

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

June 16, 2023 9:30 A.M.

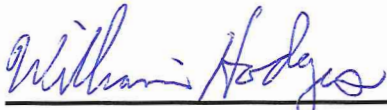
1. Call regular meeting to order at 9:33 by: President Hodges
2. Roll Call – Bill Hodges, Calvin Koski, Randy Myhren, Ann Gasperich, Mike Urbis, Mike Gaunt and Jack Lehto.

Others Present: General Manager Eugene Soumis, and Attorney Pat Greeley, via zoom.
3. Member comment session none
4. M/S Lehto/Myhren to approval of the agenda, motion passed.
5. Executive Session was called by Hodges at 9:34 and returned to regular session at 9:45.
6. **M/S Koski/Gaunt** to approve the minutes of the May 19, 2023 Board Meeting, passed.
7. Attorney Reports -- Greeley stated he had been working on the demand letter for IIWS. There are time frame deadlines, the next action will commence when the previous time line expires.
8. The Metering Update was provided, is included within the Line Superintendents report to the board.
9. Line Superintendent's report included, see attached.
10. Managers' Report is attached. General Manager Soumis also discussed shut off policy regarding residential and commercial accounts. It will be researched and reviewed.
11. Financial Report was presented including
 - 11.1 The Financial Statements for period ended 04/30/2023,
 - 11.2 PSCR Over/Under Collection for period ended 05/31/2023,
 - 11.3 List of Bills for May 2023,
 - 11.4 Special Equipment Summary for period ended 4/30/2023 (No SES for April) and
 - 11.5 RUS Form 219 Inventory of Work Orders for period ended 3/31/2023 for \$198,633.93 were reviewed and discussed.
 - 11.6 **M/S Myhren/Koski** to accept the reports of the Attorney, Line Superintendent, Metering Update, Financial and Manager, and to authorize the President to sign the RUS Form 219, motion passed.
12. Business Requiring Board Action
 - 12.1 **M/S Gaunt/Urbis** to authorize the Secretary to sign the CoBank Incumbency document as discussed, motion passed.
13. Other Business
 - 13.1 Annual Meeting Program was reviewed, slide show was discussed questions were asked and answered. There are a few details that need to be worked on today and will be set for tomorrow.
14. Around the Table Discussion
 - 14.1 Urbis is looking at the property taxes due to the township, primary and secondary. He requested further information regarding real and the personal property REA has within the Townships. Gasperich asked to discuss this further another time with a brief explanation of real vs personal or utility personal.

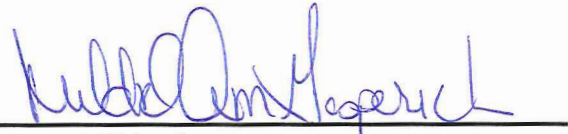
- 14.2 Koski found his CCD training certificate and discovered it was ten years ago he attended.
- 14.3 Hodges reminded everyone the upcoming CCD training will be held October 2 – 6, October in Marquette.
- 14.4 Ann hoped the training schedule could be a bit flexible, maybe do extra hours on the Monday – Thursday so we leave Marquette before dark on Friday.

15. Next Meeting Date: July 21, 2023

16. Motion to adjourn by Myhren at 12:33, sine die.



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 June 16, 2023.





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



THE ONTONAGON COUNTY RURAL ELECTRIFICATION ASSOCIATION

2023 June Manager's Report

1. Audit Update – All items submitted, waiting for auditor final report.
2. Rate Study Update
 - 2.1 Began April 1.
 - 2.2 Planning to have all documents submitted by June 22
 - 2.3 Final Proposal in August
3. Annual Meeting Update
 - 3.1 Created Power Point Presentation for review during June regular meeting.
4. Metering Project Schedule Update
 - 4.1 Updated Progress on Schedule
5. Received proposal to get on state emergency radio system.
 - 5.1 State is now giving a high estimate to join their system \$800K+.
 - 5.2 Checking with Mike Kocker to see if there are any grants available.
6. Received 3 AED's. Delivered to each service shop will place in the bucket trucks.
7. Installation of the new office security system is scheduled for the end of June.
8. Sent Municipality Letter on June 8, for cooperative growth outreach to the Village of L'Anse, Village of Baraga, and City of Wakefield.
9. Getting a quote for a 500 KW Solar installation from Ben Schimpf with Peninsula Solar out of Marquette. A possibility is to do a solar install at each of our 12 substations (6 MW Total).
10. Looking at options to eliminate WPPI (middle man) and work directly with Energy Innovations Collaborative. Michael Larson will be creating a proposal. WPPI contract is \$95,950 annually. Should be able to get much cheaper contract with EIC. There was no activity in the 1st quarter report for the cooperative.
11. Cooperative News
 - 11.1 June Billing – Annual Meeting Notice.

LINE SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT TO BOARD

June 16th 2023

SAFETY:

We have 0 accident and 0 near misses to report in May.

TRUCKS AND EQUIPMENT

The new 750 Vermeer tracked plow has been delivered.

Both 3500 Ram trucks have been brought here from Utah and are in the field.

We are still waiting on the new digger for Houghton Crew.

NEW SERVICES:

8 new service connected with several service's being planned. We also reconnected 12 old service's and transferred 19 services in March.

SERVICE INTERRUPTIONS:

Total of 35 service interruptions in May. This computes to 1.2 minutes/members for the month and 2.04 minutes/members YTD for 2023.

Vegetation Management:

Tree Crew # 1 Mowed 54 spans = 2.9 Miles/ Trimmed 0 Spans = 0 Miles. Removed 247 Danger Trees. Completed 1 Member Reported Tree Tickets. Tree crew 1 is moving to Misery Bay area.

Tree Crew # 2 Mowed 53 spans = 2.9 Miles/ Trimmed 0 Spans = .0 Miles Removed 235 Danger Trees. Completed 3 Member Reported Tree Tickets. Tree Crew 2 is moving to the Gay area.

MISC ITEMS:

All crews are working in their areas on new services that we have received payments on. We have several that we are still waiting on member payments before we can start construction.

METERING SYSTEM:

By the time of this board meeting the big digger should be done with its annual inspection and be back out in the field. They will continue setting metering poles in Herman. We have 1502 meters deployed.