

From the WCE boardroom

Regular meeting of the Board of Directors held Sept. 25, 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. Sept. 25, 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 Aug. 28, 2025; expenditures for the month of August 2025; new membership applications and membership terminations, and the treasurer's report.

FINANCING AND TREASURER'S REPORT

CFO Rebecca Hoeflicker presented the August 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 September. She gave updated budget numbers. She reviewed investments. New services connected were reported on. Large bills paid for the month were discussed. The CFC KRTA update was in the board packet for review. Equity was discussed. The AECI rate increase is 4% overall. AMEC is gathering data on the sales tax exemption savings. The impact to margins from large loads was discussed. 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, expansions worked on, and outages and causes for the month. He gave a mechanic and fleet report. Locates and subs are being checked. The pole inspection has been completed with 9,056 poles inspected. A brush crew and right-of-way report was given. An update on new fleet arriving was discussed.

Safety and Engineering Report: Engineering Manager Pete Nelson provided an oral report to supplement his written safety and engineering report. As of Aug. 31, 2025, employees have worked 1,033 days without a lost-time accident. Co-op employees drove a total of 36,536 miles as of the end of August without a serious accident. He reported on safety meetings, crew visits, and gave an engineering/staking department report. He reported on projects being worked on. Highway 13 and MoDot 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 and net metering. Chamber meetings and member surveys were reported on. REDLG loans and grants were discussed.

NW REPORT

Simmons and Newland gave the NW Report. They reported on the new manager search, Lone Jack, the Turney project and projects through 2035. They also gave an AECI update.

APPOINT CFC VOTING DELEGATE AND ALTERNATE FOR REGION 8-10 MEETING

Bredehoeft was named the CFC voting delegate and Simmons the alternate.

APPOINT FEDERATED DELEGATE FOR REGION 8-10 MEETING

Rhodes was named the Federated voting delegate and Allen Jr. the alternate.

REVIEW POLICY 5.5-1

Policy 5.5-1 was presented by Newland and Nelson. Staff had recommended changes to the policy. The board amended the policy.

BOARD RETREAT DATES

The board retreat was discussed.

LEGAL REPORT

Smiley gave the legal report for the month.

MANAGERS REPORT

Newland gave the manager's report. He had provided a written report to the board prior to the meeting. He discussed fleet, gave a strategic planning matrix, reported on the franchise agreement with Bates City. He gave an update on services near Oak Grove and gave a staffing report. A cost-of-service study was discussed.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

Strobel discussed safety of infrastructure. REDLG loans were also discussed and more information will be brought back to the board.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Executive Session was called at 11:23 a.m. and was out at 12:07 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned.

FINANCIAL REPORT

August 2025 Statement of Operations

	This month	YTD 2025	YTD 2024
Revenue	\$3,862,939	\$28,840,595	\$24,899,764
Power Bill Expense	2,264,707	17,437,446	15,091,933
Operation & Maintenance Expense	740,779	6,140,179	5,844,694
Depreciation Expense	221,558	1,743,477	1,673,983
Interest Expense	135,992	1,116,492	1,063,519
Total cost of Service (Total Expenses)	3,363,036	26,437,594	23,674,129
Operating Margins (Revenue less Expenses)	499,903	2,403,001	1,225,635
Other Margins	20,094	239,629	223,675
TOTAL MARGINS	\$519,997	\$2,642,630	\$1,449,310