

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING OF DIRECTORS

January 30, 2024

The regular monthly meeting of the Egyptian Electric Cooperative Association Board of Directors was held on Tuesday, January 30, 2024, 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	Elisha Sanders, 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	Cheryl Bauersachs	Travis Deterding
Rick Asaturian		
Kevin Bame		

ABSENT: Mary Homan, Brooke Guthman, Bart Swisher

MEMBER and GUEST COMMENTS: Interim SIPC CEO Paul Furtak gave a summary presentation on SIPC financials, strategic and organization updates, and the search for a permanent CEO.

RECESS: The Board went into recess at 9:27 AM to allow the Egyptian Electric Charitable Fund, NFP Board, to hold their meeting. The Board returned from recess at 9:32 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 (\$5,870.74) 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. Jarrett, motion carried.

AIEC and SIPC REPORTS: Mr. Campbell provided an update on AIEC happenings, noting the close call within the MISO footprint during the recent winter storm. He added that the finances for AIEC and NRECA are in good shape for the year. Discussion followed.

Mr. Prest gave an update on the power supply from SIPC, noting that coal supply has not been an issue, but SIPC has been trying to source "stranded coal."

Mr. Liefer and Mr. Jarrett gave a brief overview of their SIPC committee's latest discussions, also noting the recent close call during the winter storm.

Additionally, Mr. Hermetz provided information on the latest developments within AIEC and SIPC, noting the timeline for the SIPC CEO search and the hopes to fill the position by late May or early June.

ENGINEERING\OPERATIONS REPORT: Mr. Austin presented the Engineering and Operations Report, highlighting an unusual peak in August 2023. This is noteworthy as our typical peak falls in January or February and this August peak was a first in 24 years. Mr. Austin also noted that interconnections have started to add stress to our system. Discussion followed. He concluded his report with a review of supply chain challenges and the EECA reliability report.

IT REPORT: Ms. Nugent presented the IT report in Mr. Swisher's absence, highlighting the replacement of the HVAC control panel, and the recent disaster recovery test with NISC which was very successful. She concluded by presenting the recent quote from Samron to convert the records room into two offices, noting that it came in under what was expected.

MEMBER SERVICES REPORT: Ms. Croxell presented the Member Services Report in Ms. Guthman's absence. 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. Croxell provided updates on recent policy revisions, Youth to Washington applications, Operation Round Up solicitations, and the latest developments and plans for the upcoming Fields & Wires Safety Workshop.

FINANCIAL REPORT: Ms. Bauersachs presented the Human Resources and Finance Report. Total margin for December 2023 was \$91,482.50 vs budget of \$103,052.77. Operating Revenue was \$4,196,025.66 down 5.3% from December last year at \$4,431,473.88. KWH sales were 29,287,717 down 13.0% from last December at 33,659,636. KWH purchases were 30,744,909 a decrease of 13.1% from December last year at 35,374,275. Variance of Major Costs from budget was Power Cost \$15,372.17 higher, Distribution Expense \$311,461.19 higher, Depreciation \$8,841.47 lower, Interest Expense \$11,569.54 higher, Customer Expenses \$14,440.33 lower, Sales Expense \$749.00 higher, and General and Administrative Expenses were \$1,448.89 higher.

LEGAL REPORT: Attorney Elisha Sanders reminded Directors to complete their Conflict of Interest Forms for the year. She added that the process continues to review all EECA policies, including most recently, Policies 106, 107, 401, and 402. 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 highlighted the latest plans for rolling out EECA's strategic plan to its members, the latest grant developments, and potential rate changes from SIPC. Discussion followed. Mr. Hermetz also updated the Board on the latest developments of broadband initiatives, pollinator landscapes in ROW, and use of EECA as an operations center for Jackson County Emergency Management during the upcoming Eclipse.

Policies 109B and 229 were presented for Board review. Policy 404 was deferred until next month. Discussion followed.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Upon a motion by Mr. Pyatt and seconded by Mr. Prest and a vote taken thereafter, the Board approved by majority vote to **authorize Board attendance as delegates to the SIPC Annual Meeting.**

Upon a motion by Mr. Campbell and seconded by Mr. Bame, and a vote taken thereafter, the Board approved by majority vote to **appoint Directors Leifer, Jarrett, Prest, and GM Hermetz to represent EECA as SIPC Directors for 2024.**

Upon a motion by Mr. Prest and seconded by Mr. Bame, and a vote taken thereafter, the Board approved by majority vote to **authorize engagement with KEB to perform the 2023 Financial Audit.**

EXECUTIVE SESSION: The Board of Directors entered into executive session at 11:55 AM to discuss proposed legislation affecting Illinois electric cooperatives and returned from executive session at 1:14 PM.

MEETINGS: The next scheduled Board of Directors meeting will be held at the EECA Headquarters office beginning at 8:30AM on Tuesday, February 27, 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 1:14 PM.

Date Approved: February 27, 2024

Randall Campbell, Board Secretary/Treasurer

Recorded by Roni Croxell, Communications Coordinator