

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 24, 2025**, at the SECPA headquarters, 27850 Harris Road, La Junta, CO.

1. Call to Order/ Roll Call

Vice President Merlin Rushton called the meeting to order at 11:30 a.m. Directors present were: Lawrence Brase, Brad Buck, Michelle Gardner, and Randy Phillips. Truman Wright participated via teleconference. Clint Anderson joined via teleconference at 2:50 p.m.

Staff present: Interim CEO Mark Hall, Interim COO Mike Trumble, CHRO Angela Bamber, SECOM CTO Elijah Ridgewell, and Executive Assistant Debbie Howard. Matt Richardson, outside legal counsel, was in attendance, and guest Chris Pink, Tri-State Operations Manager (1:45 – 3:05 p.m.)

2. Agenda Modifications – None.

3. Member and/or Public Participation – One member present (left meeting during lunch 11:35 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. and left meeting @ 3:05 p.m.)

4. Board Meeting Minutes

Motion was made and seconded to approve August 27, 2025 Board minutes. **MOTION** carried.

5. Tri-State SVP of Operations – Pink Moved to last item on the agenda. Presentation 1:45-3:05 p.m.

- Reviewed slide presentation. Pink responded to questions from Directors.
- Hall commented he feels optimistic about some of the procedural changes Tri-State operations have made to accommodate future outage issues.
- Pink related that due to the withdrawal of United Power from Tri-State, staffing adjustments had been made accordingly.

6. Legal – Richardson

This being his first meeting, he had nothing to report.

7. Interim Chief Executive Officer – Hall

- Hall provided a verbal update to his written report sent to Directors prior to the meeting.
- Wright and Rushton were re-appointed as SECPA CREA Board delegate, and alternate delegate respectively.
- A new CREA CEO has not been hired, pending negotiations.
- Received a disengagement letter from former outside legal counsel.
- Signed a contract with Ready Roofers.
- Thank you cards passed around. Announced the passing of Rich Wilson, a former SECPA CEO and 40 year SECPA employee.
- Deferred remainder of his report to Executive Session.

Recessed for lunch 11:35 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

8. C-Team Reports

A. Finance & Membership – Hall

- Reviewed August Income Statements, Balance Sheets, Cash Flow Summaries, and various graphs. Gave a verbal update to his written report included in Board packet.
- YTD – SECPA has billed SECOM \$2.4M for “make ready” (labor and materials) for SECOM grants. Within the next two months, \$3.5M will have been billed.
- August Net Income \$424,624; YTD margins, \$724,988. YTD delinquent penalty charges \$150,548.
- There was a gain of 1 membership; YTD loss, 37. Thirty Active Meters added; YTD, total 10,896.

B. Operations – Hall

- Various kWh graphs, Outages (98) and Line Loss reports reviewed.
- July rolling line loss was equivalent to \$82,810.
- Hall gave an update on various projects and provided details for crew activity.
- Inventory at all locations will be conducted in October.

Safety Report:

A Foreman's meeting was held in Lamar; Safety Committee met in La Junta; 2 - 7th step evaluations and 2 crew visits were completed. A Fire Retardant (FR) Committee made up of 6 employees has been formed.

C. Human Resources – Bamber

- August payroll = \$464,588; (overtime = \$43,863); (other \$17,940 - includes employee on-call time and unpaid leave for tracking purposes.) 50 employees (includes 1 part-time & 3 summer employees.)
- Staffing changes & Postings:
 - Anne Boswell, Communications Coordinator – position eliminated (effective 8/13/25.)
 - Mike Trumble, Line Superintendent to Interim COO (effective 8/11/25.)
- Benefit enrollment is in process.

D. Technology-Ridgwell

- Reported on cybersecurity and IT updates.
- Plan to do training on AI usage and phishing.
- Improving data governance and increased security.

9. Affiliate Organization Board Reports

A. Western United Electric (WUE)- Gardner

- WUE preliminary sales and finance August report in board packet.
- Gardner was unable to attend WUE meeting August 28th.
- Hall stated WUE sent patronage check for \$37K (20% of what is due to SECPA.)

B. Colorado Rural Electric Association (CREA) - Wright

- Anderson attended CREA CEO interviews; in negotiations with candidate.

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

- Brase gave a verbal update to the Tri-State September Board report in board packet.
- FERC filings have been completed.
- Tri-State's 2026 budget will require an increase in the average Class A rate of 7.5%.
- Hall noted with the formulary rate in place, SECPA's monthly power bill will be reduced by an average of \$51k/month.

10. Executive Session -

Motion was made and seconded to go into Executive Session at 3:05 p.m. for personnel matter.

MOTION carried.

Staff, except Hall, Richardson and Bamber left the meeting.

Bamber left the meeting @ 3:40 p.m.

Hall left the meeting @ 4:00 p.m. & rejoined the meeting @ 4:20 p.m.

Meeting reconvened at 5:00 p.m.

11. Adjourn – Meeting adjourned at 5:00 p.m.



Board President



Board Secretary