

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING OF DIRECTORS

September 26, 2023

The regular monthly meeting of the Egyptian Electric Cooperative Association Board of Directors was held on Tuesday, September 26, 2023, at the Headquarters facility. The meeting was called to order at 8:28 AM by President Hicks. Present for the meeting were:

Paul Hicks, President
Kevin Liefer, Vice President
Randall Campbell, Sec.-Treasurer
Paul Pyatt
Ken Jarrett
Steve Prest
Rick Asaturian
Kevin Bame

Shane Hermetz, GM/EVP
Brad Austin
Travis Deterding
Brooke Guthman

Elisha Sanders, Attorney
Cindy Krisby
Julie Loesing
Jennifer Nugent
Roni Croxell

Absent: Mary Homan, Cheryl Bauersachs

MEMBER and GUEST COMMENTS: N/A

RECESS: The Board went into recess at 8:30 AM to allow the Egyptian Electric Charitable Fund, NFP Board to hold their meeting. The Board returned from recess at 8:34 AM.

The **CONSENT AGENDA**, consisting of the consideration of the prior month's board meeting minutes, review of the list of checks written during the prior month, the Equity Analysis report, Capital Credit Estate Refunds (\$365.56) for the month, the EECA Safety Report, the EECA ROW Report, the EECA Strategic Scorecard, the Regulatory Report, and the Outage Report were approved on a motion by Mr. Pyatt and seconded by Mr. Asaturian, motion carried.

AIEC and SIPC REPORTS: Mr. Hermetz provided an overview of recent developments within AIEC and SIPC, highlighting the trend of decreasing power production costs. He also presented updates to the Board regarding grants in collaboration with SIPC and other cooperatives. Additionally, he announced the submission of a work order for the interconnection to the solar field on EECA neighboring property. Discussion followed.

ENGINEERING\OPERATIONS REPORT: Mr. Austin presented the Engineering and Operations Report. He provided an update on interconnections, noting that EECA is still seeing large systems come on, with 17 in progress. He noted that new installers are experiencing a learning curve.

Mr. Austin also updated the Board on new and ongoing projects, including the request for service at the Republic Landfill for a renewable natural gas operation. EECA had originally planned for a 2MW load at this location, but further developments have increased projections to 4MW. He added that the process to purchase land from Pickneyville Hospital was ongoing and moving forward.

Lastly, Mr. Austin provided a recap of the TechAdvantage Committee Meeting, noting that in the future, TechAdvantage leaders will be focused on grid operations, supply chain issues, and leveraging data to support cooperative members.

IT REPORT: Mr. Swisher presented the IT report, providing updates on fiber installation, security cameras at substations, and new office phones. He added that IT will need to purchase new iPads/laptops to ensure security upgrades.

Mr. Swisher provided information on recent worldwide cyber-attacks, and an update on day-to-day IT upgrades and issues at the cooperative. The camera system has been updated, and IT is currently working on installing security cameras at every EECA substation. Discussion followed.

MEMBER SERVICES REPORT: Mrs. Guthman presented the Member Services Report. Copies of the upcoming month's Illinois Country Living center section, the employee newsletter, and the ICL Page 6 ad were presented in the Board materials.

Mrs. Guthman presented the most recent demographics of our membership, divided up by zip code and map number. Discussion followed. She also presented a draft FAQ for the website regarding solar.

FINANCIAL REPORT: Mr. Hermetz presented the Human Resources and Finance Report in place of Mrs. Bauersachs. He directed them to Call to Order to review Mrs. Bauersachs' reports, in which she reported that the Total margin for August 2023 was \$175,196.54 vs budget of \$161,547.64. Operating Revenue was \$4,135,800.22 up 11.9% from August last year at \$3,697,208.28. KWH sales were 29,948,185 up 4.3% from last August at 28,709,741. KWH purchases were 31,209,835 an increase of 4.3% from August last year at 29,919,190. Variance of Major Costs from budget was Power Cost \$53,052.18 lower, Distribution Expense \$11,861.62 higher, Depreciation \$16,741.59 higher, Interest Expense \$27,713.71 higher, Customer Expenses \$7,042.95 higher, Sales Expense \$5,678.72 lower, and General and Administrative Expenses were \$13,883.19 lower.

LEGAL REPORT: Attorney Elisha Sanders said the process continues to review all EECA policies and work to condense and digitize paper files. Legal will continue to work with management on the review of policies and forms for updating.

MANAGER'S REPORT: Mr. Hermetz presented the Manager's report. He discussed the addition of EV chargers and a possible deployment schedule as the budget allows. He also talked about developments with broadband, noting that plans are moving forward to extend across Jackson and Randolph Counties.

Mr. Hermetz notified the Board that Strategic Planning 2024 is scheduled for November 7 at 8:30 a.m. EECA employees, the leadership team, and Board Members are invited to attend to discuss EVs, solar, changing membership, and related topics.

OTHER BUSINESS:

No items were voted on.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: The Board of Directors did not enter into Executive Session.

MEETINGS: The next scheduled Board of Directors meeting will be held at the EECA Headquarters office beginning at 8:30AM on Tuesday, October 31, 2023. There being no further business to come before the Board of Directors, upon a motion and a second, and a vote taken thereof, the meeting was adjourned at 11:25 AM.

Date Approved: October 31, 2023

Randall Campbell, Board Secretary/Treasurer

Recorded by Roni Croxell, Communications Coordinator