

From the WCE boardroom

Regular meeting of the Board of Directors held Oct. 23, 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. Oct. 23, 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 and Elizabeth Houtsma. Colby Dowell was absent. 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 on Sept. 25, 2025; expenditures for the month of September 2025; new membership applications and membership terminations, and the treasurer's report.

FINANCING AND TREASURER'S REPORT

CFO Rebecca Hoeflicker presented the September 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, the impact of large loads on the budget and projections for October. She gave updated budget numbers and reported some fleet has come in and has been paid for. She reviewed investments. New services connected were reported on. Deferred revenue will not need to be brought in. A bridge line of credit of \$5 million was approved due to the 2025 Government Shutdown and the RUS loan being put on hold. 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, pole changeouts, and outages and causes for the month. He gave a mechanic and fleet report. New service installations and issues with locates were discussed. A brush crew and right-of-way report was given, and a request for bids has gone out. An update on when fleet will arrive was discussed.

Safety and Engineering Report: Engineering Manager Pete Nelson provided an oral report to supplement his written safety and engineering report. As of Sept. 30, employees have worked 1,063 days without a lost-time accident. Co-op employees drove a total of 36,170 miles as of the end of September without a serious accident. He reported on safety meetings, crew visits, and gave an engineering/staking department report. The RESAP audit was reported on. The Holden Substation was discussed. MoDOT issues on Highway 13 were also discussed. He gave an update on Lone Jack. Potential new subdivisions were discussed.

Member Services Report: Member Services Manager Brent Schlotzhauer provided a written member services report. He provided updates on Operation RoundUp, the communication department activities including education, safety programs and parades attended. Chamber meetings and member surveys were reported on. Net metering was discussed including two qualified facility generator application agreements. Updates on the 2025 Member Satisfaction Survey were reported on. Vanilla Direct cash payments was presented on. Kiosk issues with check readers were discussed. The board approved using Vanilla Direct for cash



payments. He also discussed the proposal to have a new member handbook sent by email instead of by paper mail, although the paper mail will be an option to members who request it. Cost savings to the co-op is estimated to be \$6,000 annually. The board approved using the online handbook.

AMEC REPORT

Bredehoeft gave an update on the meeting held in September. Departmental reports were provided in the board packet. iPad voting was discussed.

AMEC ANNUAL MEETING REPORT

Board members who attended the AMEC annual meeting gave a report.

ROUNDUP FOUNDATION REPORT

A RoundUp Foundation report was available in the board packet and accepted.

BOARD RETREAT

Newland and Administrative Assistant Kim Lewis discussed the board retreat dates. The board retreat will be moved to Feb. 26-27, 2026.

NW REPORT

Simmons and Newland gave the NW Report. They reported on the new manager search, Lone Jack, the Turney project, the Holden Rural Substation, and discussed old poles and aging transformers. A rate increase of 4% by NW was reported on. Deferred revenue was brought in. Equity was discussed.

Smiley gave the legal report for the month.

MANAGERS REPORT

Newland provided a written report to the board prior to the meeting. He discussed fleet, gave an asset update and equipment availability due to recent outages and replacements. An additional small bucket truck needs to be purchased at a total cost of \$241,000.00. He will bring this back next month. The NW rate increase and the cost-of-service study with CFC will be presented at the November meeting. He discussed furloughed employee assistance due to the current government shutdown. The board approved furloughed employee assistance. A staffing update was given and open positions were discussed. Rates for the cooperative will be discussed next month and equity was reviewed. The report was accepted.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

None.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Executive Session was called at 11:43 a.m. and was out at 11:57 a.m.

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned.

FINANCIAL REPORT

September 2025 Statement of Operations

	This month	YTD 2025	YTD 2024
Revenue	\$3,447,183	\$32,287,777	\$28,117,063
Power Bill Expense	2,122,817	19,560,263	17,011,217
Operation & Maintenance Expense	683,272	6,823,451	6,563,528
Depreciation Expense	221,976	1,965,453	1,887,523
Interest Expense	131,191	1,247,683	1,195,759
Total cost of Service (Total Expenses)	3,159,256	29,596,850	26,658,027
Operating Margins (Revenue less Expenses)	287,927	2,690,927	1,459,036
Other Margins	40,176	279,806	269,097
TOTAL MARGINS	\$328,103	\$2,970,733	\$1,728,133