

1. CALL TO ORDER

President Felicelli called the regular meeting of the San Miguel Power Association (SMPA) Board of Directors to order at 9:317 AM. The meeting was held via Zoom Video/Teleconference and all directors were present via teleconference.

2. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

Director Alexander motioned to approve the revised consent agenda (July 28, 2020) to include the June 23, 2020 meeting minutes. Director Cokes seconded. The motion was voted and carried.

3. MEMBER OR CONSUMER COMMENTS

General Member/Consumer Comments

- Director Cokes reported that she had received an automated scam call stating that she was late paying her electric utility bill. Manager Zavorski reported if SMPA is provided enough information from these scams, we will provide the information to law enforcement for follow up.
- Manager Zavorski reported that staff had received a letter from San Miguel County, thanking SMPA for the support and assistance with their clean energy/resiliency project that includes solar PV and batteries.
- Manager Zavorski reported that he participated in a Zoom conference call with Telluride Real Estate Corporation.
- A member from Rico was in attendance via Zoom. He inquired if SMPA's current technology is able to gather report data that will identify when the peak is on the system. Manager Zavorski reported that we very close. The member also stated that he feels that having battery energy storage and back up available for residential and small commercial applications would be beneficial for consumers.

Community Focus Funds Donation Requests

Telluride Foundation, Elaine Demas

Ms. Elaine Demas, informed the Board that for the past two years, the Telluride Foundation, the Ah Haa School for the Arts, the Town of Mountain Village and the entire community have been working on, 'Together'; a community-based project that includes a large text-based neon sculpture. The sculpture will serve as a catalyst for 'Together,' which includes 18 months of in-depth community programming around this message. She reported that the goal is to involve everyone (adults and children, regional citizens, second homeowners and visitors) in a discussion of what this phrase, means to each of us and how the study of it, might engage us all to work together on our community's most challenging issues.

Norwood High School Football, John Hickey

Mr. Hickey reported that while the school's current helmets are over five years old and that the school would like to purchase new helmets with the newest in safety technology to protect the players.

Norwood Dark Sky Advocates, Creighton Wood

Mr. Wood communicated that the Norwood Dark Sky Advocates (NDSA) has worked hard to develop and cultivate a community sensitive to the benefits of having an internationally certified dark sky designation. The organization is structured to promote astronomical interests through education, research and regional collaboration on preservation and development to further the dark sky awareness and expansion. NDSA would

like to be able to attract more amateur and professional astronomers to Norwood's beautiful skies and be able to bring in those tourist dollars. Mr. Wood stated that NDSA is fundraising to build a place where tourists can set up their telescopes or have presentations to the general public with live astronomy presentations of views with our telescopes and so forth.

Ouray County Ranch History Museum, Joan Chismire

Joan Chismire notified the Board that the mission of OCRHM is to procure, preserve and exhibit items and artifacts related to educating the public about the ranching heritage of Ouray County, Colorado, and the surrounding area. She highlighted that it is important that the community is aware of the legacy of ranching and its importance to the early, as well as the present and future, economic development of the county. Ms. Chismire reported that within the first three years, they have filled all of the 11 rooms of the depot building with ranch-related artifacts and now the OCRHM is fundraising for their expansion project.

4. BOARD TOPICS

Director Cokes proposed that the Board create a committee to review and update SMPA's Mission Statement and Core Values. Director Felicelli nominated Director Cokes to chair the committee. Director Brown and Director Cooney volunteered to participate on the committee. Director Cooney communicated that he would also like to review SMPA's Vision Statement.

5. STRATEGIC UPDATE

2020 Strategic Planning Scheduling Update- Brad Zaporski

Manager Zaporski reviewed the outcome of 2020's strategic planning session, highlighting that the Board had targeted Reliability and Resiliency, Financial/Power Supply/Rates, Safety/Culture/People, Technology and Crisis Management as the strategic objective topics. Manager Zaporski reported the facilitator, Phil Bryson, had drafted objective statements as discussed at the session. Following a review and discussion of the draft statements, the Board decided further to examine the wording of the strategic objective statements, proposing to final review and approval at the August Board of Directors Meeting.

6. CEO REPORT

CEO. Items

Power Supply Update

Manager Zaporski informed the Board that the Power Supply update will be a preemptive look at where we are at in the RFP process. This topic will be reviewed during Executive Session as the discussion will include items that protected under non-disclosure agreements.

Legislative Review

Manager Zaporski reported that multiple bills are being reviewed that could affect SMPA, noting that the current approach is an effort to focus on the ones that we feel are most important. Director Cokes commented that the Colorado Rural Electric Association (CREA) has been doing an outstanding job this year of disseminating information to help co-ops stay abreast of topics and bills that are most important.

Manager Zaporski also informed the Board that SMPA is currently participating in seven Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) filings; two Colorado PUC filings and two other district court filings: Manager Mertz reviewed helpful terms associated with the filings and the associations involved.

COVID-19 Discussion

Manager Zaporski informed the Board that in alignment with the State's mandatory mask order, the staff is being diligent about wearing masks, and following the protocols that have been set up to ensure the safety of the staff.

Introduction of Employee Guests

Danielle Rodriguez, Human Resources and Administration Coordinator; Terry Schuyler, Key Accounts Executive; Joshua Hainey, Senior Staff Accountant; Kelly Truelock, Staff Account; Mike Therriault, Engineering Supervisor; and Jeremy Fox, Service Planner Supervisor, were in attendance on the webinar meeting.

Corporate Donations

Norwood High School Football

Director Garvey motioned to donate \$1750 to Norwood High School Football and apply for Basin Match.

Director Alexander seconded. The motion was voted and passed.

Norwood Dark Sky Advocates

Director Garvey motioned to donate \$250 to Norwood Dark Sky Advocates and apply for Basin Match. It was noted that the minimum for a Basin match is \$500. Director Garvey amended her motion to donate \$250 to Norwood Dark Sky Advocates, no Basin match. Director Alexander seconded. The motion was voted and passed.

Telluride Foundation

Director Garvey motioned to donate \$1500 to the Telluride Foundation and apply for Basin Match. Director Alexander seconded. The motion was voted and passed.

Ouray County Ranch Museum

Director Garvey motioned to donate \$1750 to the Ouray County Ranch Museum and apply for Basin Match.

Director Alexander seconded. The motion was voted and passed.

Ouray Mountain Rescue

Director Garvey motioned to donate \$750 to Ouray Mountain Rescue and apply for Basin Match. Director Alexander seconded. The motion was voted and passed.

Telluride Adaptive Sports Program

Director Garvey motioned to donate \$750 to the Telluride Adaptive Sports Program and apply for Basin Match.

Director Alexander seconded. The motion was voted and passed.

MountainFilm, LTD

Director Garvey motioned to donate \$500 to MountainFilm, LTD and apply for Basin Match. Director Alexander seconded. The motion was voted and passed.

Board Donations

Director Garvey donated \$100 to Norwood High School Football.

Director Garvey donated \$50 to Angel Baskets.

Director Garvey donated \$50 to West End Family Link.
Director Rhoades donated \$200 to the Silverton Hardrockers Holiday.
Director Felicelli donated \$50 to Angel Baskets.
Director Felicelli donated \$200 to Go Hawkeye.
Director Cooney donated \$100 to the Second Chance Humane Society.
Director Alexander donated \$100 to Norwood High School Football.

Finance Update

Coop Director Finance Training

Manager Mertz reviewed the capital credits and the accounting terminology associated with the topic.

Manager Mertz reviewed the finance report, reporting that June revenues were less than budgeted by 10.63%, with Year-To-Date (YTD) revenues 4.46% below budget. He noted that while revenues are down, commensurate costs are also less than budgeted, resulting in better margins than budgeted. Manager Metz also presented a trend analysis of purchase power and KWH consumption. Manager Mertz informed the Board that staff continues to monitor trends and analyze SMPA's ability to leverage deferred revenues and other resources to help with current conditions associated with COVID-19.

Marketing & Member Services

Board approval of a PV System in excess of policy limits

Manager Freeman informed the Board that staff received one request for a PV system that exceeds our policy limitations for solar net metering. Mr. Freeman reported that analysis done by SMPA staff shows that there is a legitimate reason for the size of the system selected. Manager Freeman reported that staff recommendation is that the system be approved in excess of policy limits.

Following discussion, Director Cokes motioned for Board approval of the PV system in excess of policy limits. Director Rhoades seconded. The motion was voted and carried.

Information Technology

Manager Tea reviewed his report, highlighting that the security cameras were installed at the Silverton facility, this completes the security camera installation project for all four SMPA facilities. Mr. Tea also informed the Board that the SmartHub app now allows members to report outages and check on their status utilizing the SMS/text messaging functionality from their cell phones.

Administration & Human Resources

Human Resources and Administration Coordinator Danielle Rodriguez informed the Board that through working with the temp agency, Elwood Staffing, we have found an excellent candidate to staff the temp custodian position in the Nucla office. Ms. Rodriguez communicated that she has been receiving excellent feedback about the custodian's performance.

The Board reviewed Policy 300, Rules and Regulations. Manager Freeman informed the Board that updates to the Rules and Regulations were noticed 30 days prior via newspapers and websites. A redline version was made available to members- noting that staff had not received any comments from members regarding the proposed changes. Mr. Freeman continued to review the proposed changes, including incorporating the Non-Sufficient

Funds (NSF) policy into the Rules and Regulations, the addition of details and agreement for SMPA's new SmartPay program and an update to the time frame that a Rules and Regulations amendment can be adopted.

Following discussion, Director Garvey made a motion to approve Policy 300, Rules and Regulations as presented, with an update to section references, effective immediately. Director Alexander seconded. The motion was voted and carried.

Engineering

Jeremy Fox, Service Planner Supervisor, advised the Board that he and Paul Enstrom met with some bidders regarding vegetation work on the Red Mountain project. Mr. Fox stated that the right of way clearing to the full 75-foot potential has been advised and prescribed by the Forest Service and is an important step before embarking on the larger project. He noted that clearing the right of way has turned out to be a bigger and more complex part of the project than originally anticipated, but he hopes that we will begin the project by September.

Mike Therriault, Engineering Supervisor, notified the Board that staff is expecting a shipment of spare transformer for the Ouray area. He noted this is an important piece of equipment to have on hand; in the event of an equipment failure, this will allow SMPA to get up and running to serve the loads in the Ouray area.

Operations

Manager Oliver reviewed his report, highlighting that part of the fire mitigation inspections includes checking terminators, he noted that the crews completed 712 inspections have six terminators left to inspect.

Safety and Regulatory Compliance

Paul Enstrom, Safety and Regulatory Compliance Coordinator, highlighted an upcoming four-day training on Red Mountain. The training will focus on educating the crews on best safety practices and procedures for tree removal.

7. ATTORNEY'S REPORT

Director Garvey made a motion at 1:47 PM to enter into executive session for personnel and contractual issues. Director Rhoades seconded. The motion was voted and carried. The Board entered into executive session at 1:47 PM and came out at 2:59 PM. While in executive session, no decisions were made, nor votes taken.

8. ASSOCIATED MEETING REPORTS

CREA- Debbie Cokes

Director Cokes reported that CREA partnered with NRECA to offer a series of four Director classes online. Director Cokes informed the Board that CREA had not had any meetings.

Western United- Dave Alexander

N/A

Eco-Action- Kevin Cooney

Director Cooney informed the Board that EcoAction's new Executive Director will start in early August.

Tri-State- Kevin Cooney

Director Cooney stated that he attended his first Tri-State Director meeting via teleconference. He reported that he had circulated the highlights report from the meeting to the SMPA Directors. Director Cooney noted that the next scheduled meeting will be tied with Tri-State's annual meeting, remarking that originally Tri-State had hoped the Annual Meeting could be in-person; however, due to current COVID-19 situation, this meeting will also be held via teleconference. Director Cooney informed the Board that Tri-State had sent out a request for a letter of support from the member co-ops in regard to the FERC filings. Manager Zaporski reported that SMPA's current position is no comment. Director Cooney also reported that Tri-State is planning on scheduling a Contract Committee meeting to address governance issues around partial requirements members, such as are they eligible for patronage capital, voting rights, rebates, special rates.

9. BOARD TRAVEL

N/A

10. MISCELLANEOUS

Director Felicelli nominated Director Cooney to serve as the Tri-State Voting Delegate and for Director Cokes to serve as the alternate voting delegate. No other nominations were made. Following discussion, the election proceeded with Director Garvey making a motion that Director Cooney to serve as the Tri-State Voting delegate and Director Cokes to serve as the Alternate Voting Delegate. Director Rhoades seconded. The motion was voted and carried.

11. BOARD CALENDAR REVIEW


N/A

12. NEXT MEETING

The next Board of Directors meeting will be Tuesday, August 25, 2020, in Ridgway and Via Zoom. The August 25, 2020, Board of Directors meeting will reconvene on September 15, 2020, in Ridgway and Via Zoom. The meeting will be held in Executive Session to review Power Supply Presentations. The September meeting will take place on Tuesday, September 22, 2020, in Nucla and Via Zoom.

13. ADJOURN

Director Alexander motioned to adjourn the meeting at 3:15 PM. Director Rhoades seconded. The motion was voted and carried.


[Doyleene Garvey \(Aug 25, 2020 15:06 MDT\)](#)

Doyleene Garvey, Secretary/Treasurer