

M.J.M. ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC.
REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
March 28, 2024

The regular meeting of the Board of Directors of M.J.M. Electric Cooperative, Inc., hereinafter referred to as the “Cooperative”, was held at the Cooperative’s headquarters located at 18300 Shipman Road, in Carlinville, Illinois at 8:00 a.m., on Thursday, March 28, 2024.

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 8:05 a.m. by Kay Schultz, Chairman, who chaired the meeting and Marcie Tonsor served as Secretary.

Roll Call

Upon roll call, Director Tonsor reported the following Board Directors to be present: Marcie Tonsor, Charles Hubener, Todd Stewart, James Niemann, Tyler Heyen, Robert Moore, W. Kay Schultz, Dwayne Milner, and Robert Lehmann. Also present at the meeting were Joe Heyen, President/CEO, Jeremy Pattillo, Director of Finance and Accounting, Jen Peterson, Executive Administrator, and Lee J. Plummer, Attorney.

Agenda

Chairman Schultz requested that the topic regarding electronic signatures be removed from the agenda this month. Upon motion properly made, seconded, and carried unanimously, the March agenda was approved as presented minus the topic regarding electronic signatures.

Prior Meeting Minutes

Upon a motion properly made, seconded, and carried unanimously, the minutes of the February 22, 2024 Regular Board Meeting minutes were approved as presented.

Director’s Financial Summary

Director of Finance and Accounting, Jeremy Pattillo, presented the Financial and Statistical Report. An opportunity was given to discuss MJM business activities which are reported to the Board at various times during the month.

A list of checks issued during February was reviewed. Cash disbursements for February were discussed as well as the cash position. The February purchased power breakdown was also reviewed. In addition, the March 1, 2024 receipts and disbursements, up to a point of time in March, were reviewed.

Mr. Pattillo reported on current CFC interest rates.

Upon a motion properly made, second and carried unanimously, the Treasurer's report was approved.

Operating Report

Continuing from last month, CEO Heyen spoke more on an opportunity to offer automatic, whole house generators for sale. Heyen reported that MJM's system held up well during a recent weather event and no outages were reported. He and a couple MJM employees visited with the Jersey County CEO Group of students and engaged in conversation with them about the electric industry. Furthermore, an update was given regarding the progress of the CEJA grant application.

Executive Administrator Peterson reported on the status of March's non-pay disconnected accounts. An overview of director CCD certification was provided for review, and they were reminded of the 5-year bylaw timeline to complete certification. In addition, Mrs. Peterson reminded the Board that Kelly Bouillon, Member Services Representative, will be retiring on Monday, April 1st after nearly 30 years of service.

Due to prepay account users making frequent and costly payments under the amount of \$15, a discussion took place regarding raising the minimum credit card payment amount from \$5 to \$15 for prepaid accounts only. The cooperative does not charge a transaction fee to members for making credit card payments, however the credit card company does charge MJM. Raising the minimum payment amount will help reduce transactional fees the cooperative is charged. The Board was supportive of changing the minimum credit card payment amount for prepaid accounts to \$15. Prepaid accounts will still have the option to make payments using a checking account which only requires a \$5 minimum.

Communications and Member Services Coordinator, Eric Cooper, joined the meeting.

Mr. Cooper provided an update regarding activities in his department as well as discussed details related to the AIEC's PAC committee and House Bill 5315. He then left the meeting.

Matt Eisenmenger, Director of Operations, and Bob Brandon, Director of Engineering, joined the meeting.

Mr. Brandon reported that the engineering department continues to be very busy with work orders and his department has been developing an improved line switch design and installation process. Planning for maintenance on Witt Substation transformers is also being developed.

Mr. Eisenmenger reported on the operation crews and projects going on in his department. He reported that over 800 new Landis + Gyr meters have been installed just within the last week. An all-employee safety meeting was held yesterday.

A forestry department and right-of-way update was also given. Director Stewart reported that he has received several supportive comments from MJM members praising the in-house right-of-way maintenance program which is helping the power stay on.

Mr. Eisenmenger and Mr. Brandon left the meeting.

Chris Franzen, IT Administrator, joined the meeting to provide statistical IT results from the previous month and discussed technological topics with the Board. A recent penetration test completed by Homeland Security indicated that MJM's IT system is exceedingly secure. Mr. Franzen left the meeting.

Co-op's Attorney Succession Plan

CEO Heyen discussed the attorney succession plan.

2024 Labor Union Negotiations

CEO Heyen suggested that the Board consider conducting union negotiations in a modified format which would allow CEO Heyen and Mr. Pattillo to complete the initial negotiation similar to how other cooperatives have been doing for many years. Additionally, this modified negotiation format was requested by the IBEW and MJM's Union employees. An Executive Committee meeting will be scheduled soon.

A director made a motion to approve the Operating Report which was seconded and approved unanimously.

AIEC

Director Niemann reported on the March AIEC Board meeting.

Several Directors gave an overview of the CCD 2640 – Financial Decisions class they attended on March 14th.

Mrs. Peterson reminded the Board about the BLC 984 - Director's Responsibility class being offered at the AIEC on May 22nd.

Wabash Valley Power Alliance

Director Huebener and CEO Heyen reported on the monthly WVPA Board meeting.

NRECA

Those that recently attended the NRECA annual meeting gave an overview of the event.

Old Business

Nothing for discussion.

New Business

Per request of MJM's auditors, Chairman Schultz asked that Directors communicate to him any areas of financial concern that Auditors should look at. No topics over concern were mentioned during the meeting.

Next Regular Board Meeting

The next regular Board meeting is scheduled for April 25, 2024, at 7:00 a.m.

Jen Peterson and Jeremy Pattillo left the meeting.

Executive Session

A motion was made, seconded, and passed unanimously, for the meeting to go into Executive Session. After the discussions concluded, there was a motion and second, which passed, to come out of Executive Session.

Adjournment

After further discussions took place, a motion was properly made, seconded, and carried unanimously, and the meeting was adjourned.