

# From the WCE boardroom

*Regular meeting of the Board of Directors held April 24, 2025*

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.

April 24, 2025, 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, Stan Rhodes, Jeremy Ahmann, Colby Dowell and Elizabeth Houtsma. Also present was General Manager Michael Newland.

## APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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 March 27, 2025; expenditures for the month of March 2025; new membership applications and membership terminations, and the Treasurer's Report.

## FINANCING AND TREASURER'S REPORT

CFO Rebecca Hoeflicker presented the March 2025 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 and the impact of large loads on the budget and projections for April margins. She gave updated budget numbers. The payment to Federated Insurance and investments were discussed. New services conducted were reported on. The financial reports were accepted as presented. The audit was reported on and provided to the board. No deficiencies were found. The board approved the audit.

## APPROVAL OF STAFF REPORTS

The following staff reports were approved:

### 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, including outages caused by a transmission line outage. He gave a mechanic and fleet report. He reported the new digger truck should be arriving soon and he discussed maintenance of trucks. He reported on how the mechanics reports are made. A brush crew update was given. Interns were reported on.

Safety and Engineering Report: Engineering Manager Pete Nelson provided an oral report to supplement his written Safety and Engineering Report. As of March 31, 2025, employees have worked 880 days without a lost-time accident. Co-op employees drove a total of 39,397 miles as of the end of March without a serious accident. He reported on safety meetings, crew visits, and gave an engineering/staking department report. He reported that NW gave a presentation at the Bates City Substation. A double-deck conversion was reported on. Updates on SCADA and Lone Jack were given. The Hwy. 13 project was reported on.

Member Services Report: Member Services Manager Brent Schlotzhauer provided an oral report to supplement his written Member Services Report. He provided updates on Operation RoundUp, school presentations, Youth Tour and awards night, and he discussed meetings attended, including employee-training. He gave a net metering report. Chamber meetings attended were reported on.

## REVIEW AND APPROVE SECTION 3 – REQUIREMENT FOR SERVICE

Newland and Nelson led the discussion on potential changes to Section 3 –



Requirement for Service. The board voted to approve with staff's recommended change.

## DISCUSS SECTION 5, COST OF OVERHEAD AND UNDERGROUND NEW SERVICES

Nelson discussed aid-in-construction for line extensions and costs of overhead of the co-op. No changes will be made to the policy.

## ROUNDUP FOUNDATION REPORT

Dowell presented a written report.

## ANNUAL MEETING DISCUSSION

A discussion was held regarding the annual meeting to be held on Aug. 1. Food menu options were discussed. Advanced balloting will be held as it normally has been held.

## AMEC REPORT

Newland gave the AMEC report. He reported on storm damage throughout the state, director courses and gave an AECL update.

## NW REPORT

Simmons and Newland gave the NW Report. The annual meeting was discussed, including the AECL speakers who spoke at the annual meeting. A discussion was held on whether to move the meeting to one or two days, the board's consensus was to stay at two days, but consider moving it to March instead of April.

## APPOINT CFC AND FEDERATED ANNUAL MEETING VOTING DELEGATE

Dowell was appointed as the voting delegate for the CFC and Federated annual meeting.

## LEGAL REPORT

Attorney Sheri Smiley gave the legal report for the month. She also reported on the current status of Prop A and the need to amend the sick leave policy should Prop A go into effect on May 1. A motion was made and passed to amend the sick leave policy to conform with Prop A should it go into effect.

## MANAGERS REPORT

Newland gave the Manager's Report. He gave employment updates and an update on new meters and contract negotiations.

## UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None.

## NEW BUSINESS

None.

## EXECUTIVE SESSION

Executive Session was called at 11:10 a.m. and was out at 11:56 a.m.

## ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned.

## FINANCIAL REPORT

### March 2025 Statement of Operations

	This month	YTD 2025	YTD 2024
Revenue	\$3,391,336	\$12,203,315	\$9,406,893
Power Bill Expense	1,976,738	6,819,861	5,408,574
Operation & Maintenance Expense	783,358	2,260,933	1,949,183
Depreciation Expense	216,746	648,495	623,297
Interest Expense	145,363	421,144	381,695
<b>Total cost of Service (Total Expenses)</b>	<b>3,122,205</b>	<b>10,150,433</b>	<b>8,362,749</b>
Operating Margins (Revenue less Expenses)	269,131	2,052,882	1,044,144
Other Margins	56,556	103,784	77,242
<b>TOTAL MARGINS</b>	<b>\$325,687</b>	<b>\$2,156,666</b>	<b>\$1,121,386</b>