

**Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of the  
Jump River Electric Cooperative, Inc.  
Tuesday, September 26, 2023**

A Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors of the Jump River Electric Cooperative, Inc. was held on Tuesday, September 26, 2023, at the Cooperative headquarters building in Ladysmith, Rusk County, Wisconsin.

Thank you cards from the LCO Boys and Girls Club, Miner Theater, and Fishing Has No Boundaries, were circulated by Chairman Brooks.

1. **Call the Meeting to Order.** Chairman Brooks called the Regular Board Meeting to Order at 9:05 a.m.
2. **Roll Call.** Chairman Brooks stated that the following Board Members were in person at the start of the meeting: Jane Reich, District 1; Myron Brooks, District 2; Joe Lorence, District 3; Jay Waeltz, District 4; Bill van Doorn, District 5; Bill Amery, District 6; and Wally Kruk, District 8. Also in attendance was Kurt Harris, General Manager/CEO; Jordan Behreandt; Operations Manager; and Jennifer Belk, Executive Assistant. Absent from the meeting was Jason Weaver, District 7 and Sandy Schara, District 9.
3. **The Pledge of Allegiance** was recited.
4. **Acceptance of the Agenda.** A motion was made by van Doorn and seconded by Amery to accept the agenda as presented. Unanimously approved.
5. **Open Comment Session.** No one in attendance.
6. **Safety Moment** – District 6. Amery presented on the importance of power saw safety and wearing proper safety glasses.
7. **August Minutes.** A motion was made by Lorence and seconded by Waeltz to approve the August Minutes as presented. Unanimously carried.
8. **Check Register.** A motion was made by Kruk and seconded by Lorence to approve the August Check Register as presented. Unanimously carried.
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. A motion was made by Reich and seconded by Lorence to approve the consent agenda as presented. Unanimously approved.
10. **Operations Report.** Operations Manager Behreandt reported on new services, idle services, Charter project, pole changes, and brushing/spraying. A motion was made by Reich and seconded by van Doorn to approve the operations report as presented. Unanimously approved.
11. **Financial Report.** Harris reviewed 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, and operating statement, balance sheet, supplemental data. A motion was made by van Doorn and seconded by Waeltz to approve the financial report as presented. Unanimously carried.
12. **General Manager Report.** General Manager/CEO Harris reported on PCA status for September, increase of membership dues for NRECA and WECA, cable plow, no loss time award, attorney, manager expenses, and strategic plan update. A motion was made by van Doorn and seconded by Reich to approve the General Manager report as presented. Unanimously carried.

The Board took a break from 10:50 a.m. until 10:59 a.m.

13. **Dairyland Power Cooperative (DPC).** Reich reported on Flambeau Hydraulic Station, DPC board actions, finances, and education. A motion was made by Waeltz and seconded by Lorence to approve the DPC Director Report as presented. Unanimously carried.
14. **National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA).**
  - a. **District Meeting Summary.** Reich and Lorence reported on the NRECA District Meeting attended September 12-14.
15. **Unfinished Business.**
  - a. **Member Policy No. 308.** A motion was made by Reich and seconded by van Doorn to approve Member Policy No. 308 as amended. Unanimously carried.
16. **New Business.**
  - a. **Policy Revisions.**
    - i. **Member Policy No. 324.** A motion was made by van Doorn and seconded by Kruk to approve the revisions to Member Policy No. 324 as presented. Unanimously carried.
  - b. **JREC Annual Meeting.**
    - i. **Logistics.** A motion was made by Kruk and seconded by Waeltz to hold the 2024 Annual Meeting on April 27, 2024, at 10:00am at the Ladysmith Headquarters and remotely at the Hayward Outpost. Unanimously carried.
    - ii. **Electronic Voting.** A motion was made by Kruk and seconded by Lorence to approve Electronic Voting for the 2024 Annual Meeting. With five (5) in favor and two (2) opposed, the motion was carried.
  - c. **Dairyland Business Development Fund.** A motion was made by Waeltz and seconded by van Doorn to return DPC margins to active Members in the amount of \$98,686 for 2020 and \$20,174 for 2021 as proposed by Harris. Unanimously carried.
  - d. **Christmas Party.** Discussion held.
17. **Executive Session.** A motion was made by Reich and seconded by van Doorn to enter into Executive Session at 12:05 p.m. to discuss Non-Union Employees. Unanimously carried.

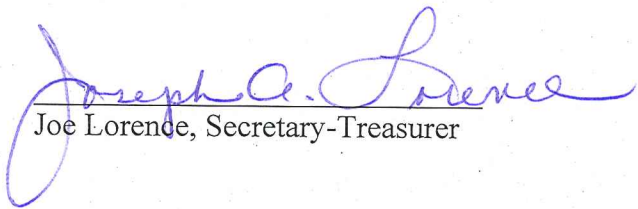
Operations Manager, Jordan Behreandt and Executive Assistant, Jennifer Belk left the meeting at 12:05 p.m.

A motion was made by Kruk and seconded by van Doorn to return to Open Session at 12:23 p.m. Unanimously carried. No Action Taken.

Executive Assistant, Jennifer Belk returned to the meeting at 12:24 p.m.

18. **October Meeting Date.** The October meeting date was scheduled for Tuesday, October 31, 2023.

A motion was made by Kruk and seconded by van Doorn to **Adjourn the Meeting at 12:25 p.m.** Unanimously carried.

  
Joe Lorence, Secretary-Treasurer

10/31/23  
Dated

(CORPORATE SEAL)



NRECA REGION  
District 5&6 Meeting  
Des Moines, Iowa  
Sept. 13 & 14

These meetings started with an address on changing risks, threats to the Grid, preparing us to act== all in the name of reliability. Jim Matheson, CEO of NRECA spoke on NERC, National Energy Regulatory Commission and how important it is to us. The energy mix, trends and opportunities involved. Threats we face are demand for power growing and supply going down with plants closing. We need unanimous interest and support cooperatively on reliability. WE ARE THE ADVOCATES!!!

In DC policy environment matters. At hand are bad energy policy's, not focusing on reliability. Thoughts of replacing always available energy with intermediate energy? The Biden administration is ignoring supply and demand. Purposing rules designed to Stifle the electrical industry. Consequences are severe. WE NEED TO TELL OUR STORY.

We have over 900 electrical co ops in the U.S. We must speak with one voice, an aggressive voice with no agenda except the quality of life for all.

Load shed is increasing, meaning we don't have the back bone aka back up power to support the grid. Causes are mainly early closing of coal fired plants and other problems. There is 110 GW of known retirements, basically caused by EPA regulatory accelerated retirements. THE SYSTEM CAN NOT HANDLE THIS AT THIS TIME.

THE SHORT TERM FORECAST IS OFF. SOLAR, WIND, DER, AND BATTERIES We need a far greater interconnection to maximize or even a local interconnect to move this power where it needs to go. This is very technical using inverters to adapt wind and solar to the grid.

LOUIS FINKEL, GOVERNMENT RELATIONS spoke on the EPA AND THAT THE EPA THREATENS the reliability to deliver electricity in the United States. We need to advocate to keep the lights on and the power flowing. Government policy's are out of sinc. NOT REALISTIC, NOT ACHIEVABLE, and most definitely will not work with intermediate power! It is absurd to think that one organization (EPA) can regulate anything with unproven technology. EPA rules impact reliability and affordability. WE NEED MEMBER ENGAGEMENT. NERC is the electrical industry's watch dog! Remember we are NERC'S advocates.

Lauren Khaiz, business transformation specialist spoke on generation and how it is made up. Well over 50 percent of our mix is coal or gas. DPC J.P. Madgett and Prairie State Energy serve to bring us of region 5 the crucial coal fuel. We desperately need these plants running until we find another source to replace them.

We were schooled in so many topics and as you can tell I really have a thirst to tell you about it all. CFC told us of their business, 32.5 Billion they have out in loans and what a Financially sound unit they are.

We were told of different programs available to cooperative people and some even to non cooperative people. The RedLake program and the cooperative family fund.

Phil Irwin, Federated Insurance Company spoke on safety and telecommunications. He also mentioned a program for our lineman, a conference that he really thought would benefit the lineman and in view of a recent death to a neighboring coops lineman I put this in so Kurt can reach out and see what he thinks of the benefit to us.

I can't say that I learned a lot from this meeting, I will say the benefit is that my thoughts of the direction things are going and the government and are advocacy make me realize that we need to reach out to our elected officials and impact all we can to move our cooperative in the right direction. I will be talking with Kurt and all of you on this.

Jane Reich, District 1

September 22, 2023

Directors Report

District # 3

On Sept 12<sup>th</sup> thru 14<sup>th</sup> was the NRECA ((National Rural Electric Co Op Association) Regional meeting for Region # 5 and # 6 in Des Moines, Iowa. Jane Reich and I were the 2 Directors that attended and represented JREC. There were GM's and Directors from all of our surrounding Co op's in attendance. Jane decided we should take our leased Tesla on its first long distance trip and see how it would perform.

Janes report gives a pretty good overview of the convention. We figured there were approximately 600 people at the morning general assembly. There were many excellent speakers covering reliability, risk and new technologies, changing environment, new EPA requirements, and current trends. Jane was the voting delegate and I was the alternate. There were several resolutions to consider and all were passed with a few corrections. Rather than repeat some of Jane's observations I will report on what our first long drive in a Tesla EV was like,

We started out with a full charge in Ladysmith. Jane picked up the car the day before so I met her at her home to start our adventure. We first drove to La Crosse where we decided we needed to charge the vehicle as we were near 50%. After going to a location where there was a "fast charger", well we quickly found out that the charger would not connect to the Tesla. We also found out that this type of charger would of taken a few hours of charging. We went to Dairyland Power and and consulted with them and found out we needed to find a Tesla charger because additional adapters would be needed to use other charging systems. The nearest Tesla Supercharger was located in Onalaska. Near Interstate 90 which was perfect. It took about 30 minutes to fully charge the Tesla and we were on our way. I believe the cost was about \$15.00 We made really good time driving the Interstate and there was a lot of traffic. While traveling we decided was we were approaching 50% and would be heading South on 35 W, near that intersection there was a large travel center that had Tesla chargers so we made the 2<sup>nd</sup> stop for charging. This charge took about another 30 minutes as we went in for a bathroom break and snacks. This charge was approximately \$11.00 . We didn't find charging was a burden and was easy once you figured everything out. Des Moines was about 380 miles and everything went extremely well. There was a slow charger at the Hilton hotel so we were able to recharge the Tesla while we were there. Coming back was approximately the same. We stopped at the same places to charge and the cost was about the same. What was noteworthy was that while your charging you get to meet other Tesla owners and seemed like everyone was eager to share helpful hints and experiences. The Tesla could be compared to you getting your first smart phone. The computer system is amazing and I think it would take a while to learn everything it can do. Example's..The navigation system will find charging stations for you and tell you what kind they are. The Tesla ones are red and easy to identify. If you want to go to that charger it will reroute your trip and start pre warming the battery for faster charging. There is much to learn and I was cautious about touching anything. I guess I'm "old School" There is nothing to be afraid of and it was a great experience.

Joe Lorence / Director District # 3

Autumn colors are starting to show up and winter is in the horizon. Living here we must appreciate all four seasons or at least take winter in stride. I used to enjoy winter but at my age I put up with it and read more. This is not all bad. I attempt to educate myself by reading technical articles concerning weather and our impact on it as a society.

We are led to believe that any change in weather must be society's fault. The more I read the more I question this narrative. There are retired professors that say that research money is only given to research that has an agenda to support the political agenda at the present time.

Now you may think that I'm a denier and am not concerned with pollution which is not the case. In my opinion carbon dioxide is not a concern but carbon monoxide and nitric oxide are. This was the shared opinion when we first started monitoring emissions from cars years ago. Now the political consensus is that burning any fossil fuel is bad and must be stopped as soon as possible. Have we considered the effect of mining for the rare earth materials needed for the alternative energy sources. Have we considered the hazardous left-over material left behind so-called green energy production. Not really.

I have read where a retired Nobel prize recipient (John F. Clauser) believes that CO<sub>2</sub> is not a problem that may cause climate warming (climate change). He believes that the oceans vastness and cloud cover are the main contributing factor in climate temperature change or regularity. He considers them mother natures built in thermostat and that this factor has not even been considered in most climate models. In other research it has been said that the days of prehistoric life (dinosaurs) would not have existed had the CO<sub>2</sub> level not been many times higher than it is now.

Now you ask, what does any of this have to do with the electric cooperative world and its dependability to deliver electric energy to us every hour of every day.

The electric industry is being strong armed to stop producing energy with fossil fuels and convert to green forms of production. Green energy is not necessarily bad if it is truly clean and dependable. The political world is not waiting for research that is truly dependable and clean forms of energy.

The good news is that the cooperative Electric industry is dragging their feet compared to the for-profit suppliers. The bad news is that we share a lot of the same grid system with them. This means that we can suffer a shortage along with them when conditions are right.

In conclusion, where do we have input into the direction this is all going. The political arena is where we must go which turns my stomach in writing this. The bright note in all this is that we are all in this together in our cooperative as we move cautiously forward.

Respectfully Submitted  
District 5 Director  
Bill van Doorn