

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 **September 18, 2024**, 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, Lawrence Brase, Michelle Gardner, Randy Phillips, and Merlin Rushton. Brad Buck participated via conference call. Clint Anderson was absent.

Staff present: CEO Kevin Brandon, CHRO Angela Bamber, and Executive Assistant Debbie Howard. Casey Martin, outside legal counsel, participated via conference call until 1:00 p.m.

3. Member and/or Public Participation – None.

4. Board Meeting Minutes

Motion was made and seconded to approve August 21, 2024, Board minutes. **MOTION** carried.

5. Chief Executive Officer – Brandon

- BP 114 & BP 115 are being reviewed by Martin for presentation at October Board meeting.
- Attended Tri-State (T/S) Town Hall.
- T/S was selected by the USDA for funding in the New Era Program, with an application for \$679M in budget authority. Through a mix of low-interest loans and grants, T/S would look to leverage this budget authority to support investments that could total more than \$2B for several projects.
- T/S is hosting a Reliability, Rates, and Refreshments event at San Isabel Electric October 30th.
- CREA has hired Taylor Ward as Director of Governance.
- CREA is exploring possibility of new offices due to location of current office.

6. Legal – Martin

- August Invoice totaled \$1,125.
- Martin wants to be sure he is providing the legal services Directors need.
- Martin was notified by Brandon that he will participate in meetings via conference call from 11:00 a.m. until the end of the SECOM (SECPA's subsidiary) meeting and at the beginning of SECPA meeting until he has reviewed his legal report. He is comfortable with being available as needed. The Board will request he attend in person when necessary.

7. Finance & Membership – Brandon

- Reviewed July Income Statement, Balance Sheet, various graphs & Check Register.
- July Net Margins, \$61,450; YTD, \$1,207,681.
- Rushton inquired if the bulk fuel has been set up; Brandon responded not yet.
- There were 20 new memberships; 22 withdrawals; 11,110 accounts billed.
- All 6 August disconnects were reconnected.

8. Operations – Brandon

- Various kWh graphs, Outages (127), Work Orders, and Line Loss reports reviewed.
- Rolling line loss was equivalent to \$107,709.
- Numerous outages in Baca County last night were weather related.
- Phillips related concerns about Facebook posts regarding outages. It was noted Communications Coordinator posts outages and Directors agreed she should follow up even if it's throughout the night. Phillips stated she's the face of SECPA – right? Brandon mentioned that anyone sending a message to SECPA on Facebook receives an automatic reply that our Facebook account is not monitored 24/7 and to call dispatch with outages. Other options for addressing outages were discussed such as not posting outages on Facebook, or possibly posting a disclaimer about Facebook not being continuously

monitored. Brandon did acknowledge that we need to do a better job of following up on Facebook posts.

9. Human Resources – Bamber

- August payroll = \$454,950; (overtime = \$47,412); (other \$15,493 - includes employee on-call time.)
52 Employees.

Staffing Changes & Postings:

- Mike Trumble, Line Superintendent, has resigned effective 10/2/24 with 24 years of service.
- Benefit information was previously emailed to Directors.

10. Affiliate Organization Board Reports

A. Western United Electric (WUE)-

- Written report in board packet.

B. Colorado Rural Electric Association (CREA)- Phillips

- August CREA Board minutes in board packet.
- La Plata Rural Electric Association has asked CREA for support of a resolution to be presented at Region 7 meeting, allowing continued expansion of geothermal.

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

- T/S Board report included in board packet.
- Innovation Summit scheduled October 28-29.
- Reported on Contract Committee and budget meeting he attended.

11. Executive Session


Motion was made and seconded to enter executive session for confidential business development and personnel matter at 2:00 p.m. **MOTION** carried.

Staff was excused at 2:50 p.m.

CEO rejoined exec session at 3:15 p.m.

Meeting reconvened at 3:35 p.m.

12. Adjourn – Meeting adjourned at 3:35 p.m.



Vice President



Secretary