



**Nobles Cooperative  
Electric**

Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

## **Regular Board Meeting Minutes**

December 19, 2023 – Worthington, MN

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Directors in attendance: Lee York, Cindy Hokeness, Jerry Beckering, Gary Clarke, and Timothy Bickett. Director Ron Schwartau joined via videoconference. Director David Dorpinghaus was absent.

Other attendees: Chief Executive Officer (CEO)/General Manager Adam Tromblay, Chief Financial Officer (CFO) Michael Reemtsma, Line Superintendent Cody Hansen, Member Services Manager Tracey Haberman, and Executive Assistant Amy Rucker.

### **Executive Session**

The board met in Executive Session

### **Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Schwartau at 8:29 a.m. and a quorum was acknowledged.

### **Approval of Agenda**

An agenda was presented for the board's consideration and approved.

### **Notice of Meeting**

The notice of the meeting was given in accordance with the bylaws.

### **Appointment of Recording Secretary**

Chairman Schwartau appointed Executive Assistant Rucker as the recording secretary for the meeting.

### **Getting to Know NCE Employees**

Executive Assistant Rucker talked with the board for a few minutes and the board reviewed a short bio provided by Austin Irlbeck regarding his family, interests, etc.

### **Board Meeting Minutes**

The November 17, 2023, Board Meeting Minutes were approved as presented.

### **Consent Agenda Items**

The following consent agenda items were approved: disbursements for the period of November 2023, membership applications, and membership cancellations.

### **February 2024 Board Meeting**

February 15, 2024, at 8:30 a.m.

### **NRECA Annual Meeting (PowerXchange) Voting Delegates**

A motion was made, seconded, and carried to appoint Director York as the delegate and Director Hokeness as the alternate for the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA) Annual Meeting.

### **Course/Conference Attendees**

Upcoming courses and conferences were discussed.

### **2024 Director Fees and Expenses**

The board approved keeping the 2024 Director Fees and Expenses the same as 2023.

**2024 Work Plan and Budget**

Management presented key items in the 2024 Work Plan and Budget, which had been previously submitted to the board for review.

**Nominating Committee Update**

Nominating Committee chair Chuck Vasgaard joined the meeting via phone with an update on the Nominating Committee’s progress in finding potential director and nominator candidates.

**2024 Work Plan and Budget**

Management continued their presentation of the budget. After discussion, a motion was made, seconded, and carried to approve the 2024 Work Plan and Budget with the proposed rate increase.

**“Call to Order” Overview**

Executive Assistant Rucker demonstrated how to access board books in “Call to Order”.

**Director Reports**

Directors York gave an update on GRE.

Director Schwartau updated the board and staff on the Minnesota Rural Electric Association.

**CEO/General Manger Report**

CEO/General Manager Tromblay gave his monthly report.

\$8,267 was paid to the City of Sibley to settle the City of Bigelow contract dispute.

**Management Reports**

CFO Reemtsma presented the monthly financial report.

A motion was made, seconded, and carried to approve the financial report.

Line Superintendent Hansen gave the operations department report, including the work plan and an update on safety activities since the last board meeting.

Member Services Manager Haberman reported on upcoming events, as well as her department’s November activities and statistics.

**Innovative Ideas**

Director Hokeness was contacted by Bedrock Energy. They are trying to site a wind farm south of I-90 just into Iowa and west of Highway 60. The project will coincide with upcoming transmission upgrades. Construction would begin in 2026 or 2027.

**Adjourn**

There being no further business to come before the board, the meeting was adjourned at 12:01 p.m.