

MILLE LACS ENERGY COOPERATIVE
Aitkin, MN 56431

The regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the Mille Lacs Energy Cooperative was virtually via Zoom on January 21, 2021. All board members were present.

President Harold Harms called the meeting to order at 9 a.m.

All team leaders except Mary Ward were present for their reports. Executive Assistant Debra Chute was also present. Everyone joined in the Pledge of Allegiance.

New District 2 Director Carol Pundt was attending her first board meeting. Board members and the managers introduced themselves.

These minutes being transcribed by or under the direction of Secretary/Treasurer, Barbara Welty, the following proceedings have: (all action being first duly moved and seconded, and all action taken being upon the unanimous vote of the Board, or without dissenting vote or abstention, unless otherwise stated).

M/S/P to approve consent agenda items expense vouchers for the period ending January 21, 2021, agenda for the January 21, 2021 regular board meeting, and minutes of the December 17, 2020 regular board meeting.

The team and financial reports for December 2020 were reviewed and accepted upon motion.

PRESENTATION

Alison Deelstra of CFC gave a KRTA Review and update to the board members.

VOTING

2.1 Recommended Write-offs

M/S/P to approve the recommended electric write-offs for this month in the amount of \$1,498.31.

2.2 Policy Review

M/S/P to approve the following revised policies:

- Policy No. 315, renumber to 314 – After Hours Work for Another Employer
- Policy No. 317, renumber to 316 – Anti-Harassment Policy

Policy No. 316 was reviewed but not approved as a clarification is needed.

2.3 Board Activity Reports

GRE – The December 2020 GRE Board Report submitted by Harold Harms was reviewed.

Harold gave a verbal review of the January GRE Board meeting.

MREA – The December 2020 MREA Board meeting minutes were reviewed.

January 8, 2021 Legislative Bulletin was reviewed.

RUS – No report
CFC – No report
NRECA – No report
MAC – No report
FEDERATED – No report.
NRTC – NRTC 2021 Voting Delegate paperwork was reviewed.
2020 Voting Delegate was Don Appel.
M/S/P to approve Mike Reem as 2021 as voting delegate, and Sarah Cron as alternate.
RESCO – No report.
NISC – 2021 Capital Credit Summary from NISC was reviewed.

M/S/P to accept the activity reports.

REPORTS

3.1 Safety Control

Deanna Soderberg of PLS presented Spill Clean Up and Hearing Protection on December 14th.

The next safety training is Advanced Driver Training scheduled on February 3 and 10 for all employees who drive for MLEC.

The December 2020 Safety Cross was reviewed.

3.2 Quarterly Articles/Bylaws Review

The first third of the By-Laws was reviewed as part of the quarterly update.

M/S/P to approve a resolution to adopt two Amendments to MLEC Bylaws. The First Amendment is to allow use of electronic signatures and communications. The second Amendment is to change the title from General Manager to CEO. Bylaw Amendments will be voted on at the next director election that requires voting.

SCHEDULED MEETINGS

4.1 GRE Region Meeting, Online

Wednesday, February 10, 2021, 9:00 – 12:00

Attending: All directors and Sarah Cron.

Harold Harms will be attending as GRE Director.

4.2 NRECA Annual Meeting, Online

February 23 – March 4, 2021

M/S/P to approve Harold Harms as 2021 NRECA voting delegate and Don Appel as alternate.

4.3 MREA Annual Meeting, St. Paul, MN, Online
March 2 – 3, 2021, Tuesday and Wednesday
Attending: Barb Welty and Sarah Cron in person.
Harold Harms, Aileen DeMenge, Don Appel, Mike Reem and Bruce Robinson will attend via online.
Barb Welty is attending as MREA Director.
M/S/P to approve Barb Welty as MREA's 2021 Voting Delegate.

4.4 CoBank Regional Meeting, Online
March 18, 2021, Thursday, 9:00 – 12:15
Attending: **No one as this date and time conflicts with MLEC's regular board meeting.**

4.5 NRECA 2021 Director Conference, Online
March 23 – 24, 2021

Attending: no decision at this time. More information and schedule will be available at the February board meeting.

4.6 Other Meeting Information:
Three month look ahead @ MLEC Board meeting NON-Reoccurring Agenda Items:

- February 18th:
 - Year End Presentation
 - Annual Report to the Board on Policy 517
 - NRECA Governance Video or Article

- March 18th:
 - Review GRE Power Bill
 - NRECA Governance Video or Article

- April 15th:
 - Annual Audit Report
 - NRECA Governance Video or Article

MREA 2021 Board Meeting Dates:

- Monday, March 1
- Tuesday – Wednesday, April 20 - 21
- Tuesday – Wednesday, June 15 – 16
- Tuesday – Wednesday, August 17 – 18
- Tuesday – Wednesday, October 19 - 20
- Tuesday – Wednesday, December 21 - 22

NOTE: If anyone is interested in attending a MREA Board meeting, please let Deb Chute and Director Barb Welty know so arrangements can be made.

4.7 Board Meeting Dates

- o Thursday, February 18, 2021
- o Thursday, March 18, 2021
- o Thursday, April 15, 2021

4.8 MLEC Annual Meeting - Thursday, May 6, 2021, Grand Casino Parking Lot, Onamia, MN
3:30 – 5:00 p.m. – Registration; 5:00 p.m. – Business Meeting.

Attending: All Directors

M/S/P to approve Friday, April 15, 2021 Board meeting date.

M/S/P to approve director participation at all scheduled meetings.

Confidential Discussion Update

CEO Sarah Cron updated the Board on confidential issues.

Meeting adjourned at 1:00 p.m.

Barbara G. Welty, Secretary/Treasurer

Harold Harms, President