

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING OF DIRECTORS

December 19, 2023

The regular monthly meeting of the Egyptian Electric Cooperative Association Board of Directors was held on Tuesday, December 19, 2023, at the Headquarters facility. The meeting was called to order at 8:26 AM by President Hicks. Present for the meeting were:

Paul Hicks, President	Shane Hermetz, GM/EVP	Casey Twomey, Attorney
Kevin Liefer, Vice President	Brad Austin	Cindy Krisby
Randall Campbell, Sec.-Treasurer	Jeremy Thies	Julie Loesing
Paul Pyatt	Jennifer Nugent	Roni Croxell
Ken Jarrett	Bart Swisher	Travis Deterding
Mary Homan	Cheryl Bauersachs	
Rick Asaturian	Brooke Guthman	
Kevin Bame		

MEMBER and GUEST COMMENTS: N/A

RECESS: The Board went into recess at 8:27 AM to allow the Egyptian Electric Charitable Fund, NFP Board, to hold their meeting. The Board returned from recess at 8:49 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 (\$5,233.28) 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. Prest and seconded by Mr. Asaturian, motion carried.

AIEC and SIPC REPORTS: Mr. Liefer provided an overview of recent developments on the executive search to find a suitable replacement for the vacant position of CEO of SIPC. Discussion followed. Additionally, Mr. Hermetz provided information on the latest developments within AIEC and SIPC.

ENGINEERING\OPERATIONS REPORT: Mr. Austin presented the Engineering and Operations Report, noting the early findings of the pole inspections performed by Osmose. Mr. Austin also updated the Board on recent developments on projects such as renewable gas at the landfill, added load at SIU's McLafferty Annex, and recent interconnections. He concluded the report with updates on supply chain delays and lead times, adding that the Line Extension Policy will soon need review.

IT REPORT: Mr. Swisher presented the IT report. He began by notifying the Board of an upcoming meeting with Samron to discuss a rough estimate for converting the records room into two offices, as well as construction of a new 60x120 building for materials and equipment. He also provided a brief update on phishing and scam attempts EECA has avoided, as well as ongoing projects with Clay County Cooperative. He concluded with an update on day-to-day IT upgrades at the cooperative.

MEMBER SERVICES REPORT: Ms. 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.

Ms. Guthman updated the Board on the successful relaunch of SmartHub, as well as the latest developments on Classroom Grants, Youth to Washington, DRA CIF Grant, and presented the new Substation Map. She added that the Jackson Growth Alliance recently honored Gary Schaefer for his 30 years of dedication to the JGA Board.

FINANCIAL REPORT: Ms. Bauersachs presented the Human Resources and Finance Report. Total margin for November 2023 was \$152,341.84 vs budget of \$148,866.39. Operating Revenue was \$3,623,038.63 up 1.7% from November last year at \$3,561,081.57. KWH sales were 25,430,011 down 2.2% from last November at 26,008,959. KWH purchases were 26,647,890 a decrease of 2.2% from November last year at 27,238,339. Variance of Major Costs from budget was Power Cost \$210,154.36 lower, Distribution Expense \$7,754.42 lower, Depreciation \$9,161.91 lower, Interest Expense \$5,697.73

lower, Customer Expenses \$13,999.00 higher, Sales Expense \$4,721.06 lower, and General and Administrative Expenses were \$26,991.69 lower.

LEGAL REPORT: Attorney Casey Twomey said the process continues to review all EECA policies, including most recently, the policy for Paid Leave For All Workers. Legal will continue to work with management to review policies and forms for updating.

MANAGER'S REPORT: Mr. Hermetz presented the Manager's report. He discussed net metering and misinformation from solar installers that will need to be addressed. He also provided updates on the Perry County and Jackson County broadband projects, the plan for rolling out the EECA Strategic Plan to members, and the SIPC Budget and final rates.

Mr. Hermetz also presented Policies 102-103 for Board review. Discussion followed.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Upon a motion by Mr. Prest and seconded by Mr. Campbell, and a vote taken thereafter, the Board approved by majority vote to **accept amendments to Policy 229 Cyber.**

Upon a motion by Mr. Pyatt and seconded by Mr. Liefer, and a vote taken thereafter, the Board approved by majority vote to **accept amendments to Policy 401 Director Qualifications.**

Upon a motion by Mr. Bame and seconded by Ms. Homan, and a vote taken thereafter, the Board approved by majority vote to **accept amendments to Policy 404 Per Diem and Expenses.**

Upon a motion by Mr. Campbell and seconded by Mr. Jarrett, and a vote taken thereafter, the Board approved by majority vote to **accept amendments to Policy 202 to be compliant with the Paid Leave For All Act.**

Upon a motion by Mr. Prest and seconded by Mr. Campbell, and a vote taken thereafter, the Board approved by majority vote to **accept the recommendation of the Egyptian Electric Charitable Fund NFP Board to award three grants in Q4 2023 including \$1,000 to Specialized Equine Services, \$500 to 724 Ministries, and \$500 St. Francis CARE.**

EXECUTIVE SESSION: N/A.

MEETINGS: The next scheduled Board of Directors meeting will be held at the EECA Headquarters office beginning at 8:30AM on Tuesday, January 30, 2024. 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 11:35 AM.

Date Approved: January 30, 2024

Randall Campbell, Board Secretary/Treasurer

Recorded by Roni Croxell, Communications Coordinator