SOUTHEAST COLORADO POWER ASSOCIATION

Minutes of Regular Board Meeting

The regular meeting of the Board of Directors of Southeast Colorado Power Association (SECPA) was held **July 22, 2026**, at the SECPA headquarters, 27850 Harris Road, La Junta, CO.

1. **Call to Order/ Roll Call**
President Clint Anderson called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. Directors present were: Lawrence Brase, Brad Buck, Michelle Gardner, Randy Phillips, and Merlin Rushton. Truman Wright was absent.
Staff present: CEO Mark Hall, CFO Aaron Johnson, and Executive Assistant Debbie Howard. Matt Richardson, outside legal counsel, was also present.

2. **Agenda Modifications** – None.

3. **Member and/or Public Participation** – None.

4. **Board Meeting Minutes**
Motion was made and seconded to approve June 24, 2026, Board minutes. **MOTION** carried.

5. **Chief Executive Officer – Hall**
- Lamar City Council voted to hire Toth & Associates to evaluate Lamar Light and Power system for a potential purchase of the system by Southeast Colorado Power Association (SECPA). Tri-State has agreed to allow SECPA to operate under ARPA contract.
- Hall and Johnson met with Toth & Associates to evaluate Granada's system and determine its value so SECPA can make a purchase offer. Hall also met with Granada's mayor, who is open to discussion. Hall has researched the potential benefits to SECPA if using a different power rate.
- Brase was selected to be SECPA's voting delegate at Basin's Annual Meeting.
- Hall will attend the Colorado Manager's meeting next month in Buena Vista.
- Granite Renewables is requesting to connect two data centers to Tri-States line in SECPA territory. Hall met with Tri-State and Granite and Tri-State explained the procedures, cost, and timeline to serve the large data center loads.
- Received a new delivery point application from Tri-State for solar farm NextEra Energy plans to construct.
- Gardner suggested changing the Board meeting to 10:00 a.m. Motion was made and seconded to begin all regular SECPA Board meetings at 10:00 a.m., effective with the August meeting. **MOTION** carried. Richardson recommended reaffirming the change at the August Board meeting.

6. **C-Team Reports**

A. **Finance & Membership – Johnson**
- June Financial reports were reviewed.
- June margins were negative $160,160; YTD, negative $292,240.
- YTD delinquent penalty charges through May $110,505.
- There were 25 new memberships and 35 withdrawals. Active meters total 10,886.
- Reviewed Auditors' Request for Proposals. Motion was made and seconded to approve Kelso Lynch (recommended by Johnson) as SECPA's auditing firm for 2026 - 2028. **MOTION** carried. Kelso Lynch will be notified on July 23rd. and a Master Service agreement (MSA) will be executed.
- Provided a verbal update to his written notes included in the board packet.
- Anderson asked why Directors were no longer receiving the monthly check register. Phillips noted the Board has historically received it. Johnson responded that meetings already include a substantial amount of information. Directors requested that monthly board reports include check register as separate PDFs.

B. **Operations – Hall**
- Update on system operations, including 97 outages, current projects, rolling line loss and crew activity.
- Also reviewed the status of several ongoing projects.

7. **Affiliate Organization Board Reports**

A. Western United Electric (WUE)- Gardner WUE June Sales and Finance report in board packet.

B. Colorado Rural Electric Association (CREA) - Gardner
- CREA June board minutes in board packet.
- A civil lawsuit has been filed against San Isabel Electric related to the Aspen Acres Fire.
- Hall reported that Craig Johnson, CREA attorney, has resigned. The position will be contracted.
- A mutual aid agreement among CREA member cooperatives is expected to be finalized and signed in August.

C. Tri-State (T/S) G&T- Brase
- Tri-State Board report in board packet.
- Tri-State is considering the continuation of its Rate Design Committee.
- Proposed revisions to Board Policy 315 Rate Design Process were presented at T/S board meeting.
- T/S is developing a Demand Response program. Hall will provide additional information to the Board when the program is finalized so Directors can determine whether SECPA should participate.

8. **Legal - Richardson**
- Provided a verbal report to his written report, sharing key insights and information from the NRECA/ECBA Legal Seminar he recently attended.
- Richardson is new outside legal counsel for San Isabel Electric Association.

9. **Executive Session** -

Motion was made and seconded to enter Executive Session at 2:40 p.m. to address a territorial invasion matter.

MOTION carried.

Howard and Johnson left the meeting.

10. **Adjourn** – Meeting reconvened and adjourned at 3:15 p.m.

Board President

Michelle Gardner

Board Secretary