

HIGHLINE ELECTRIC ASSOCIATION
REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
July 18, 2024

A regular meeting of the Board of Directors of Highline Electric Association was held at the office of the Association in Holyoke, Colorado at 9:00 A.M. on July 18, 2024.

ROLL CALL

President Mike Bennett presided at the meeting. Directors present in person were:

Mike Bennett	Leo Brekel
Ted Carter	David Carlson
Steve Oestman	Brad Stromberger
Pam Stieb	Merlin Prior
Lisa Schilke	Aaron Sprague
Jim Lueck	

General Manager Dennis Herman and Attorney Levi Williamson were present in person. Staff members Alex Astley, Jim Jackson, and Rance Ferguson were present in person or via video conference. Attorney Williamson recorded the minutes of the meeting.

AGENDA APPROVED

The agenda was revised and adopted as revised.

MINUTES APPROVED

The minutes of the June 20, 2024, Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors were presented. It was properly moved, seconded, and carried to adopt the minutes as presented.

MANAGER'S REPORT

Manager Herman presented the Manager's Report. He reported on kWh Purchased, kWh Sold, Operating Revenue, Billing Summary, Expenses, Operating Margins, and Cash & Investments through June 2024. Herman discussed changing the employee work week to four, ten-hour days year-round. He will implement the 4/10 work week this winter and evaluate how it works. Herman reported that Highline was one of three Tri-State member co-ops that supported Tri-State's ERP settlement, which is unopposed. Herman reported on the status of his conversations with the towns of Julesburg and Fleming regarding O&M agreements. The Tri-State contract committee will resume meeting in September. Herman asked the Board if Highline should offer sprinkler monitoring services. The consensus of the Board is that most farmers already have a monitoring service.

OPERATIONS AND SAFETY REPORT

Operations Manager Rance Ferguson presented the Operations and Safety Report. He reported on personnel matters and reported that Highline received two bucket trucks that were ordered more than two years ago.

Ferguson presented the Safety Report. There was one accident, which did not result in lost time. He also presented the outage report.

MEMBER SERVICES REPORT

The Member Services Report, as prepared by Member Services Manager Tadius Huser was reviewed.

ENGINEERING REPORT

Alex Astley presented the Engineering Report. He reported on project work in engineering, information technology, metering, staking, and communications. The Trailblazer substation was energized July 10. He reported on load control in June.

CORPORATE SERVICES REPORT

Corporate Services Manager Jim Jackson presented the Corporate Services Report. Jackson presented CFC Commercial Paper Investments as of June 31, 2024. Highline paid \$3,290.36 in fees on \$220,776.81 worth of credit card payments in June.

Jackson presented the balance sheet, Form 7, cash flow report, and check register.

CONSENT AGENDA

The Consent Agenda contained the following items:

- a. Policy 1-6 Board Committees (no recommended changes)
- b. Policy 1-13 Membership in Organizations (no recommended changes)
- c. Policy 3-2 Consumer Services Inquiries (no recommended changes)
- d. New Members
- e. Subordination Agreements or Release of Liens

The Consent Agenda was approved by unanimous consent.

IRS FORM 990

General Manager Herman presented the completed IRS form 990 for review by the Board.

CFC KRTA

General Manager Herman presented the CFC KRTA.

PHONE SERVICE AND SYSTEM REPLACEMENT

General Manager Herman presented bids from Microsoft Teams and PCTelcom for Highline's phone system. The Microsoft solution is approximately \$750 per month, and the PCTelcom solution is \$1,336.48 per month.

It was properly moved, seconded, and carried to accept the PCTelcom bid. Directors Brekel and Stromberger voted no.

UPDATE ON GRANT APPLICATIONS

Herman reported on the status of Highline's grant applications. Highline's New Era application was preliminarily rejected.

President Bennett recessed the meeting at 12:03 p.m. and reconvened at 1:02 p.m.

TRI-STATE

Leo Brekel reported that he did not attend the regular meeting of the Tri-State G&T Board of Directors. He reported on Tri-State's May financials. Brekel reported that NRPPD filed an interpleader action in Nebraska state court. NRPPD paid its Tri-State bill to the court and is asking the court to decide who NRPPD should pay. NRPPD claims it has satisfied its withdrawal obligations even though it has not paid Tri-State the FERC approved CTP.

CREA

Jim Lueck reported that Tim Coleman and Jenna Hirsch are leaving CREA.

MEETING ATTENDANCE

The directors discussed attendance at upcoming meetings.

It was properly moved, seconded, and carried to appoint Jim Lueck as Highline's delegate and General Manager Herman as the alternate for the NRECA regional meeting.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

It was properly moved, seconded, and carried to enter executive session for confidential discussion regarding personnel matters, with all Directors, Manager Herman, and Attorney Williamson present. It was properly moved, seconded, and carried to exit executive session.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no Public Comment.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the meeting, the meeting was adjourned at 1:58 p.m.



SECRETARY



PRESIDENT