

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 **February 26, 2025**, 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, Michelle Gardner, and Merlin Rushton. Randy Phillips was absent. Staff present: CEO Kevin Brandon, COO Mark Hall, CHRO Angela Bamber, and Executive Assistant Debbie Howard.

Casey Martin, outside legal counsel, joined meeting via conference call 12:45 to 1:05 p.m.

2. Agenda Modifications – None.

3. Member and/or Public Participation – None.

4. Board Meeting Minutes

Motion was made and seconded to approve January 15th and February 19th, 2025 Board minutes. **MOTION** carried.

5. Chief Executive Officer – Brandon

- EideBailly audit engagement letter dated January 24, 2025 for audit year 2024 (audit fees \$37,500) was presented. Motion was made and seconded to approve engagement letter. **MOTION** carried.
- Tri-State CEO Duane Highley has requested to attend a SECPA board meeting. Highley and Chris Pink, Tri-State Operations, will attend March meeting.
- Burlington-Lamar transmission line has been energized.
- Several Directors and Brandon attended CREA meeting.
- Announced Youth Tour winners – Larkin Anderson & Layton Homm.

6. Legal – Martin

- Finalized PSCO Condemnation response, and PSCO agreement regarding relocation of SECPA lines. Hall asked Brandon if he had signed the document; Brandon responded affirmative.
- Reviewed credit card policy as requested by CFO Aaron Johnson. Martin stated language is appropriate.

7. Finance & Membership – Brandon

- Reviewed November Income Statement, Balance Sheet, Cash Flow Summary, various graphs & Check Register.
- December Net Margins, \$1,365,670; YTD, \$3,455,069.
- Brandon received a draft from Tri-State specifying a possible additional \$800k patronage allocation for SECPA due to forfeited Capital Credits by ex-members.
- Total 2024 delinquent penalty charges \$241,981.
- There were 21 new memberships and 34 withdrawals.
- A communication report was shown. Brandon asked Directors if they would want this report included in board packet. No one expressed interest.

A. Draft Credit Card Policy

Reviewed and approved Proposed Credit Card Payment Acceptance policy as presented.

8. Operations – Hall

- Various kWh graphs, Outages (35), Work Orders, and Line Loss reports reviewed.
- Rolling line loss was equivalent to \$50,146.

- Hall gave an in-depth report of what transpired on February 14th involving Tri-State and a voltage issue. In response to question from Rushton, Hall replied SECPA will not be responsible for any damage costs.
- Reported on several ongoing projects.
- Safety report: CREA announced hiring a 3rd JTS and will continue providing compliance training; registered apprentices for Hot line School; submitted documents to the State to update Apprenticeship program; Update Safety Manual to reflect new Hands-Free Law; and registered himself and Mike Trumble, Line Superintendent for CREA Operations group meeting.

9. **Human Resources – Bamber**

- January payroll = \$434,037; (overtime = \$17,184); (other \$11,120) - includes employee on-call time and unpaid leave for tracking purposes. 52 Employees.

Staffing Changes & Postings:

- Jace Noe was hired as La Junta Warehouseman and started 1/13/25.
- Debbie Romero, Payroll & Benefits Administrator, retired 2/6/25.

10. **Affiliate Organization Board Reports**

A. Western United Electric (WUE)-Anderson

- WUE sales and finance report in board packet.

B. Colorado Rural Electric Association (CREA)

- CREA Board of Directors meeting minutes in board packet.

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

- Tri-State Board report in board packet.
- ERA funding status is uncertain; Tri-State will proceed with projects.
- Attended virtual Contract Committee meeting February 19th.
- Encouraged Directors to attend Tri-State Annual meeting April 1-2. The meeting will include a wholesale electric service contract workshop for members.

11. **Executive Session**

Motion was made and seconded to enter executive session at 2:25 p.m. for business development and personnel matter. **MOTION** carried.

-Staff, except Hall, was excused at 2:30 p.m.

-Hall left Exec session at 3:10 p.m.

-Scott Monarco, SECOM COO, joined Exec session @ 3:25 p.m.

-Bamber joined Exec session at 4:40 p.m.

Meeting reconvened at 4:55 p.m.

12. **Adjourn** – Meeting adjourned at 4:55 p.m.



President



Secretary