HIGHLINE ELECTRIC ASSOCIATION
REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
May 21, 2026

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 May 21, 2026.

ROLL CALL

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

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

General Manager Dennis Herman, Attorney Williamson, and Attorney Brower were present in person. Staff members Alex Astley, Jim Jackson, Tadius Huser, Kris Camblin, and Elise Pocock were present in person or via video conference. Attorney Williamson recorded the minutes of the meeting.

AGENDA APPROVED

The agenda was adopted as presented.

MINUTES APPROVED

The minutes of the April 16, 2026, regular meeting of the Board of Directors were presented. It was properly moved, seconded, and carried to adopt the minutes as presented.

MANAGER'S REPORT

Manager Herman presented the Manager's Report. He reported on kWh Purchased, kWh Sold, Operating Revenue, Billing Summary, Expenses, Operating Margins, and Cash & Investments through April.

Director Brad Stomberger provided an update on the Nebraska v. Colorado litigation concerning the Perkins County Canal.

Director Aaron Sprague reported that the search is underway for RRWCD's new general manager.

Herman reported that Highline's phone system has been fully migrated to a new system, and it is working well.

Herman reported that protests have been filed in the Tri-State HILT proceeding.

Herman reported that the two companies Highline was considering for enterprise software have merged (NISC and Meridian), which will delay Highline's purchase and integration of new software.

The Board discussed alternative meeting dates in June and July.

It was properly moved, seconded, and carried to hold the June board meeting on June 25, 2026.

It was properly moved, seconded, and carried to hold the July board meeting on July 23, 2026.

Herman reported that CARE has endorsed Michael Bennet in the Democratic primary for Colorado governor. Herman asked if the board would like to increase Highline's donation to CARE. The consensus of the board was to not increase the donation amount.

OPERATIONS AND SAFETY REPORT

Operations Manager Kris Camblin presented the Operations and Safety Report. He reported that WAPA finished upgrading equipment and that the Fleming substation is back to normal. He reported on the status of pole replacement and testing. He reported that Highline will host the O&E conference next year (April 5-7, 2027) and that planning is officially underway. He reported on efforts to improve Highline's PCB program and that Highline is working with Poudre Valley to learn about Poudre Valley's PCB program.

Camblin presented the Safety Committee Report. There was one accident, with no injuries.

Camblin presented the Outage Report.

MEMBER SERVICES REPORT

Member Services Manager Tadius Huser presented the Member Services Report. He reported on new services, rebates, RLF activity, the on-bill repayment program, and renewable distributed generation.

Huser reported on Highline's planned move to the Tri-State irrigation load control program in 2027. Highline has invited 5 local electricians to attend a training in Holyoke on field installations of the load control boxes.

ENGINEERING REPORT

Engineering Manager Alex Astley presented the Engineering Report. He reported on project work in engineering, information technology, metering, staking, and communications. He reported on the status of large projects, including the Lamar substation upgrade and Amherst substation battery energy storage system project.

CORPORATE SERVICES REPORT

Corporate Services Manager Jim Jackson presented the Corporate Services Report. Jackson presented CFC Commercial Paper Investments as of April 30, 2026. Highline paid $3,695.87 in fees on $298,160.20 worth of credit card payments in April.

Jackson presented the balance sheet, Form 7, cash flow report, and check register.

CONSENT AGENDA

The Consent Agenda contained the following items:

a. Policy 1-11 Purchases (recommended change)
b. Policy 3-7 Scholarships (no recommended changes)
c. Policy 4-1 Equity and Capital Credit Management (no recommended changes)
d. New Members and Membership Refunds

e. Subordination Agreements and Releases of Liens
f. Estate Capital Credit Refunds

The Consent Agenda was approved by unanimous consent.

FORM 990

The Board reviewed Form 990 for 2025.

CAPITAL CREDIT ALLOCATION FOR 2025

Highline had negative operating margins in 2025.

It was properly moved, seconded, and carried to use non-operating margins to cover operating losses and to allocate the remaining non-operating margins as G&T equity to members in the amount of $1,308,059.56 for 2025.

BAD DEBT WRITE OFF

Herman presented a list of accounts with bad debt and the amounts Highline can recover on these accounts over time with retirement of capital credits. The Board discussed the collections process and charging of interest on these accounts.

It was properly moved, seconded, and carried to write off $6,960.76 of electric service receivables and $168.84 of non-electric service receivables for a total of $7,129.60 to be written off and to recover some amount on these accounts with the future retirement of capital credits.

WARN GRANT UPDATE

Herman explained two grant-specific requirements for receipt of WARN grant funds: weekly payroll and payment of the prevailing wage. Herman explained the challenges of satisfying these requirements if work is completed in-house by Highline employees.

It was properly moved, seconded, and carried to hire outside contractors to complete the work for which WARN grant funds are received in order to satisfy grant requirements.

NEMA HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN

Manager Herman presented then Nebraska Hazard Mitigation Plan and a resolution approving the plan.

It was properly moved, seconded, and carried to approve the resolution as presented.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

It was properly moved, seconded, and carried to go into executive session for confidential discussion regarding potential power supply under Tri-State's BYOR policy and regarding eastern interconnect Tri-State members, with the following in attendance: all directors and staff present at the meeting, General Manager Herman, Attorney Williamson, and Attorney Brower. Director Brekel attended the portion of executive session regarding eastern interconnect Tri-State members but did not attend the portion regarding Tri-State's BYOR policy. It was properly moved, seconded, and carried to exit executive session.

It was properly moved, seconded, and carried to ratify bids for BYOR projects as presented in executive session. Director Brekel abstained.

Directors Sprague and Stromberger exited the meeting.

President Bennett recessed the meeting at 11:55 a.m. for lunch.

The meeting was reconvened at 12:47 p.m.

TRI-STATE

Director Leo Brekel reported on his attendance at the regular meeting of the Tri-State Board of Directors. Brekel reported on the status of the new headquarters remodel. Tri-State entered SPP on April 1. The DOE issued a 202(c) order directing Craig Unit 1 to run April 10-15. Tri-State generated 105.1% of member load with renewable generation on March 26. Director Brekel reviewed Tri-State's financials through March.

CREA

Director Jim Lueck reported on his attendance at the regular meeting of the CREA Board of Directors. CREA may hire an additional lobbyist to assist Taylor Ward.

WESTERN UNITED

Director Ted Carter reported on his attendance at the regular meeting of the Western United Board of Directors. April sales were down 14.5% compared to the same period last year. Year-to-date sales are down 3.1% for the same period last year. The Western United board approved a budget for the 2027 fiscal year. The Western United board approved immediate retirement of $5.8 million of patronage capital and retirement of an additional $6.6 million of patronage capital throughout 2026.

NREA

Director Merlin Prior reported on his attendance at the regular meeting of the NREA Board of Directors. The JT&S program will be administered in-house by NREA after previously being administered by a community college. Audited financial statements for 2024 and 2025 were presented.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no Public Comment.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the meeting, the meeting was adjourned at 1:24 p.m.

Merlin R. Prior
SECRETARY

PRESIDENT

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