



**Nobles Cooperative
Electric**

Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

Regular Board Meeting Minutes

May 20, 2024 – Worthington, MN

Directors in attendance: Timothy Bickett, Cindy Hokeness, Jerry Beckering, Gary Clarke, Randy Donahue, and Lee York. Director Schwartau joined the meeting virtually.

Other attendees: Chief Executive Officer (CEO)/General Manager Adam Tromblay, Chief Financial Officer (CF) Michael Reemtsma, Line Superintendent Cody Hansen, Member Services Manager Tracey Haberman, Executive Assistant Amy Rucker and Christy Riley of Christy's Concepts.

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Chair Schwartau at 7:55 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

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

Board Meeting Minutes

The April 17, 2024, Board Meeting Minutes were approved as presented.

Annual Meeting Minutes

The April 15, 2024, Annual Meeting Minutes were provided for information only.

Organizational Meeting Minutes

A motion was made, seconded, and carried to approve the April 15, 2024, Annual Organizational Meeting minutes.

Consent Agenda Items

The following consent agenda items were approved: disbursements for the period of April 2024, membership applications, membership cancellations, and a name change request.

July 2024 Board Meeting

July 22, 2024, at 8 a.m.

Attorney Invoices

A motion was made, seconded, and carried to approve the March and April attorney invoices.

2025 Annual Meeting

A summary of annual meeting types over the years was discussed. It was agreed that the 2025 meeting will be an in-person businesses meeting with voting done by mail only unless a suitable cost-effective method to also allow in-person voting is found.

CoBank Sharing Success Grant

This grant is available again this year. Directors and staff will be on the look-out for community projects that could benefit from this grant.

Slayton Office Building

After bids were reviewed and discussed, a motion was made, seconded, and carried to approve the budget for the Slayton building project and proceed with construction.

Slayton Municipalization Vote

The Slayton municipalization vote results were discussed.

Member Survey Results and Website Upgrade.

Christy Riley presented the results of the member survey regarding rebranding.

Riley then shared her analysis of the functionality of the co-op's website and options for updating it. The current website was designed by and is hosted by Touchstone Energy.

Director Schwartau left the meeting and Director Bickett took over as chair.

After discussion, a motion was made, seconded, and carried to not renew the co-op's Touchstone Energy membership, effective January 1, 2025.

A motion was made, seconded, and carried to engage Redwood Valley Technical Solutions to assist the co-op in creating a new website and to host the new website.

Nominating Committee

The co-ops' nominating committee processes and results, and information on the director nomination processes at other electric distribution cooperatives were discussed. Further discussion will ensue at the June meeting.

Director/Member Engagement

Director York had a discussion with a former county commissioner regarding the Slayton vote. He also had a Chanarambie Township member express his opinion that all power lines should be underground.

Director Donahue had a member ask him why we are getting rid of the substation on US Highway 59. Line Superintendent Hansen clarified that the substation is being rebuilt.

Meeting Attendees

Directors Beckering, Donahue, Hokeness, and York will attend the MREA Region 5 Meeting.

Director Reports

Director York gave an update on GRE.

Management Reports

CEO/General Manager Tromblay gave his monthly report to the board.

CFO Reemtsma presented the monthly financial report.

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

A motion was made, seconded, and carried to approve the 2023 Form 7.

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

Member Services Manager Haberman reported on her department's April activities and statistics. She also talked about questions raised by the Nobles-Murray Rural Electric Trust board members regarding Operation Round-Up funding guidelines.

Adjourn

There being no further business to come before the board, the meeting was adjourned at 11:36 a.m.