

HIGHLINE ELECTRIC ASSOCIATION  
REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
May 19, 2022

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 19, 2022.

ROLL CALL

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

Mike Bennett	Brad Stromberger
Steve Oestman	Ted Carter
Jim Lueck	Pam Stieb
Merl Miller	Leo Brekel
Merlin Prior	Aaron Sprague

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

AGENDA APPROVED

The agenda was revised and approved as revised.

MINUTES APPROVED

The minutes of the April 21, 2022, regular meeting of the board of directors were presented. The minutes were revised and approved as revised.

The Board reviewed the draft minutes of the 2022 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 April 2022. Herman presented the Ormat Report. Highline recognized savings of \$3,426.36 through April.

Aaron Sprague reported on his testimony at the Colorado legislature regarding the fund to help retire wells in the Republican river and Rio Grande river basins. The legislation passed, setting aside \$60 million for the two basins. Manager Herman asked if the Board would consider donating to the RRWCD to help meet water reduction requirements. After discussion, the Board asked Herman to address the issue at the June Board meeting.

Brad Stromberger entered the meeting at 9:40 a.m.

CORE is withdrawing from CREA.

Herman reported that he would like to hire an apprentice lineman. It was properly moved, seconded, and carried to authorize Herman to hire an apprentice lineman.

OPERATIONS AND SAFETY REPORT

Rance Ferguson presented the Operations and Safety Report. He reported on system damage caused by wind.

Ferguson presented the outage report and safety committee report. There were no accidents.

MEMBER SERVICES REPORT

Tadius Huser presented the Member Services Report. He reported on new services, rebates, and renewable energy.

ENGINEERING REPORT

Alex Astley presented the Engineering Report. Astley reported on engineering, IT, metering, staking, and communications projects. Highline is facing long lead times on many projects. He reported on the status of the Sterling-West Plains transmission line, the Atwood Substation, and the Summit Springs communications tower.

CORPORATE SERVICES REPORT

Jim Jackson presented the Corporate Services Report. Jackson presented CFC Commercial Paper Investments as of April 30, 2022. Highline paid \$2,798.26 in fees on \$221,065.76 worth of credit card payments in April. Jackson presented the Form 7, cash flow report, and check register.

DIRECTOR CANDIDATE INTERVIEWS

It was properly moved, seconded, and carried to go into executive session to interview candidates for the vacant position on the Board of Directors with all Directors, General Manager Herman, and Attorney Williamson present. It was properly moved, seconded, and carried to exit executive session.

President Bennett recessed the meeting at 12:05 p.m. for lunch and reconvened at 12:52 p.m.

It was properly moved, seconded, and carried to go into executive session to discuss candidates for the vacant position on the Board of Directors, confidential discussion regarding FERC matters, confidential discussion regarding a potential load, and personnel matters, with all Directors, General Manager Herman, Rance Ferguson, Tadius Huser, Jim Jackson, Elise Pocock, and Attorney Williamson present. It was properly moved, seconded, and carried to exit executive session.

It was properly moved, seconded, and carried to appoint David Carlson as a Director of Highline Electric Association to fill the vacancy left by David Kinnison's resignation.

It was properly moved, seconded, and carried to revise Policy 2-13 to allow employees to draw on the bank when the employee has 40 hours or less of leave time available.

CONSENT AGENDA

The Consent Agenda contained the following items:

- a. Policy 1-11 Purchases (no recommended revisions)

- b. Policy 3-3 Privacy and Confidentiality for Members and Information Request (no recommended revisions)
- c. Safety Committee Report
- d. New Members and Membership Refunds
- e. Subordination Agreements or Release of Liens
- f. Estate Capital Credit Refunds

The Consent Agenda was approved by unanimous consent.

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AMENDMENT AND RESTATEMENT OF RS AND 401(K)

General Manager Herman presented a resolution authorizing the amendment and restatement of Highline's RS and 401(k) pension plan. It was properly moved, seconded, and carried to approve the resolution as presented.

WRITE-OFFS

General Manager Herman presented the list of delinquent accounts for write-off. It was properly moved, seconded, and carried to approve the accounts for write-off as presented.

RLF APPLICATIONS

General Manager Herman presented two applications for RLF loans.

It was properly moved, seconded, and carried to approve the loan application of Devon and Ed Sheils.

It was properly moved, seconded, and carried to approve the loan to David Ridlen in the amount of \$35,000 on a seven-year term.

Aaron Sprague left the meeting.

TRI-STATE

Leo Brekel reported on his attendance at the regular meeting of the Tri-State Board of Directors. Brekel reported on the status of the Adams County litigation. Tri-State is selling property near the New Horizon and Escalante plants.

CREA

Jim Lueck reported on his attendance at the regular meeting of the CREA Board of Directors. He reported on Colorado legislation that will affect electric co-ops. Lueck reported on his attendance at the Tri-State FERC CTP hearing.

WUE

Ted Carter reported on his attendance at the regular meeting of the Western United Electric Board of Directors. Western has increased its inventory. The Board approved an 8% wage increase for Western employees.

NREA

Merlin Prior reported on his attendance at the regular meeting of the NREA Board of Directors. He reported on the search for

a General Manager. The Board is considering sharing a GM with a member utility.

MEETING ATTENDANCE

The directors discussed attendance at upcoming meetings.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no Public Comment.

EMERGENCY BUSINESS

General Manager Herman reported that the State of Colorado is offering grants for electric school busses. Herman is discussing the grant with several area schools.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the meeting, the meeting adjourned at 3:15 p.m.



\_\_\_\_\_  
SECRETARY



\_\_\_\_\_  
PRESIDENT