

The regular meeting of the Board of Directors of Southeast Colorado Power Association (SECPA) was held **JUNE 19, 2024**, at the SECPA headquarters, 27850 Harris Road, La Junta, CO.

1. Call to Order/ Roll Call

Vice President Clint Anderson called the meeting to order at 12:25 p.m. Directors present were Lawrence Brase, Michelle Gardner and Merlin Rushton. Truman Wright participated via conference call. Brad Buck and Randy Phillips were absent.

Staff present: CEO Kevin Brandon, COO Mark Hall, CFO Aaron Johnson, CHRO Angela Bamber, and Executive Assistant Debbie Howard.

Casey Martin, outside legal counsel, also attended.

3. Member and/or Public Participation – None.

4. Board Meeting Minutes

Motion was made and seconded to approve May 15, 2024, Board minutes. **MOTION** carried.

5. Chief Executive Officer – Brandon

- A recorded copy of land survey plat which was requested by Directors to be attached to the Springfield Annexation Agreement was shown. Attorney Martin had been asked to provide plat but was unable to obtain from Springfield's attorney. Awaiting signatures from Town of Springfield.
- Rate adjustment letter sent to members on June 18th. Letter and rate summary will be published in July issue of *Colorado County Life* magazine.
- CFC will conduct Strategic Planning January 22nd and 23rd, 2025.
- Eads School inquired as to whether SECPA infrastructure could accommodate 2 EV school buses. Brandon will provide them with specifics.

6. Finance & Membership – Johnson

- Reviewed April Income Statement, Balance Sheet, various graphs & Check Register. (Included in BOD packet.) Two takeaways from the balance sheet: Total Utility Plant in Service increased \$7M from 2023 and Total Long-Term Debt decreased by nearly \$152k.
- Working on CFC term loan. Johnson would like to pay down the Line of Credit.
- April Net Margins, \$253,789; YTD, \$883,137.
- There were 27 new memberships; 22 withdrawals; 11,176 accounts billed.

7. Operations – Hall

- Various kWh graphs, Outages (112), Work Orders, and Line Loss reports reviewed. (Included in BOD packet.)
- Rolling line loss was equivalent to \$57,351.
- Tri-State is building a substation, which will give SECPA a breaker to feed the Edison substation and SECPA will no longer incur the \$1300-1700 wheeling charges currently paid to Mountain View Electric.
- Helium plant project in Kim has been put on hold for two years.
- Have had no response from Charter Communications after submitting engineering cost.
- Tesla charging station is on hold.
- Explained incident at Walsh substation involving a group of birds that flew through an electric line causing a ball of fire.
- No cause, other than possibly weather related for La Junta substation going down.
- Will pick up bucket truck in Denver tomorrow.
- FEMA paperwork has been signed. SECPA will receive \$273k check and an additional \$50k check.

- Update given on area crew projects.
- Safety Report: Safety Manager has completed drug testing training and is working on completing alcohol testing training. He has presented a Building Securement plan to C-Team for their review.

8. Legal – Martin

- Invoice for April and May totaled \$9,587.
- Reviewed written report. (Report was not available to be included in Board packet.)

9. Human Resources – Bamber

- May payroll = \$421,860; (overtime = \$32,482); (other \$12,676 - includes employee on-call time.) 49 Employees, including 1 summer employee.
- Staffing Changes & Postings:
 - Interviewed Staking Engineer, Lamar/Springfield position. After Union approved a new pay structure proposed by SECPA for this position, Troy Eberhardt, Lamar Foreman, has accepted the position.
 - Position openings for Lamar Foreman and Apprentice Lineman posted.
 - Summer employees: Trevor Johnston (LJ crew), Tyler Pennick (Springfield crew), Dominic Groomer (Lamar crew) and Lillie Backes (LJ HR).

10. Affiliate Organization Board Reports

A. Western United Electric (WUE)- Clint Anderson

- Written report in board packet.

B. Colorado Rural Electric Association (CREA)-

- May CREA meeting minutes included in board packet.
- Brandon related that CREA is considering changing their cost structure, offering choices for Safety training and the number of on-site visits per year. Hall asked what CREA can offer that SECPA can't do themselves.

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

- T/S Board report included in board packet.
- Catherine Crowfoot has resigned from Tri-State.
- Non-member sales have increased.

11. Executive Session

Motion was made and seconded to enter executive session for personnel matter at 2:10 p.m.

Meeting reconvened at 2:15 p.m.

12. Adjourn – Meeting adjourned at 2:15 p.m.



 President



 Secretary