

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

January 20, 2023 9:30 A.M.

1. Vice President Koski called the regular meeting to order at 9:30.
2. Roll Call – President Hodges was unable to attend due to the passing of his father Robert Hodges. Directors Present, Koski, Myhren, Gasperich, Urbis, Gaunt and Lehto.
3. Member comment session - None
4. Approval of the Agenda **M/S Lehto/Urbis** to approve the agenda as presented, passed.
5. Executive Session - None
6. Approve Minutes of the December 16 Board, and the Special Meeting of December 27, 2022. **M/S Gaunt/Lehto** to approve the minutes of the December 16 and 27 regular and special meetings, passed.
7. Attorney Report -- Attorney Greeley provided counsel on retaining former Manager Debbie Miles as a consultant to the Cooperative on an as needed basis. He also advised the Cooperatives new Manager, Eugene Soumis, to reach out to Miles to firm up the details.
8. **Metering Update** – Mark Urbis provided the update. Two additional collector poles have been installed at the Pelkie substation and on Luoto Rd. Meter deployment will begin in Pelkie. 1308 meters are currently installed. A cellular meter is also being reviewed for possible use.
9. **Line Superintendent's Report** – Mark Urbis shared the monthly progress and safety report. He also shared the great experience that two of our linemen had when supporting Bayfield Electric with the recovery after the Christmas storm. Bayfield's line superintendent called Mark and thanked him for the support of Ontonagon REA. Cooperatives supporting Cooperatives.
10. **Manager's Report**
 - a) Financial Statements for periods ended 11/30/2022 were reviewed;
 - b) PSCR Over/Under Collection was discussed;
 - c) List of Bills was presented;
 - d) Special Equipment Summary (SES) for period ended 11/30/2022 in the amount of \$36,740.21 and the RUS Form 219 Inventory of Work Orders for period ended 10/31/2022 for \$59,570.49 were presented. **M/S Myhren/Lehto** to accept the reports, approve the payment of the bills, SES and RUS, motion passed.
11. **Business Requiring Board Action** -- Check Signatories Motion - Bank signatories for Citizens Bank, Miners State Bank, and the Lake Superior Credit Union to add Dallas Aho to the signatories list **M/S Myhren/Gaunt** to include Dallas Aho as a signatory on the accounts, motion passed.
12. **Other Business**
 - a) Introduction of new Administrative Assistant Dallas Aho was provided by Eugene. Dallas is from Greenland, graduated from Central Michigan University, has worked in Health Care and Business Administration. He was recently working in Baraga County in the Accounting field.
 - b) Director School Review - On Hold until President Hodges returns.
 - c) Adding cooperative news to our paper bills and e-bill was discussed. Reminders about energy optimization and a welcome to Dallas were suggested.

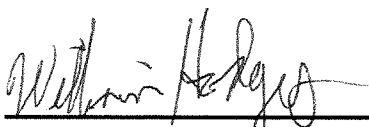
- d) Cybersecurity policy update. Director Gaunt will be meeting with GM Eugene and Dallas to go over the lessons learned at the cybersecurity conference and create a policy to add to the existing policy manual.
- e) Board Policy progress update (Gaunt, Lehto) As final drafts are ready, the policy (ies) will be submitted to Attorney Greeley, then distributed to the Board for review and presented for adoption.

13. Around the Table Discussion

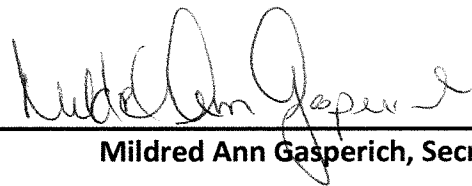
- a. Lehto mentioned UPPCO is currently placing underground power from M-38 to Prickett Dam.
- b. Gaunt is excited about being a part of the board is grateful and appreciative of all the work we do, Directors, Admin, and Lineman and Brushing Crews. As he passes his sixth month as a director, he is excited to continue.
- c. Mike Urbis asked about the minutes being reviewed and changed for adoption during the meeting.
- d. Gasperich asked that we once again look at the By-Lays regarding meeting per Diem. President Hodges shared some examples at the August meeting that Gasperich would like us to review again regarding a partial payment for meetings that are necessary but short in duration and don't require travel to the office.
- e. Urbis chimed in asking for more discussion for the per diem, review the policy for remote attendance, since so much has changed after Covid.
- f. Koski had a card available for all to sign in memory of Robert Hodges. Please look at the meeting schedule for the November meeting and possible consider a change to the 10th vs. the 17th.

14. Next Meeting Date: February 17, 2023

15. Adjournment Myhren Sine Die at 12:08

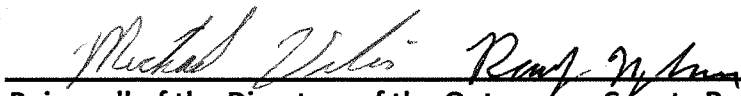


William Hodges, President



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 January 20, 2023.

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