

**Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of the  
Jump River Electric Cooperative, Inc.  
Tuesday, September 24, 2024**

A Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors of the Jump River Electric Cooperative, Inc. was held on Tuesday, September 24, 2024, at the Cooperative headquarters building in Ladysmith, Rusk County, Wisconsin.

Thank you cards from Association of Wisconsin Snowmobile Clubs, Inc., Blue Hills Trail Association, Inc., Flambeau Forever Foundation, Hawkins Lions Club's Harvest Festival, Miner Theatre Summer Dollar Days, The Quiet Lakes Summer Fest, Gayge Schroeder, and Sheldon Community Club, were circulated by Chairman van Doorn.

1. **Call the Meeting to Order.** Chairman van Doorn called the Regular Board Meeting to Order at 9:01 a.m.
2. **Roll Call.** Chairman van Doorn stated that the following Board Members were in person at the start of the meeting: Jane Reich, District 1; Christine Beadles, District 2; Joe Lorence, District 3; Jay Waeltz, District 4; Bill van Doorn, District 5; Bill Amery, District 6; Walter Kruk, District 8 and Sandy Schara, District 9. Also present in person was General Manager/CEO, Kurt Harris; Finance Manager, Dawn Zahurones; Operations Manager, Jordan Behreandt; and Executive Assistant, Virginia Jacobs.
3. **The Pledge of Allegiance** was recited.
4. **Acceptance of the Agenda.** A motion was made by Beadles and seconded by Waeltz to accept the agenda as presented. Unanimously approved.
5. **Open Comment Session.** No one in attendance.

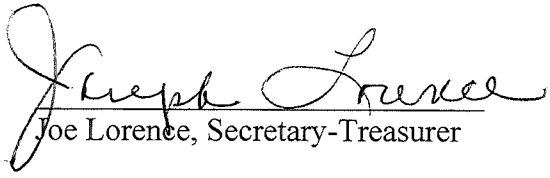
Jason Weaver, District 7, entered the meeting at 9:03 a.m.

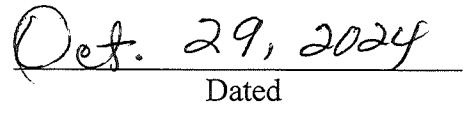
6. **Safety Moment.** Kruk presented on the importance of finding and knowing where the nearest exit location is after entering an unfamiliar or large building. It is especially important to know where the stairs are located if there is an emergency and elevators are not available.
7. **August Minutes.** A motion was made by Waeltz and seconded by Reich to approve the August Board minutes as presented. Unanimously approved.
8. **Check Register.** Discussion held. A motion was made by Reich and seconded by Waeltz to approve the August Check Register as presented. Unanimously approved.
9. **Consent Agenda.** Member refunds, membership applications, outages, director expense reports, and director reports were posted to Call of Order prior to the meeting for review by the Board. Discussion held. A motion was made by Lorence and seconded by Schara to approve the consent agenda as presented. Unanimously approved.
10. **Operations Report.** Operations Manager Behreandt reported on pole exchange, underground lines, new services, OCR changes, CT exchanges for large power accounts based on outside metering company recommendations, Federated Rural Electric Insurance Exchange review and RESAP safety review results. Discussion held. A motion was made by Waeltz and seconded by Schara to approve the Operations Report as presented. Unanimously approved.
11. **Financial Report.** Finance Manager Zahurones reported on the income statement comparison, monthly margins, year-to-date margins, tier/o-tier, year-to-date balance sheet summary, equity, year to date highlights, monthly kilowatts sold, year-to-date kilowatts sold, operating statement, balance sheet and supplemental data for August 2024. Discussion held. A motion was made by Waeltz and seconded by Schara to approve the Financial Report as presented. Unanimously approved.

12. **General Manager Report.** General Manager/CEO Harris reported on Monthly updates - Wage and Performance Administration policy, DPC's PCA credit and RVA charge, Expenses and Strategic Plan Updates, including presenting a progress graph for Mapping Project and RESAP's review. Discussion held. A motion was made by Waeltz and seconded by Schara to approve the General Manager report as presented. Unanimously approved.
  13. **Dairyland Power Cooperative (DPC).** Reich reported on Coop Day of Service, PCA credit, DPC grant funds, safety performance, power plant reliability and Wholesale Rate Study. Discussion held. A motion was made by Waeltz and seconded by Beadles to approve the DPC Director Report as presented. Unanimously approved.
  14. **Wisconsin Electric Cooperative Association (WECA).**
    - a. **Annual Meeting – Nov. 12-13.** A motion was made by Weaver and seconded by Waeltz to approve sending Directors Reich, Beadles, Lorence, Kruk and Schara to the 2024 WECA Annual Meeting. Unanimously carried.
    - b. **Voting Delegate.** A motion was made by Weaver and seconded by Reich to appoint Kruk as voting delegate for the 2024 WECA Annual Meeting. Unanimously approved.
  15. **National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA).**
    - a. **District Meeting Summary.** Schara reported on the NRECA District Meeting she attended September 16-18. A motion was made by Lorence and seconded by Waeltz to approve the NRECA Director Report as presented. Unanimously approved.
  16. **New Business.**
    - a. **JREC Annual Meeting.**
      - i. **Logistics.** Discussion held. A motion was made by Lorence and seconded by Schara to hold the 2025 Annual Meeting on April 26, 2025, at 10:00 a.m. at the Ladysmith Headquarters and remotely at the Hayward Outpost. Unanimously carried.
      - ii. **Electronic Voting.** Discussion held. A motion was made by Reich and seconded by Kruk to approve Electronic Voting for the 2025 Annual Meeting. With eight (8) in favor and one (1) abstaining, the motion was carried.
- The Board took a break from 10:38 a.m. to 10:44 a.m.
- b. **Christmas Party.** Discussion was held. A motion was made by Reich and seconded by Waeltz to hold the Christmas party on December 10th.
  17. **Executive Session.** A motion was made by Reich and seconded by Waeltz to enter into Executive Session at 10:46 a.m. to discuss the Union negotiation status, Non-Union Employees, and the General Manager/CEO contract. Unanimously approved. Zahurones, Behreandt and Jacobs exited the meeting at 11:02 a.m. Harris exited the meeting at 11:25 a.m. Harris returned to the meeting at 12:50 p.m. and exited the meeting at 12:58 p.m. Board Consensus to return to open session at 1:31 p.m. Unanimously approved. Harris and Jacobs returned to the meeting at 1:32 p.m. Action was taken.
  18. **Next Meeting Date.** The October meeting date was scheduled for Tuesday, October 29, 2024.

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A motion was made by Reich and seconded by Beadles to **Adjourn the Meeting at 1:33 p.m.** Unanimously carried.

  
Joe Lorence, Secretary-Treasurer

  
Dated

(CORPORATE SEAL)

My report from the NRECA Regional Meeting in Minneapolis.

I registered on Monday, September 16 and received the voting credentials.

The opening general session was called to order at 9:00 a.m. by MC Lynn Jacobson from North Dakota.

An opening prayer was done by Angela Carlson.

Erin Pressley, Sr. Vice President of training and events for NRECA introduced the directors from each state.

Jim Matheson (CEO NRECA) talked about being in Westby with President Biden when he announced that 73 billion was given for the investments to our utilities. Jim also said the coops stand out because we care about the community. He also said the NRECA is rated the most effective organization in the country and that we are good at challenges like upgrading our outdated electric grid.

Ken Macken is the director of safety programs for NRECA. He showed us a picture taken with some minors from 1948. They were holding a sign that said, "Always use Safety". He stated that we should all carry this sign and be an ambassador for that sign. He encouraged people to attend the safety leadership summit April 22-24 in Arlington, TX.

Phil Irwin, President and CEO of Rural Electric Power Exchange

- Federated Ins. had its first claim in 1965.
- Safety, Service and Stability is their mission statement.
- There were 124 claims for contact with wires last year.
- There were 23 direct contact with lines for linemen last year.

Nick Pascale, Deputy general counsel

- He asked the question, "Should the coops use AI and how should they use it?"
- Don't panic, don't forget and don't assume. Keep calm and do not let AI do the work.

- He also talked about how people panicked and freaked out when the printing press was invented.
- He asked Suri, “What is AI for the coops?” This is the answer he got. Here are the ABC’s and 123’s of AI:

A	B	C
1. Access/Authority	1. Bias	1. Cyber, Privacy
2. Accuracy	2. Black Box	2. Copyright IP
3. Accountability/Autonomy compliance	3. Big Data	3. Contracts, controls,

Lots of material and information covered in just one day. It was really enjoyable talking with other co-op directors. Most of the people I had contact with were from Iowa, South and North Dakota and Illinois. It was a great experience.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sandy Schara