merlin Prior
Lisa Schilke	David Carlson
Leo Brekel	Ted Carter
Aaron Sprague	Steve Oestman

Jim Lueck attended a portion of the meeting via telephone. Manager Dennis Herman and Attorney Levi Williamson were present in person. Staff members Jim Jackson, Rance Ferguson, Alex Astley, Elise Pocock, and Tadius Huser were present in person or via video conference. Attorney Levi Williamson recorded the minutes of the meeting.

AGENDA APPROVED

The agenda was adopted as presented.

MINUTES APPROVED

The minutes of the May 18, 2023, regular meeting of the board of directors were presented. It was properly moved, seconded, and carried to approve the minutes as presented.

The directors reviewed the draft minutes of the 2023 annual meeting of members.

MANAGER'S REPORT

Manager Herman presented the Manager's Report. He presented graphs of kWh Purchased, kWh Sold, Operating Revenue, Expenses, Operating Margins, and Cash & Investments through May 2023.

Herman reported on the NRECA International trip to Guatemala. Highline's community service day will be June 28. Herman shared the email exchange that he had with Congressman Buck's office following the letter to his office regarding the Tri-State FERC matter. Highline will move forward with applications for Charge Ahead Colorado grants. Herman will bring any project back to the board before spending Highline funds. Herman presented a letter from the Nebraska Water Resources Association requesting that Highline join. After discussion, the consensus of the board was to not join at this time. The United v. Tri-State Adams County trial was continued and will not go to trial for 9-12 months. Tri-State completed its direct assignment of transmission assets, resulting in approximately \$300,000 being assigned to Highline.

It was properly moved, seconded, and carried to go into executive session for personnel matters, and legal and regulatory matters,

with the following in attendance: all directors except Jim Lueck, all staff present at the meeting, General Manager Herman, and Attorney Williamson. It was properly moved, seconded, and carried to exit executive session.

OPERATIONS AND SAFETY REPORT

Operations Manager Rance Ferguson presented the Operations and Safety Report. He reported on the status of the transmission line north of the Sterling office, pole testing results, and crew activity.

Ferguson presented the Safety Report. There were no accidents in May. He also presented the outage report.

MEMBER SERVICES REPORT

Member Services Manager Tadius Huser presented the Member Services Report. He discussed new services, rebates, renewable systems, RLF loan activity, and EV charging station activity.

ENGINEERING REPORT

Engineering Manager Alex Astley presented the Engineering Report. He reported on projects in the engineering, IT, metering, staking, and communications departments. Astley reported on large projects, including replacement of the Chase substation transformer and the Sterling-West Plains Transmission Line rebuild. Astley reported that Highline did not control any irrigation in May.

CORPORATE SERVICES REPORT

Corporate Services Manager Jim Jackson presented the Corporate Services Report. Jackson presented CFC Commercial Paper Investments as of May 30, 2023. Highline paid \$3,408.45 in fees on \$266,380.76 worth of credit card payments in May. Jackson presented the Form 7, cash flow report, and check register.

CONSENT AGENDA

The Consent Agenda contained the following items:

- a. Policy 6-3 Interconnection of Distributed Generation
- b. Policy 8-3 Load Management and Curtailment Plan
- c. New Members and Membership Refunds
- d. Subordination Agreements or Release of Liens
- e. Estate Capital Credit Refunds

A membership estate refund request was pulled from the consent agenda on Attorney Williamson's recommendation.

The Consent Agenda was approved by unanimous consent.

ATWOOD SUBSTATION UPGRADE CONTRACT

Alex Astley presented a summary of bids for the Atwood substation upgrade project. It was properly moved, seconded, and carried to approve the low bid from Great Southwestern Construction. Jim Lueck joined the meeting via telephone at 10:50 a.m.

POLICY 2-4 WAGE AND SALARY ADMINISTRATION

Herman presented revised Policy 2-4. It was properly moved, seconded, and carried to approve the Policy as presented.

IRA AND IIJA FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

Herman updated the board on HEA's grant applications under the IRA and IIJA programs and Highline's associated projects.

NREA MUTUAL AID AGREEMENT

Herman presented an amended mutual aid agreement from the Nebraska Rural Electric Association. It was properly moved, seconded, and carried to approve the amended agreement as presented.

TRI-STATE

Director Leo Brekel reported on his attendance at the regular meeting of the Tri-State Board of Directors. Tri-State approved a 6.36% average wholesale rate increase as part of the 2024 budget. Highline will see a 7.5% increase in its rate.

Jim Lueck left the meeting.

CREA

Jim Lueck presented the written report of the Colorado Rural Electric Association Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors. General Manager Herman reported on his attendance at the meeting.

WESTERN UNITED

Ted Carter presented the financials for Western United Electric.

NREA

Merlin Prior reported on legislation affecting Nebraska PPD's.

MEETING ATTENDANCE

The directors discussed attendance at upcoming meetings.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no Public Comment.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the meeting, the meeting was adjourned at 11:51 a.m.



SECRETARY



PRESIDENT