

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

MINUTES
November 18, 2022

1. **The regular meeting was called to order by President Bill Hodges at 9:45**– Roll call in the office Hodges, Myhren, Urbis, Gaunt, Gasperich, Lehto, and Koski remote.
2. **Member comment session** -- none
3. **M/S Myhren/Gaunt** to Approval the Agenda, with switching Aaron Stalling and the executive session.
4. **Aaron Stalling from Cooperative Finance Corporation (CFC)** Reminded the Board CFC has been a primary lender for the cooperative since 1969. His annual report provided an overview on 48 of the 135 Key Ratio Trend Analysis which will assist us in the long-term with strategic planning and financial forecasting. The trends of our COOP are compared to 75 other coops around the US with approximately the same member count, and nine other coops in the state of Michigan.
In March, we will have another meeting to look closer and discuss what our coop is doing and must do to provide financial viability to the members. Depreciation of assets has changed as an example the new metering system should be depreciated at 12 years vs the old metering system which has a 25-year depreciation schedule. The same applies to the utility poles, vehicles and office equipment. The last increase in our rates was in 2017 and it is time for another review.
5. **Executive Session** was called by Urbis at 11:35 and returned to regular session at 11:45.
6. **M/S Koski/Myhren** – To Approve Minutes of the October 24, 2022 meeting, passed.
7. **Attorney Reports** – Pat Greeley provided an update on the Dynamite Hill Road Property and the current leasee. There will be no change at this time to the existing lease.
8. **Metering Update** – The metering update was provided by Soumis. Discussion was had on a pole placement in Chassell Township. Greeley and Soumis will work with Chassell Township to find a solution.
9. **Line Superintendent’s Report** was provided from Line Superintendent Urbis.
10. **Manager’s Report**
 - a. Financial Statements for periods ending 10/31/2022
 - b. PSCR Over/Under Collection
 - c. And presented the list of bills
 - d. Special Equipment Summary (SES) for 09/30/2022, \$13,163.09.
 - e. RUS Form 219 Inventory of Work Orders for period ended 08/31/2022, \$23,439.21
M/S Myhren/Gaunt to pay the bills, as well as accept the reports of the Line Superintendent, Attorney, and Manager, passed.
11. **Business Requiring Board Action**
 - a. **M/S Myhren/Gasperich** for the Employee Bonus Christmas Approval to be the same as 2021, passed.
12. **OTHER BUSINES**
 - a. **See above** Aaron Stallings CFC presentation for Key Ratio Trend Analysis (KRTA) 30 Minutes.
 - b. Manager Soumis provided an update to the Administrative Assistant Job Description and Hiring.
 - c. OCREA Cyber Security Policy Review Manager Soumis and Director Gaunt attended the program and talked about the current trends and made the board aware of them. It was recommended a policy be created, approved by Attorney Greeley and adopted by the Board.


13. Around the Table – Board education was discussed at some length. There are online classes available. It was recommended that \$25,000 be added to the budget for Director Training for 2023. Also brought up was the improvements to the building that were placed on hold while we implemented the new metering program and hired a new manager. Another strategic planning will be held in September of 2023, A feasibility study will be conducted after the facility audit by MECA and Federated, to be complete in the spring of 2023.

14. Motion to adjourn – Myhren /sin die at 1:00 PM

15. Next meeting December 16, 2022

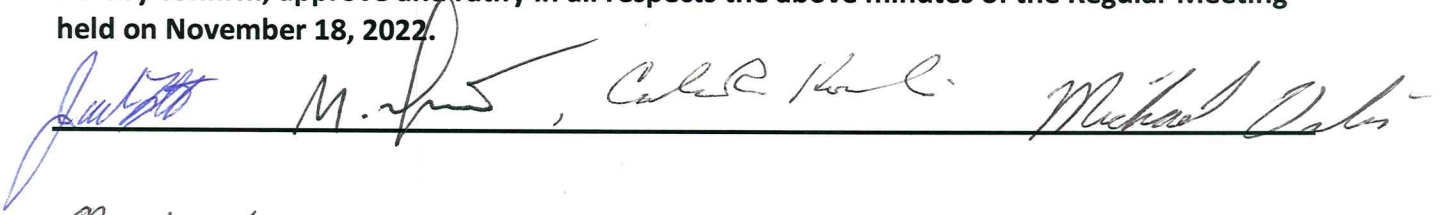


William Hodges, President



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 held on November 18, 2022.





Being, all of the Directors of the Ontonagon County Rural Electrification Association