

**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 **August 16, 2023**, at the SECPA headquarters, 27850 Harris Road, La Junta, CO.

**1. Call to Order/ Roll Call**

President Truman Wright called the meeting to order at 12:45 p.m. Directors present were Clint Anderson, Lawrence Brase, Brad Buck, Randy Phillips, and Merlin Rushton.

Staff present: CEO Kevin Brandon, COO Mark Hall, CFO Craig McBrain, CHRO Angela Bamber and Executive Assistant Debbie Howard. Casey Martin, 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 July 19, 2023, Board minutes and Special Board meeting minutes. **MOTION** carried.

**5. Chief Executive Officer – Brandon**

- Unable to attend CREA Manager’s meeting due to attending Management Internship Program (MIP.)
- Attended MIP in Madison, Wisconsin. Brandon gave a detailed report on each subject covered at MIP. He will attend Session 2 in October and Session 3 in December. Brandon expressed appreciation to the Board for approving his attending the training.
- Announced upcoming meetings: Tri-State Board Member Orientation September 13; NRECA Region 7 in Omaha, NE September 26-28 and CFC Director Workshop in Avon, CO August 29 & 30. (Howard has distributed details to Directors for each of these meetings.)

Motion was made and seconded to appoint Kevin Brandon as voting delegate and Lawrence Brase as alternate voting delegate at the Region 7 meeting. **MOTION** carried.

**6. Finance & Membership – McBrain**

- Reviewed June Income Statement, Balance Sheet, various graphs & Check Register. (Included in Board packet.)
- June Net Margins, \$106,841; YTD, \$1,176,467.
- Memberships (not included in board packet) 21 new; 23 withdrawals. YTD Delinquent charges - \$93,304.
- McBrain explained the Disconnect report was presented in a slightly different format.
- SECPA’s new CFC representative, Randy Penn is willing to attend a board meeting to review KRTA ratios. Board asked that the meeting be scheduled after the September meeting.
- Anderson asked about CFC Capital Credit Retirements; Brandon will check on dollar amount.
- In response to question posed by Buck regarding term debt due in next 2 years, McBrain will present a report at a later date detailing this information.
- McBrain asked Directors if the budget timeline could be changed so that both SECPA and SECOM (SECPA’s wholly owned subsidiary) preliminary budgets would be presented to Directors in November and the final budgets in December. Directors approved the change.

**7. Operations – Hall**

- Various kWh graphs, Outages, Work Orders, and Line Loss reports reviewed. (Included in Board packet.)
- Rolling line loss was equivalent to \$22,155. Hall explained why the decrease.
- Reported on recent storm damages and restoration. Over 500 poles were lost during June and July. Hall is working with CREA and the Baca County Emergency Management on filing a claim for damages. Phillips spent

two days with SECPA crews repairing storm damage. He was very impressed with crews. Directors commended crews for the great job.

- Safety Report given. Mike Trumble, Line Superintendent and John Parker, Safety Manager. Attended Loss Control Seminar; Trumble accepted award for SECPA representing Zero Loss Time Accidents. CREA will conduct hands on First Aid and CPR training next week.

**8. Legal – Martin**

- Attorney invoice \$468; YTD \$19,542 (\$3,526 YTD for revising/editing Board policies.)
- Legal fees YTD for SECPA & SECOM total \$33,443.
- Brandon tabled review of Policies 107-108-109 until next meeting. He will suggest some policy revisions.
- Martin spoke on the Community Choice Aggregation (CCA) program (a program that allows cities, counties and other qualifying governmental entities available within the service areas of investor-owned utilities (IOUs), to purchase and/or generate electricity for their residents and businesses) and how it could affect electric co-ops.
- New net metering was discussed. Martin related Colorado Governor Jared Polis requested Holy Cross Energy to temporarily suspend implementing their proposed electric rate changes through January 1, 2024. (This will allow time for Colorado Energy Office to determine future of the net metering policy in Colorado.)

**9. Human Resources – Bamber**

- July payroll = \$575,666 (overtime = \$163,476); (other \$13,268 - includes employee on-call time); 56 employees (includes 5 Summer employees.)

Jobs Posted:

- Warehouseman, Lamar; received 50 applications – will interview 4 applicants. Working on benefit projections for 2024 budget.

**10. Affiliate Organization Board Reports**

A. Western United Electric (WUE) - Anderson

- Written report in Board packet.

B. Colorado Rural Electric Association (CREA) –

- Phillips will attend August 24-25 CREA Board meeting. Net metering is on the Thursday agenda. Brandon also plans to attend.

C. Tri-State (T/S) G&T- Brase

- Written report in Board packet.
- FERC has responded to questions.
- Tri-State has approved owning a solar farm in Delores County.

**11. Executive Session**

Motion was made and seconded to go into Executive Session @ 2:15 p.m. to appoint new Board Director and personnel matter. **MOTION** carried.

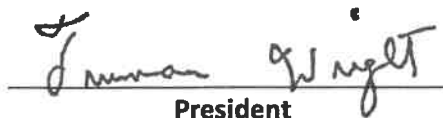
-Staff left the meeting.

- CEO and attorney left Executive Session @ 2:55 p.m.

-Meeting reconvened @ 3:00 p.m. and Howard joining the meeting.

Motion was made by Anderson and seconded by Phillips to appoint Michelle Gardner to serve as District 5 Director until the next annual meeting, at which time she will be up for election for the remainder of the District 5 term (ending at 2026 election) in accordance with SECPA bylaws. **MOTION** carried.

**12. Adjourn** - There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 3:10 p.m.

  
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President

  
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Secretary