

REA ENERGY COOPERATIVE, INC.
SUMMARY MINUTES OF REGULAR BOARD MEETING
January 24, 2023

The regular meeting of the Board of Directors of REA Energy Cooperative, Inc. (the “Cooperative”) was held Tuesday, January 24, 2023, in the boardroom of the Cooperative’s headquarters office located at 75 Airport Road in Indiana, Pennsylvania.

Call to Order

Board Chairman called the meeting to order at 5:12 p.m. A Director gave the invocation and led the Board in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call

All Board of Directors were present. Also in attendance were the Cooperative’s President & CEO, Safety & Right of Way Manager, Communications and Marketing Manager and Executive Assistant. One Director and the Cooperative’s attorney, attended via Zoom.

Reading of Rochdale Principle

The Cooperative’s President & CEO read aloud Rochdale Principle #1.

Approval of Minutes

A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes of the minutes of the December 20, 2022 regular Board meeting. Motion carried.

Additions to Agenda

There were no additions to the agenda.

New Business

Nighttime Dispatcher

The Cooperative’s President & CEO announced that one of the nighttime dispatchers resigned. He explained what the job entails and explained why having local dispatchers, instead of contracted dispatchers, is better. A former nighttime dispatcher has been rehired and will start soon.

Grants Update

The Cooperative’s President & CEO gave an update on some potential grant money that the Cooperative will be applying for through state funding.

Open Positions

The Cooperative’s President & CEO announced the hiring of a new Load Tech and an engineering position will be filled in the middle of this year. He answered some questions from Directors.

Board Travel & Training

The Cooperative's President & CEO reminded the Board there are upcoming classes from PREA for BLC and CCD certifications. He also talked about travel possibilities with attending the Power Xchange conference, the PREA and NRECA Legislative events and Safety Summits with PREA and NRECA.

Health Benefits Change

The Cooperative's President & CEO announced changes to health benefits. A few issues were worked out with the Cooperative's insurance provider.

2022 Audit

The Cooperative's President & CEO said the audit will take place in the first week of March. It should take seven to ten days. The Audit Committee will get together as soon as possible. The last couple of years the auditor did their work remotely. The Cooperative's President & CEO believes the auditors will do some of their work remotely but will come to the office also.

NISC Update

The Cooperative's President & CEO said, as predicted, the call volume at the office has increased significantly with the change over to NISC. Many members needed help getting their account information. There are currently 3,800 members signed up to pay their bills online. 2,027 members have opted to go with paperless billing. There has been much discussion with members about the rate increase. He answered questions from the Board.

Treasury – T-Bills

The Cooperative's President & CEO presented information about T-Bills and investment opportunities being considered. The accounting department is gathering information and researching options with different banks. He will keep the Board informed.

Representative Dallas Kephart Visit

The Cooperative's President & CEO told the Board that a State Representative will visit the Cooperative on Friday, February 17. He will be given a tour of the facility and the Cooperative's President & CEO will highlight our goal of servicing our members and the rural communities. All Board of Directors are invited to attend.

Legal Update

The Cooperative's Attorney reviewed the solicitor's report. He discussed a right-of-way matter that is close to being resolved. He also updated the Board about the Washington Substation property expansion. He answered question from the Directors.

President & CEO Report

The Cooperative's President & CEO said the fuel tanks behind the lower garage at the Indiana office have been removed. The old tanks had no problems and all soil tests were fine.

The Cooperative's President & CEO will start including quarterly reports from ITX Board meetings at the regular Cooperative Board meetings, just as we have quarterly reports for REA Energy Services Board meetings. He spoke about existing easements for broadband, creating uniform fees for attachments and about rates for unmetered services.

The Cooperative's President & CEO told the Board about the number of condemned poles in our system. He explained the old process of pole inspections and treating poles. Discussion continued on other methods other utilities use to extend the life of a pole. He gave the advantages and disadvantages of some of those methods and answered a few questions from the Board.

Executive Session

Board Chairman called for an Executive Session at 6:10 p.m.

A motion was made and seconded to go into Executive Session. Motion carried.

A motion was made and seconded to come out of Executive Session. Motion carried.

Executive Session ended at 6:30 p.m.

Board Chairman declared a brief break at 6:30 p.m.

The meeting reconvened at 6:45 p.m.

Continuing Business

Memberships

A motion was made and seconded to accept 34 new members for the month of December 2022. Motion carried.

Secretary / Treasurer's Report

The Secretary / Treasurer's report was reviewed. Some discussion was held about the possibility acquiring T-bills.

Reports

The Board heard and discussed various business and activity reports.

A motion was made and seconded to approve the Summary minutes of November 29, 2022 Board meeting. Motion carried.

A motion was made and seconded to approve the reports as presented. Motion carried.

Miscellaneous

There are no miscellaneous reports.

Adjourn

A motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried.

Board Chairman adjourned the meeting at 7:05 p.m.