

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
OF EASTERN IOWA LIGHT AND POWER COOPERATIVE  
HELD AT THE OFFICE IN WILTON, IOWA

January 25, 2024

President Kathy Wunderlich called the meeting to order at 9:02 a.m. in the Cooperative training room.

Secretary Olson gave the roll call. The following directors were present:

Henry Bentley	Kurt Olson
Mike Bixler	Bill Petersen
Joel Carstensen	Ken Purdy
Allan Duffe	Mike Shuger
Tom Hotz	Brad Weiss
Gary Kester	Kathy Wunderlich
Glenn McCulloh	
Michael Moes	

Absent: Robert Schneider Jr.

Also present at the meeting were CEO Kirk Trede, Staff David Zorich, Don Roth, Michelle Walker, Tim Iossi, Lance Kephart, Brian Schoer and Mark Elder, Communications Director Jim Williams, and Executive Assistant Erin DeLong.

A motion was made and seconded to approve the agenda as emailed. Motion carried.

The minutes of the December 20, 2023 regular board meeting were provided for the directors to review. A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes with no comments or corrections. Motion carried.

A motion was made and seconded to approve Resolution No. 1 accepting new members. Motion carried.

Director McCulloh reported the financial review committee's questions were answered satisfactorily for the month of December.

President Wunderlich called on Division Manager of Accounting David Zorich to give the financial report for month ending December 31, 2023. The report was accepted after questions were asked and answered satisfactorily. Mr. Zorich was excused from the meeting.

CEO Trede gave his management reports: Responsibility Operating and Maintenance versus Budget Status Report; Monthly Safety Report; Outage Summary Reports; Marketing Summary; and Major Construction Report. The reports were accepted with no corrections.

The following director reports were given on attended meetings: Director Kester reported on the CIPCO Board. CEO Trede shared information from the CEO Close-Up and NISC Board Meeting & Strategic Planning session. Several Directors reported on the IAEC Welcome Back Reception, NRECA CCD and BLC courses and the Annual Awards Banquet.

Mr. Zorich re-entered the boardroom to discuss and set the discount rate on patronage used in the settlement of estates. Management analyzes annually the value of investment opportunities available to the average investor for a term of five years or greater. For calendar year 2024, Management recommends the discount rate be set at 2.9%. A motion was made, seconded, and carried to adopt Resolution No. 2, settlement of estates on a discounted basis for 2024 be set at 2.9%.

Mr. Zorich reported the Management recommendation of the interest rate applied to consumer deposits for 2024 at 0.15%. The calculation to determine this interest rate

uses short term savings accounts as the basis for investment. A motion was made, seconded, and carried to adopt Resolution No. 3, setting the interest rate on consumer deposits for 2024 at 0.15%.

The expenses recap for 2023 was included with the agenda for review: Director Expenses, Special Account #999, CEO's Expenses, MasterCard Expenses, U.S. Bank Charges and American Express Chargers.

Mr. Zorich then reported on the CIPCO patronage allocation for 2023. This is based on CIPCO Management's recommendation to the CIPCO board and is subject to final board approval. CIPCO Management are recommending an allocation of \$14 million to its members. Eastern's share is 20.18% for a total of \$2,825,792. The 2023 allocation has been made with multiple terms: \$1,614,738 will be paid on a current basis (distributed in the spring of 2024 upon CIPCO Board approval) and \$1,211,054 will be paid on a 15-year roll. Mr. Zorich was excused and joined the meeting virtually.

Jim Williams provided an update on the cooperative's website, then joined the meeting virtually.

Don Roth reported on the Revolving Loan Committee comprised of five Eastern directors and one member from the community. Grant Lilienthal from DeWitt Bank and Trust's Wilton office serves as the community member on the committee. A motion was made, seconded, and carried to retain the directors currently serving on this committee, Directors Carstensen, Moes, Purdy, Shuger and Wunderlich, in addition to Grant Lilienthal.

Mr. Roth shared a new Member Relations department dashboard.

Mr. Zorich re-entered the meeting and, along with Mr. Roth, presented on the cooperative's community engagement programs.

The meeting recessed for lunch at 12:16 p.m.

President Wunderlich reconvened to regular session at 12:51p.m. with an extensive discussion on unclaimed patronage, economic development, and the scholarship program. Mr. Zorich and Mr. Roth then joined the meeting virtually.

Eastern's Day on the Hill will take place February 13 in Des Moines. Expenses allowed were set by the Executive Committee.

The NRECA PowerXchange will take place March 6-9 in San Antonio, TX. Directors Bixler, Carstensen, McCulloh, Olson, Petersen, Purdy, Schneider, Weiss and Wunderlich and CEO Trede will attend, along with Director Kester as a CIPCO Director. Expenses allowed were set by the Executive Committee.

IAEC REC Day on the Hill is March 12, several directors plan to attend. NRECA BLC courses will be offered on March 13. President Wunderlich noted expenses allowed have been set by the Executive Committee.

CIPCO's Annual Meeting will be held on March 26-27 at the Meadows Events & Conference Center. A motion was made, seconded, and carried to name Kathy Wunderlich the meeting delegate and Ken Purdy the alternate. All directors except Mike Shuger will be registered to attend. The Executive Committee set the expenses allowed.

NRECA's 2024 Legislative Conference is April 21-24 in Washington D.C. Directors Bixler, Weiss and Wunderlich plan to attend.

Discussion was held regarding the 2024 district meetings. It was determined the meetings will be held in person, not in the drive-in format used the previous year.

CEO Trede reviewed the fourth quarter report of the 2023 Capital Budget Expenditures. The report listed purchases made to date and a comparison of actual versus budgeted amounts.

A motion was made and seconded to accept the consent agenda; motion carried.

Executive session started at 1:24 p.m. and reconvened to regular session at 1:38p.m. As there was no further business to come before the Board, a motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried.

Kathrine Wunderlich  
President

Kurt Berg  
Secretary