From the WCE boardroom

Regular meeting of the Board of Directors held May 28, 2026.

A meeting of the board of directors of West Central Electric Cooperative was held at the offices of the cooperative in Higginsville, Mo., at 9:30 a.m. on May 28, 2026, 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, Jeremy Ahmann, Stan Rhodes Colby Dowell and Elizabeth Houtsma. Also present was General Manager Michael Newland.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The agenda was approved.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

The board approved its consent agenda consisting of the minutes of the regular meeting on April 23, 2026; expenditures for the month of April 2026; new membership applications and membership terminations and the treasurer's report.

FINANCING AND TREASURER'S REPORT

CFO Rebecca Hoeflicker presented the April 2026 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, borrowing funds, and projections for April. She gave updated budget numbers and items that have not been billed yet. She reviewed investments. Equity was reported on. The cash flow statement was reviewed. The audit was provided for the board in their board packets. New services connected were reported on. The financial reports were accepted as presented.

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, career days where presentations were given to local schools, mechanic and fleet, and outages. Right-of-way clearing and how it impacts outages was discussed. He also reported on maintenance, brush crews, right-of-way and new services. He reported the banners at the veteran's home had been changed out.

Engineering Report: Engineering Manager Pete Nelson provided an oral report to supplement his written safety and engineering report. He reported on new subdivisions. The OO highway conversion and pole changes were reported on. He gave a Lone Jack update. Estimating and billing are being worked on with NISC. The rising costs of aluminum wire and duct resin was reported on. Issues with contractors timely completing work was discussed.

Safety Report: Safety & Compliance Manager Cody Brock gave a safety report. Safety meetings and crew visits were reported on. There was damage to one truck door when the wind caught it. Audits were reported on. As of April 30, 2026, the employees worked 1,275 days without a lost-time accident, and drove 36,691 miles for the month. The crisis communications handbook was finalized and distributed. The emergency action plan is being worked on.

Member Services Report: Member Services Manager Brent Schlotzhauer provided a written member services report. He provided updates on Operation RoundUp, the communication department activities, and presentations by the co-op at local schools. Scholarships were presented at area schools. Gift baskets were presented to police departments and sheriffs' departments for National Police Week. Net metered solar systems and rebates were reported on. The CRC web session and the AECI Touchstone Energy Service Excellence programs were attended. He also reported on chamber meetings he attended. He handed out the survey that has been drafted to give to members at the annual meeting and discussion was held. He provided a report on key metrics and payment options. The paperless billing campaign was discussed. The phone service will change so that members calling in will be able to choose between going directly to a payment option or speaking to a member services representative.



NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT

Smiley reported on the nominating committee meeting. Simmons, Allen Jr., and Strobel were nominated. A discussion was held on how to handle voting at the annual meeting and to allow for advanced voting if there are no contested elections. It was decided to keep the voting as originally planned with AMEC handling advanced mail-in ballots and being present at the meeting with iPad voting. A member survey was discussed and a motion was made and passed to send a survey to every member. How to send the surveys will be discussed at the next meeting.

NW BOARD REPORT

Simmons and Newland gave the NW board report. The auditor provided the audit report and it was reported as a clean audit with no modifications. They reported on margins, deferred revenue, equity, and outages. The board approved a new loan. The NW board strategic planning meeting was attended earlier in the month. They reported on a new loan that was approved by the board. Bredehoeft attended the AMEC District 1 meeting prior to the NW meeting. He reported on the meeting and nominations made for the AMEC service awards.

CFC AND FEDERATED ANNUAL MEETING VOTING DELEGATE

Bredehoeft was chosen as the CFC and Federated voting delegate and Ahmann was chosen as the alternate

AMEC ANNUAL MEETING VOTING REP. AND ALTERNATE

Bredehoeft was chosen as the AMEC annual meeting voting representative and Simmons as the alternate.

AMEC BOARD MEMBER AND ALTERNATE

Bredehoeft was named as the AMEC board member and Newland the alternate.

LEGAL REPORT

Smiley gave the legal report for the month.

MANAGERS REPORT

Newland gave the manager's report. He reported on meetings attended including a legislative meeting in Washington, D.C., where he was asked to speak. Dowell also attended that meeting and gave a report. Newland reported that the board strategic planning meeting is June 9-10. Locates, annexations and Lone Jack were also reported on.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Jarman discussed the board policy on nepotism and the per diem for online courses. It was decided the policy committee should review both policies for potential changes.

NEW BUSINESS

None.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Executive Session was called at 11:46 a.m. and was out at 12:04 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned.

FINANCIAL REPORT

April 2026

Statement of Operations

	This month	YTD 2026	YTD 2025
Revenue	**$2,913,007**	**$15,111,890**	**$15,021,232**
Power Bill Expense	1,837,259	8,543,643	8,695,458
Operation & Maintenance Expense	835,901	2,986,522	2,933,682
Depreciation Expense	227,997	907,231	865,473
Interest Expense	148,596	589,754	559,143
Total cost of Service (Total Expenses)	**3,049,753**	**13,027,150**	**13,053,756**
Operating Margins (Revenue less Expenses)	(136,746)	2,084,740	1,967,476
Other Margins	29,243	181,599	133,961
TOTAL MARGINS	**$(107,503)**	**$2,266,339**	**$2,101,437**