

ALGER DELTA COOPERATIVE ELECTRIC ASSOCIATION

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors

March 20, 2024

A regular meeting of the Board of Directors of Alger Delta Cooperative Electric Association was held on March 20, 2024.

**Call to Order and Roll Call:**

The meeting was called to order by Chair Lawless at 1:02 p.m. EST.

Directors present: District 1-Darryl Small, District 2-Karen Alholm, District 3-Mike Lawless, District 4-Bill Wotruba, District 5-Steve Wery, District 6-Jesse Betters, District 7-Kirk Bruno, District 8-Don Johnson, District 9- Steve Dausey.

Directors absent: None

Also present were (General Manager) Mike Furmanski, (Finance Manager) Lynn Labadie, (Operations Manager) Troy Tiernan, and (Office Manager) Shannon Priebe.

**Approve the Agenda:**

***Moved by Director Alholm to approve the agenda as presented, support by Director Wery. Motion carried.***

**Member Comments:** None

**Minutes:**

***Moved by Director Alholm to approve minutes of February 21, 2024 regular meeting, support by Director Wery. Motion carried.***

**Approve the Administrative Items:**

***Motion to approve check register in the amount of \$1,858,950.39 by Director Betters with support by Director Johnson. Motion carried.***

***Motion to approve the administrative items (membership applications, director's expenses, manager's expenses, and estate retirements) as submitted in the board packet was made by Director Dausey, with support by Director Wery. Motion carried.***

**Old Business:**

- Safety Update
  - Held our second in-house meeting in February and one yesterday.
  - OSHA does have requirements that must be met for the meetings.
- Legislative Conference
  - Furmanski is signed up to attend.
- Symposium

- Furmanski, Wery, Bruno, Johnson and Labadie will attend Symposium in Grand Rapids.

#### New Business:

- Board Contract Involvement
  - The question was asked “What is the Board’s responsibility around contractual commitments?”
  - A policy addressing this should probably be made.
  - General Manager job description may need adjustments also.
  - Tabled for board to bring suggestions at next month’s meeting.
- MECA Representative
  - Current representatives are Furmanski-Manager and Johnson-Director.
  - MECA holds three meetings per year.
- MECA Voting Delegate
  - Current delegate is Furmanski
  - ***Moved by Director Wery to keep Representatives and voting delegates the same, support by Director Bruno. Motion carried.***
- Integrity Fund Application
  - This program is to reimburse half of territorial dispute costs.
  - ***Moved by Director Johnson to approve resolution requesting \$71,372 reimbursement from the Cooperative System Integrity Fund, support by Director Wery. Motion carried.***

#### Staff Reports:

##### Operations Manager Report-Tiernan

- Work Plan Projects
  - Continue to work on the Isabella tie line projects. The crews are making good progress.
  - Jeanne & Curt continue to work on staking the upgrade projects in the White Rapids area retirements.
- Maintenance Items
  - Marquette crew is working on a system upgrade projects on M-28. Crews are finding broken hardware (porcelain).
  - Gladstone crews are working on reject poles along with system upgrades in the North Delta and Isabella areas.
- Vegetation Crews
  - Vegetation crews are working in the Isabella, Cedar River and White Rapids areas.
- Warehouse/Facilities
  - Working on getting estimates to build a garage in Harvey.
  - Basement carpet needs replacement.
- Safety

- Last month's safety meeting was with the office staff, and we discussed our EAP for active shooter. Fire and storm shelter, along with proper use of a Fire Extinguisher and AED.
- This month we will be doing storm response training with our "Bird Dogs" Curt, Jeanne, John, & Mike.
- Equipment
  - Purchased a used 2016 bucket truck that will replace our 2012 bucket truck. The new truck comes with all wheel drive and a Cummins engine. This truck will be in Marquette.

#### Office Manager Report-Priebe

- Meter Exchanges -Waiting on materials to continue.
- Aclara-Password rules causing problems with reading files-resolved.
- Work Order Completion-as-built/Final inspection.
- Audit-Cyber security audit review-complete.
- Cyber Disaster Recovery Plan-Review with DSTech-completed.
- Emergency Response Plan-Final review with Operations.
- Karcz-Pole inspections URD inspections-data collection review for 2024
- IT-Servers-5 year age limit-reviewing alternative options before replacing.
- Firewall-System shut-down-reached max capacity due to employee & remote connections. Replacement on order. Reuse old one at a remote location in the future.
- Billing/Outages/Events
  - Total members billed February 2024: 10431.
  - Total estimated-6
- Link to Country Lines Magazine was provided.
- Link to new updated Board of Directors time card was provided.
- Social Media Recap
  - Choose renewables
  - We love our members-Valentine's Day
  - Love your pet day
  - High wind outages-March 28<sup>th</sup>..
- Service/Work orders
  - February 2024 processed service orders-166.
  - February 2024 new meters/services-16/2.
  - February 2024 transfers-25.

#### Finance Report-Labadie

- 2023 Form 7
  - Completed with pre-audit numbers.
- WPPI Rate Study
  - Completed and submitted additional data requests; meeting to review findings set for 3/19/24.

- Audit
  - Audit-week of 3/11-3/15/24.
  - Board presentation scheduled for 5/22/24 meeting
- 2023 Power Cost Adjustment
  - 1/2/24 billing=(.0046), 2/1/24 billing=(.0051), 3/1/24 billing=(.0133), 4/1.24 billing=(.0008).
- Capital Budget
  - Information provided to Directors on their Dashboards.
- January 2024 Financials
  - Preliminary December 2023 financials are available on the Dashboard.

General Manager-Furmanski

Power Costs-Same as last year for February.

Power Sales-Numbers for 2022 have been adjusted and are correct.

- Evaluating various EWR options-MECA, WPPI, State of Michigan.
- Working on a sight plan for best use of the 40 acres in Rapid River.
- Rescheduled May meeting to the 22<sup>nd</sup> to ensure delivery of MCL.
- Possible increase in MEAP funding.
- Aclara support update.
- MIP registration.
- Alholm suggested cleaning up the dashboard.

#### Committee Reports & Agendas

- Finance & Rates
  - Met today.
  - Looked at how the PCA works.
  - Looking at rates.
  - Using the WPPI cost study.
  - Will meet again before the April Board meeting.
  - Should have a recommendation for the board at that time.

#### Executive Session

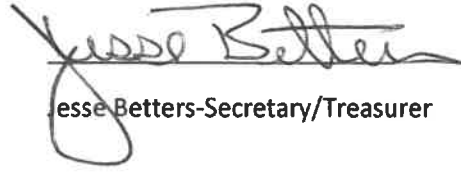
- Topic of Discussion-Strategic Planning
- ***Moved by Director Bruno to move into executive session, support by Director Alholm. Motion carried.***
- Board entered executive session at 3:02 pm.
- ***Moved by Director Johnson to leave executive session, support by Director Wotruba . Motion carried.***
- Board exited executive session at 3:14 pm.

Adjourn:

- **Moved by Director Johnson to adjourn, support by Director Wery. Motion carried.**
- Meeting adjourned at 3:15 p.m. EST.



Mike Lawless - President



Jesse Betters-Secretary/Treasurer