

**MINUTES
GENERAL BOARD MEETING, MAY 30, 2018
FERGUS ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC.**

- 1. GENERAL MEETING CALLED TO ORDER.** The Fergus Electric Cooperative, Inc. Board of Trustees met in general session May 30, 2018 with PRESIDENT BOB EVANS calling the meeting to order at 9 a.m. TERRY FROST was secretary and VANGIE McCONNELL was scrivener. Other board members present were BRAD ARNTZEN, PAUL DESCHEEMAERKER, CATHY KOMBOL, BRETT MAXWELL and JASON SWANZ. GENERAL MANAGER SCOTT SWEENEY, CORPORATE COUNSEL KRIS BIRDWELL, ASSISTANT GENERAL MANAGER DAVID DOVER, ASSISTANT LINE SUPERINTENDENT BRET OPHUS, OFFICE MANAGER SALLY HORACEK and FINANCIAL ANALYST JANINE RIFE DIDIER were also present.
- 2. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD.** The Board noted the regular time for member input relative to any issue of interest or importance to them. No member appeared.
- 3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA.** After reviewing the meeting agenda, BRAD ARNTZEN moved to approve it. PAUL DESCHEEMAERKER seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.
- 4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING.** After reviewing the minutes of the April 26, 2018 general meeting and discussing them, JASON SWANZ moved their approval. TERRY FROST seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.
- 5. CONFERENCE CALL ON NEW METERING SYSTEM.** RICH HALLORAN of Powder River Energy (PRECorp) reviewed details of the AMI (Advanced Metering Infrastructure) that the cooperative will purchase. HALLORAN reviewed the Purchase and Services Agreement, schedule of work, financing options, rate implications, and warranty specifications. Plans are to have the new system, NRTC/Silver Springs Networks, fully deployed by the end of 2020. PRECorp and Fergus Electric have been working together regarding selection of the AMI system.
- 6. NWPPA ANNUAL CONFERENCE.** BOB EVANS and SCOTT SWEENEY reported on the NWPPA conference in Boise May 20 – 24. SWEENEY was approved as a new member for the NWPPA Board of Directors.
- 7. PRECORP BOARD AND MEMBERS 1ST MEETINGS.** DAVID DOVER reported on the May 22 PRECorp and Members 1st board meetings that took place in Gillette, Wyoming. The next meetings will take place June 18 and 19 in Sheridan.
- 8. OPERATIONS REPORT.** ASSISTANT LINE SUPERINTENDENT BRET OPHUS reviewed the May 25 operations report prepared by LINE SUPERINTENDENT DALE RIKALA. He noted that that the Roundup crew is facing challenges due to flooding of the Musselshell River. Lewistown crews installed another section of underground cables at the K – M Boy Scout Ranch. STAKING ENGINEER MELANIE FORAN and her husband JARED are the proud parents of a baby boy born April 30. The cooperative received a good review from RESAP (Rural Electric Safety Achievement Program) inspectors/observers for the co-ops safety inspection. SERVICEMAN LOUIE HOULD traveled to Lower Yellowstone as a RESAP inspector/observer.
- 9. ANNUAL MEETING REVIEW.** VANGIE McCONNELL reviewed the annual meeting schedule.
- 10. NEW LINEMAN.** MANAGER SWEENEY reported the co-op received 20 applications for the open lineman's position. Four candidates were interviewed with DAKOTA WAHL, former Yellowstone Valley Electric Cooperative lineman, being selected to join Lewistown crews.
- 11. SANDFIRE RESOURCES (BLACK BUTTE COPPER MINE).** ASSISTANT MANAGER DAVID DOVER updated the Board on progress at the Black Butte Copper Mine which included securing right-of-way easements for the transmission line to the mine and the substation location.

12. REPORT OF CORPORATE COUNSEL. CORPORATE COUNSEL KRIS BIRDWELL worked on board policies, capital credit issues and the PRECorp/Fergus contract for the new meter system.

13. FINANCIAL AND OTHER MONTHLY REPORTS. GENERAL MANAGER SCOTT SWEENEY presented financial and other monthly reports to the board for discussion. The reports included the April operating report prepared by OFFICE MANAGER SALLY HORACEK and April analysis of operating statistics prepared by FINANCIAL ANALYST JANINE RIFE DIDIER.

14. POWER OUTAGE REPORT. MANAGER SWEENEY and the Board reviewed a report prepared by VANGIE McCONNELL covering power interruptions for January through April.

15. BOARD POLICY 244 - OPEN MEETINGS POLICY FOR MEMBERS. Upon review, PAUL DESCHEEMAER moved to amend the Board Policy 244. BRAD ARNTZEN seconded the motion, which carried unanimously. A copy is attached.

16. BOARD POLICY 246 - NET METERING. After reviewing Policy 246, the Board unanimously agreed that no changes were necessary.

17. BOARD POLICY 247 - RETENTION OF UNCLAIMED PATRONAGE REFUNDS. After a review of Policy 247, PAUL DESCHEEMAER moved to amend the policy. JASON SWANZ seconded the motion, which passed. A copy is attached.

18. ESTATE CAPITAL CREDITS. The Board reviewed the May 2018 estate capital credit retirements of \$9,617.56 prepared by SUSAN HINKLEY. TERRY FROST moved to affirm the retirements and PAUL DESCHEEMAER seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

19. DELINQUENT ACCOUNTS/NEW MEMBERS LIST. The Board reviewed the delinquent accounts showing those that were paid in full and those that were still owing. A list of new members was also reviewed.

20. FUTURE MEETINGS.

- a. Special Meeting, June 7
- b. Fergus Annual, June 7
- c. Reorganization, June 7
- d. FEC Board, June 28, July 26, Aug. 30, 9 a.m.
- e. Members 1st, Sheridan, June 18
- f. PRECorp, Sheridan, June 18 - 19
- g. MECA Summer Board, Billings, July 10 - 11
- h. Safety Meeting - Flagger Certification, the Trap, Logic & Sabotage, July 11

21. NEWS FROM THE DISTRICTS.

22. ADJOURNMENT. PRESIDENT BOB EVANS adjourned the meeting at 3 p.m.

SECRETARY _____ ATTEST: PRESIDENT _____