

HIGHLINE ELECTRIC ASSOCIATION  
REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
June 17, 2021

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 17, 2021.

ROLL CALL

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

Brad Stromberger	Merlin Prior
Mike Bennett	David Kinnison
Ted Carter	Pam Stieb
Leo Brekel	Steve Oestman

Directors present via video conference:

Merl Miller	Jim Lueck
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Director Aaron Sprague was absent, attending the Republican River Water Conservation District Board of Directors meeting. Manager Dennis Herman and Attorney Levi Williamson were present in person. Staff members Alex Astley, Tadius Huser, Jim Jackson, and Rance Ferguson were also present. Attorney Williamson recorded the minutes of the meeting.

AGENDA APPROVED

The agenda was revised to take Policy 8-3 off the consent agenda for discussion and approved as revised.

MINUTES APPROVED

The minutes of the May 20, 2021, meeting were approved as presented.

MANAGER'S REPORT

Manager Herman presented the Manager's Report. He presented graphs of kWh Purchased, kWh Sold, Expenses, and Operating Margins through May 2021. Herman reported on the State of Colorado Water Engineer's demand to retire 25,000 acres of irrigated land in the Republican River South Fork Focus. Herman reported on the status of the Tri-State FERC dockets. He reported on the status of the pay equity analysis study and his investigation into health insurance options. Herman reported on his discussions with a company regarding in-home EV charging stations. Herman continues to investigate the possibility of an HEA owned EV fast charger. Twelve of twenty-one windows at the headquarters building need replaced. NERC is predicting power shortages across the country this summer. Herman presented a request from the Nebraska Water Resources Association. The Board asked Herman to investigate the association and report back.

OPERATIONS AND SAFETY REPORT

Rance Ferguson presented the Operations Report. Highline crews are busy with the start of irrigation season.

Ferguson presented the Safety Committee Report and reported on safety training. There was one accident since the written report was submitted. Ferguson also presented the outage report.

#### MEMBER SERVICES REPORT

Tadius Huser presented the Member Services Report. He reported on new services, rebates, net-metering solar projects, and the revolving loan fund.

#### ENGINEERING REPORT

Alex Astley presented the Engineering Report. He updated the board on engineering, IT, metering, staking, and communications activities. Astley provided status updates on the AMI Towers, the Sterling-West Plains transmission line, phone system testing, and the load control program.

#### CORPORATE SERVICES REPORT

Jim Jackson presented the Corporate Services Report. Jackson presented interest rates and CFC Commercial Paper Investments as of May 31, 2021. Highline paid \$2,297.08 in fees on \$179,594.98 worth of credit card payments in May. Jackson presented the Form 7, cash flow, and check register.

Dennis Herman reported on the procedure used to review employee credit card expenses. It was the consensus of the Board that the current procedure is adequate.

Highline has recognized savings of \$6,325.01 in 2021 on the Ormat project.

#### CONSENT AGENDA

The Consent Agenda contained the following items:

- a. HEA Policy Review
  - Policy 6-3 Interconnection of Dispersed Generation
- b. Safety Committee Report
- c. New Members and Membership Refunds
- d. Subordination Agreements or Release of Liens
- e. Estate Capital Credit Refunds

The items on the Consent Agenda were approved by unanimous consent.

#### POLICY 8-3 LOAD SHEDDING

Dennis Herman presented revised Policy 8-3. It was properly moved, seconded, and carried to approve Policy 8-3 as presented.

#### RATIFICATION OF PRIOR BOARD ACTION

It was properly moved, seconded, and carried to ratify the April 15, 2021 election of the following officers:

President: Mike Bennett  
Vice President: Jim Lueck  
Secretary: Merlin Prior  
Treasurer: Merl Miller

It was properly moved, seconded, and carried to ratify the May 20, 2021 approval of the amendment of the engineering services contract for the Sterling-West Plains transmission line.

#### Site Docs SOFTWARE LICENSE

Dennis Herman reported that he would like to purchase Site Docs software for use with safety "tailgates." With the current paper forms, Highline cannot confirm that when the tailgates are performed. It is important that the linemen perform the tailgate before they begin working. The software costs \$600, plus \$4,400 annually. It was properly moved, seconded, and carried to authorize purchase of the software.

#### PREPAID BILLING SOFTWARE

Dennis Herman reported that he would like to purchase prepaid billing software now that the AMI system is deployed. It was properly moved, seconded, and carried to authorize purchase of the software.

#### TRI-STATE

Leo Brekel reported on his attendance at the regular meeting of the Tri-State Board of Directors and the strategic planning session. Tri-State is lobbying for federal funds for stranded coal assets. The FERC rejected Tri-State's Policy 125 filing. Tri-State's margins are \$18 million below budget.

#### CREA

Jim Lueck reported on his attendance at the regular meeting of the CREA Board of Directors. The May meeting was at United Power. He presented the written board report.

President Bennett recessed the meeting at 12:05 p.m. for lunch and reconvened at 12:55 p.m.

#### WESTERN UNITED ELECTRIC

Ted Carter reported that there was no regular meeting of the Western United Electric Board of Directors.

#### NREA

Merlin Prior summarized NREA's year-end legislative report.

#### CFC BOARD OF DIRECTOR ELECTION

It was properly moved, seconded, and carried to endorse Charlie Able for CFC Board of Directors.

#### 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 1:25 p.m.

Melvin R. Priest

SECRETARY

McBride

PRESIDENT

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