

IOWA LAKES ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE
Board of Directors Meeting
January 30, 2025

ONLINE MINUTES

The meeting of the Iowa Lakes Electric Cooperative Board of Directors was called to order at 9 a.m. by Board Chair Dan Winterhof on January 30, 2025, at the Cooperative's headquarters in Estherville, Iowa. Executive Assistant Amy Howard assisted in the taking of minutes thereof.

The following directors were present either in person or by video conference: Bruce Amundson, Ben Ashland, Jerry Beck, Chad Boysen, Craig Deim, Dave Friedrich, Nick Kerns, Alan Madden, Crystal Pluth, Gary Rouse, Trent Will, Roger Williamson and Dan Winterhof. Absent: Mark Tuttle

Also present for the meeting were President and CEO Ryan Craig, Vice President of Operations and Engineering Aaron Ruschy, Vice President of Finance/CFO Shelly Tredway, Vice President of Customer and Corporate Relations Jen Sievert, Executive Assistant Amy Howard and Cooperative Attorney Scot Bauermeister.

Participating in a portion of the meeting was Manager of IT & Technology Support Tim Mielke, IAEC's Executive Vice President Leslie Kaufman and Manager of Engineering Jeremy Nelson.

AGENDA

Board Chair Winterhof asked if there were any additions to the Board Agenda. Being none, it was moved and seconded to approve the agenda. Motion carried.

MINUTES

Board Chair Winterhof asked if there were any changes or corrections to December 19, 2024, board minutes as provided. Being none, it was moved and seconded to approve the minutes. Motion carried.

Board Chair Winterhof declared the meeting duly organized for the transaction of Cooperative business.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Attorney Bauermeister reported there was no pending litigation.

NEW BUSINESS

Cybersecurity Video – Bad Actors Using AI

Board Chair Winterhof called upon Manager of IT & Technology Support Tim Mielke. Mielke played the cybersecurity video: Bad Actors Using AI video. Discussion followed.

Mielke left the meeting.

Nominating Committee Report

Board Chair Winterhof called upon Attorney Scot Bauermeister to provide a report on the results of the Nominating Committee meeting that was held on Wednesday, Jan. 15. Discussion followed.

Memberships for Approval (Action)

It was moved and seconded to approve the memberships as presented. Motion carried.

NRECA Online Voting Delegate (Action)

Board Chair Winterhof stated the NRECA Annual Meeting will be held March 9-12, 2025, in Atlanta, GA, and a delegate and alternate are needed for this meeting.

Delegate: Director Amundson

Alternate: President & CEO Craig

It was moved and seconded to approve these appointments. Motion carried.

Corn Belt Power Cooperative (CBPC) Board Representative (Action)

Board Chair Winterhof stated a director representative for the CBPC Board of Directors from the Cooperative will need to be nominated and elected for a three-year term at the upcoming CBPC annual meeting to be held April 2, 2025. Discussion followed.

Following discussion, to was moved and seconded to nominate Director Beck to serve a fourth term as the Cooperative's CBPC Board Representative to begin April 2, 2025, for a three-year term. Motion carried.

Four-Year Construction Work Plan (Action)

Board Chair Winterhof called upon Manager of Engineering Jeremy Nelson to present the Cooperative's 2025-2028 Long Range Construction Work Plan. Nelson reviewed the construction Purpose, Process and Goals. Nelson explained the purpose is to provide planning for system construction, to forecast and allocate construction costs and to lender requirements to secure loans. The Process includes reviewing the existing system with forecasted load growth, analyze the system models to determine required upgrades and to follow criteria defined in the ILEC Long-Range System Plan. The goals are to continue to provide reliable service, make system improvements and minimize outage time. Discussion followed.

Following discussion, it was moved and seconded to approve and proceed with the Four-Year Construction Work Plan in the amount of \$30,726,919 as presented and recommended. Motion carried.

Nelson left the meeting.

Operations & Engineering 2025 Work Plan (Action)

Board Chair Winterhof called upon Vice President Ruschy to present Operations/Engineering/IT/Renewable Energy Services 2025 Work Plan.

Ruschy presented the Operations & Engineering Work Plan. The 2025 budget for Operations and Engineering is \$8,014,920.

Ruschy continued his presentation with the 2025 Information Technology (IT) Work Plan. The 2025 budget for IT is \$652,445.

Ruschy continued his presentation with the Renewable Energy Services Work Plan section highlighting 2024 results and proposed future generation production and budget projections for 2025. The budget for Renewable Energy Service is \$709,200.

The 2025 Operations Department total work plan budget is \$9,376,565.

Following discussion, it was moved and seconded to approve the 2025 Operations & Engineering Department Work Plan as presented. Motion carried.

Iowa Association of Electric Cooperative (IAEC) Update – Leslie Kaufman

President and CEO Ryan Craig introduced Iowa Association of Electric Cooperative's Executive Vice President Leslie Kaufman to provide an Iowa Statewide update. Discussion followed.

Kaufman left the meeting.

Customer and Corporate Relations 2025 Work Plan (Action)

Board Chair Winterhof called upon Vice President Sievert to present the Customer and Corporate Relations 2025 Work Plan.

Following her presentation, Vice President Sievert stated the budget for the 2025 Customer and Corporate Relations Work Plan is \$1,188,667.

Vice President Sievert reviewed the ILDC 2025 Work Plan with a budget of \$55,510.

Following discussion, it was moved and seconded to approve the 2025 Customer and Corporate Relations Work Plan as presented. Motion carried.

ILEC Charitable Foundation Board Member Approval (Action)

Board Chair Winterhof called upon Vice President Sievert to present the names of two board members for the Iowa Lakes Electric Cooperative Charitable Foundation for a three-year term according to the Foundation bylaws. The following members were presented for approval:

1. Ruth Brown, Ruthven
2. Robin Hauswirth, Havelock

Following discussion, it was moved and seconded to approve the ILEC Charitable Foundation Board Members as presented. Motion carried.

VP/CFO Financial Report

Board Chair Winterhof called upon Vice President Tredway to present the preliminary December 2024 year-end financials. Discussion followed.

2024 Load Management Rebates (Action)

Board Chair Winterhof called upon Vice President Tredway to provide a recommendation for a load management rebate.

Tredway proposed the Cooperative return \$226,000 to the membership as a bill credit. Discussion followed.

Following discussion, it was moved and seconded to approve the load management rebate not to exceed \$45 per controlled account with the provision the total load management rebate will be approximately \$226,000. These rebates will be applied as a bill credit to the membership and will apply to all current accounts who participated in the load management program in 2024. Motion carried.

Wind Deferred Revenue Resolution(s) (Action)

Board Chair Winterhof called upon Vice President Tredway to provide a history of the Cooperative's wind revenue deferral plans.

Following discussion, it was moved and seconded to recognize \$800,000 in previously deferred wind revenue. Motion carried.

Cybersecurity Video – I Got Scammed by a Fake Hotel Employee

The Board of Directors viewed the Cybersecurity Video – I Got Scammed by a Fake Hotel Employee.

Vice President Reports

Vice President Ruschy reviewed his monthly report.

Vice President Sievert reviewed her monthly report.

Vice President Tredway reviewed her monthly report.

President and CEO Report

President and CEO Craig reviewed his monthly report.

G&T Reports

Basin – The Board of Directors viewed the video: January 2025 Basin Board Report. Director Beck provided a Basin report.

Corn Belt Power Cooperative – Director Beck and President & CEO Craig provided a Corn Belt report.

NIPCO – Director Will and President & CEO Craig provided a NIPCO report.

IAEC – Director Amundson provided an IAEC report.

DIRECTORS MEETINGS AND TRAINING REPORTS

Directors Amundson, Boysen and Pluth attended the Legislative Welcome Back Reception. They reported it was a great opportunity to visit with our local legislators.

Director Winterhof provided a report on the NRECA Directors Conference he attended in Ponte Vedra Beach, FL.

MISCELLANEOUS

Board Chair Winterhof reminded everyone in attendance the next regularly scheduled Board of Directors meeting will be held at 9 a.m. on Thursday, Feb. 27, 2025, at the Estherville headquarters.

Board Chair Winterhof requested miscellaneous items be brought before the Board of Directors for discussion and attention at this time.

Board Treasurer Pluth reviewed the journal of checks and master credit card statements issued for the month of December 2024 prior to the meeting.

Board Treasurer Pluth and Board Secretary Will reviewed and approved the director per diem forms for the month of January 2025.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to be brought before the Board of Directors, it was moved and seconded to adjourn. Motion carried.

Approved February 27, 2025

Trent A. Will, Secretary