

A REGULAR MEETING OF THE ONTONAGON COUNTY R.E.A.
BOARD OF DIRECTORS WAS HELD AT 500 JAMES K PAUL STREET
ONTONAGON MICHIGAN

Minutes

September 21, 2026 9:30 A.M.

1) Opening

- Call regular meeting to order at 9:30am by Gaunt.
- Roll Call – Gasperich, Myhren, P. Koski, Gaunt, C. Koski, Lehto present in person, along with CEO Dallas Aho, Operations Manager Justin Sironen and Administrative Assistant Kelsey Preiss. Attorney Pat Greeley attended via Teams. Director Hodges was absent.
- Members Present – Morgan Impola
- Member Comment Session – Morgan noted that the recent rate increase was noticeable on his bill and had questions regarding the justification for it.

2) Reports

- Operations Report
- CEO Report
- Financial Report
 - i) Financial Statements for period 07/31/2026
 - ii) PSCR Over/Under Collection for period ended 08/31/2026
 - iii) List of Bills – August 2026

3) Action Items

- a) Approval of Reports

M/S to approve the Financial Reports as presented – C. Koski/Myhren. All in favor, motion passed.

- b) Approval of the September 21st Agenda

M/S to approve the September 21st Agenda with the addition of fi) Bylaws and Article of Incorporation Committee Member Appointment and fii) Union Negotiation Committee Appointment – Myhren/Lehto. All in favor, motion passed.

- c) Approve the August 17th Regular Board Meeting Minutes

M/S to approve the August 17th Regular Board Meeting Minutes – Gasperich/P. Koski. All in favor, motion passed.

4) Business – Old/New/Other

- a) Regulatory Compliance
 - i) MPSC outage reporting, threshold and communication template – CEO Aho created this template and presented it to the board.
 - ii) Winter Protection Plan (November deadline) draft review – Application was presented to the board.
- b) Board Certification Progress – NRECA Director Training Opportunities – Cadillac, MI
 - i) November 5th and 6th - Course is \$150 per person.

M/S for Gaunt and Hodges to attend NRECA Director Training – Gasperich/Lehto. Gasperich, Lehto, Myhren, P. Koski and C. Koski voted yes while Gaunt abstained.

M/S for C. Koski and Gasperich to attend NRECA Director Training – Gaunt/Lehto. Gaunt, Lehto, Myhren, P. Koski voted yes while C. Koski and Gasperich abstained.

- c) Strategic Planning

- i) Service territory growth opportunities (Equalization Dept, Jamadots, UP.net)
- ii) Emergency coordination: MECA & county engagement
 - (1) Meeting in Marquette on October 19th – CEO Aho and Operations Manager Sironen will attend.

- d) Operation and Member Services
 - i) Member Surveys – board discussed need for surveys but decided against it at this time.
 - ii) Property Matters Update
 - iii) Email-first communications transition – working to draft Resolution.
- e) Communication and Member Education
 - i) Cooperative debt article and rate increase article
 - (1) Posted to the REA's website.
 - ii) Member Appreciation Events (Ontonagon, L'Anse and Hancock)
 - (1) First one set for October 15th 4pm to 6pm in Ontonagon.
- f) Bylaw Committee – Committee Appointments
 - i) Bylaws and Article of Incorporation Committee Member Appointment

M/S to appoint the following individuals to the Bylaws and Articles of Incorporation Committee: members Craig Hughes, Lori Scott, and Siena Tober; Board members Gaunt, Gasperich, and Hodges; CEO Aho; Administrative Assistant Preiss; Attorney Greeley to help with revision as needed – Myhren/Lehto. All in favor, motion passed.

- ii) Union Negotiation Committee Appointment

M/S to appoint Gaunt, Gasperich, and C. Koski to the Union Negotiation Committee – Myhren/P. Koski. All in favor, motion passed.

5) Around the Table Discussion

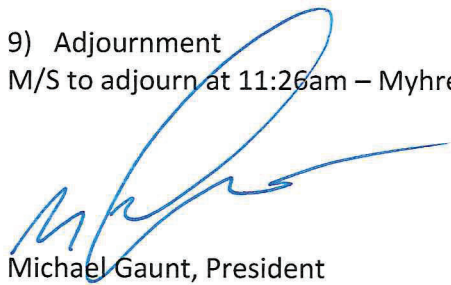
6) Attorney Report

7) Executive Session – Entered Executive session at 10:54am and came out at 11:26am.

8) Next Meeting Date: October 16, 2026

9) Adjournment

M/S to adjourn at 11:26am – Myhren/Lehto. All in favor, motion passed.



Michael Gaunt, President

Mildred Ann Gasperich, Secretary

We the undersigned Directors of the Ontonagon County Rural Electrification Association do hereby confirm, approve and ratify in all respects the above minutes of the Regular Meeting on September 21st, 2026.

