

The Ontonagon County Rural Electrification Association
Annual Meeting of Members
Chassell Township School
41585 Highway US 41 Chassell, MI 49916
Saturday, June 21, 2025

1. The Annual Meeting of Members of the Ontonagon County Rural Electrification Association was held at the Chassell High School on June 21, 2025. The President, William "Bill" Hodges, called the meeting to order at 10:17, asked all to please stand for the Pledge of Allegiance, then welcomed the members.
2. President Hodges introduced himself and asked the board members to stand as he introduced them. He also introduced other representatives of Ontonagon REA, asked them to stand, then invited past directors, retirees or employees to stand and be recognized as well. He then asked for a round of applause as a showing of appreciation for their commitment and service.
3. Secretary Ann Gasperich reported there was no need for an election committee. Randy Myhren in District 1, Green/Firesteel/Toivola, Jack Lehto in District 3, Pelkie/Harman/Aura and Mike Gaunt in District 5, Chassell/Keweenaw Bay, all, all ran unopposed and all will serve for another three years.
4. Gasperich then read the proof of mailing.
5. Vice Chair Calvin Koski reported there are fifty-four members present, and an additional sixty-one proxy votes (Mr. Haskell suggested the number of proxy votes per person, should not exceed five). A quorum is attained by the fifty-four in person, and the additional proxy votes, either sixty-one or sixteen. Calvin then asked all to please refer to the handout of the minutes, as he would entertain a motion to dispense with the reading. **Motion/Second—Don Takala** made a motion that the reading of the 2023 minutes, and notes of last year's meeting be dispensed with as there were copies available to read, seconded by **Lynn Lehto**. Motion passed.
6. Chair Hodges spoke to the main purpose of the Annual meeting is to provide important information to the members, and stated there are several reports to be presented. He called on CEO Dallas Aho to provide the Financial Report. The Audit for period ending December 31, 2023 and 2024 are both complete. Ontonagon REA continues to be examined by an independent auditing firm. CEO Aho then asked Operations Manager, Justin Sironen provided an update.
7. Unfinished business, Jack Lehto provided an update to the net metering policy.
8. New business, motions from the floor:
9. Bruce Johanson provided a request to amend administrative policy # 300-1 paragraph D regarding attendance at board meetings by other than board members, be open to members of the cooperative, effective immediately. Attorney Greeley reminded the members that motions to amend the bylaws must be presented in accordance with the Bylaws, which require a motion to amend be included in the notice of the meeting. Attorney Greeley noted that the motion as presented could not move forward as it constituted an amendment to the bylaws and was not included in the notice of meeting. Attorney Greeley suggested that Mr. Johanson could amend the motion so that it was a recommendation to the board. **M/S** Mr. Johanson made the motion to recommend his proposal to the board with a second by Mel Haskell. After much discussion for and opposed, the recommendation to review the policy, passed, vote 57-40, or 37-12. It was at this time Mr. Haskell commented that a person should not be able to bring in more than five proxy votes.
10. **M/S** Mel Haskell recommended a motion the meeting minutes include verbatim comments from Mr. Haskell as presented in writing, seconded by Johanson, open for discussion, in favor and opposed. Motion failed, vote 42-53 or 22-25.
11. **M** Mel Haskell to post the Form 990 on the web page, after discussion, Mr. Haskell withdrew his motion.
12. New Business Comments were heard from Mr. Haskell, Morgan Impola, Ellen Lutz, Jennifer Dleine, Don Takala, Jim Moore, Mike Urbis.
13. Presentations were made by:
 - a. Diana Torola, OREA, Youth Tour Winner
 - b. John Kran, President of Michigan Electric Cooperative Association, (MECA)

DRAFT MINUTES FROM 2025 ANNUAL MEETING CHASSELL

c. Tom Sobeck, Retired CFO & CEO of Presque Isle Electric and Gas, Ontonagon REA Consultant

14. Drawings were held.

15. **M/S** to adjourn at 12:24 made by Dan Shamion/Nathan Corson

16. All questions that were turned in at the meeting will be listed with answers on the website.