

From the WCE boardroom

Regular meeting of the Board of Directors held Dec. 19, 2024

A meeting of the board of directors of West Central Electric Cooperative was held at the offices of the Cooperative, in Higginsville, Missouri, at 9:30 a.m. on Dec. 19, 2024, pursuant to the bylaws of the cooperative and previous resolution of the board of directors. The meeting was called to order by President Densil Allen Jr. Attorney Sheri Smiley caused the minutes of the meeting to be kept. The following directors were present: Allen Jr., Clark Bredehoeft, Richard Strobel, Dale Jarman, Robert Simmons, Colby Dowell, Stan Rhodes, Jeremy Ahmann and Elizabeth Houtsma. Also present was General Manager Michael Newland.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

After discussion, the agenda was approved as presented.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

The board approved its consent agenda consisting of the minutes of the regular meeting of Nov. 26, 2024; expenditures for the month of November 2024; new membership applications and membership terminations.

APPROVAL OF REPORTS

The following November reports were approved:

Financing and Treasurer's Report: Accounting Manager Rebecca Hoeflicker presented the November 2024 Operating Report (RUS Form 7) and Comparative Operating Statement. She reviewed the Financial and Statistical Report and Treasurer's Report with monthly and annual budget comparisons. She also gave the investment report. She presented and reviewed statistical data pertaining to operating revenue, expenses, margins, assets, liabilities, cash flow management, and KWH sales and ratios. She reported on interest rates, the loan draw down from CFC and the impact of large loads on the budget and projections for December margins. The RUS Loan Application was submitted.

Operations Report

Operations Manager Scott Gard provided an oral report to supplement his written Operations Report. He reported on crews, and outages and causes for the month. He gave a mechanic and fleet report. He also gave a brush crew and right-of-way report. He discussed issues with fiber installers hitting line. He also reported on the outage at the Centerview Substation caused from a squirrel.

Safety and Engineering Report: Engineering Manager Pete Nelson provided an oral report to supplement his written Safety and Engineering Report. As of Nov. 30, 2024, employees have worked 759 days without a lost-time accident. Co-op employees drove a total of 28,169 miles as of the end of November without a serious accident. He reported on the safety committee meeting and that state-wide audits were reviewed. A material update was given.

Member Services Report: Member Services Manager Brent Schlotzhauer provided his written Member Services Report. His report included RoundUp enrollment and RoundUp updates. The Odessa High School Reality Check was participated in. He gave a net metering report. Chamber meetings attended were reported on and an update was given on the after-hours dispatch with CRC. Issues with the post office deliveries of bills was discussed. Take Control and Save rebates that will go into effect in July were reported on.



REVIEW AND APPROVE SECTION 23 OF SERVICE RULES AND REGULATIONS

Section 23 of the Service Rules and Regulations were reviewed and passed as presented.

AMEC REPORT

Bredehoeft provided the written departmental reports. An executive report was given. The tax exempt status of materials was discussed. An AECL report was also given.

NW REPORT

Simmons and Newland gave the NW Report. They discussed margins, Lone Jack, the work plan, substations, lines and poles and farm equipment. An AECL and large-load update was discussed.

POLICY AND BYLAW COMMITTEE REPORT

Jarman provided the report. Policies 3.18, 5.14 and 4.14 were presented. Policy 3.18 was tabled. Policies 5.14 and 4.14 were passed and implemented.

APPOINT NRTC VOTING DELEGATE AND ALTERNATE

Simmons was named the voting delegate and Newland the alternate.

REVIEW AND DISCUSS RATES

Newland provided a rate study done by Toth and different rate scenarios were discussed. Further discussion will be held at the board retreat in January.

LEGAL REPORT

Smiley gave the legal report for the month.

MANAGER'S REPORT

Newland presented the monthly Manager's Report. He reported on the 18 acres behind the co-op that is leased out by the co-op, and the board had no issues with extending the lease for 5 years. The NRECA International program was discussed.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

None.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Executive Session was called at 11:30 a.m. and was out at 11:46 a.m.

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned.

FINANCIAL REPORT

November 2024 Statement of Operations

	This month	YTD 2024	YTD 2023
Revenue	\$2,708,591	\$33,726,176	\$29,949,800
Power Bill Expense	1,897,420	20,712,174	17,448,212
Operation & Maintenance Expense	531,261	7,917,191	6,945,087
Depreciation Expense	214,267	2,315,535	2,465,354
Interest Expense	131,795	1,463,358	1,363,295
Total cost of Service (Total Expenses)	2,774,743	32,408,258	28,221,948
Operating Margins (Revenue less Expenses)	(66,152)	1,317,918	1,727,852
Other Margins	19,586	315,226	614,575
TOTAL MARGINS	\$(46,566)	\$1,633,144	\$2,342,427