

**MINUTES OF THE
JEMEZ MOUNTAINS ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC.**

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 2, 2022 at 9:00 A.M.

HERNANDEZ, NEW MEXICO

1. This regular monthly meeting of the Jemez Mountains Electric Cooperative, Inc. Board of Trustees was called to order by Board President Dennis Trujillo at 9:12 a.m. on the above-cited date, at the JMEC Headquarters, 19365 S.R. 84/285, Hernandez, New Mexico.

2. & 3. Following the Pledge of Allegiance, roll call confirmed a quorum as follows:

Trustees Present:

Dennis Trujillo, President
Manuel Bustos, Vice President
John Ramon Vigil, Secretary [9:20 arrival]
Dolores McCoy, Treasurer
Stanley Crawford, Asst. Secretary/Treasurer
Lucas J. Cordova
Elias Coriz
Bruce Duran
Marcie Martinez

Trustee(s) Excused:

Marissa Maestas-Muller

JMEC Staff Present:

Michael Hastings, CEO and General Manager
Dennis Astley, Director of Engineering and Engineering Operations
Tina Trujillo Archuleta, Manager of Administration and External Affairs
Geraldine Romero, Interim CFO
Tomas Barela, Broadband Manager
Dwight Herrera, Senior Manager of Human Resources and Support Services

Others Present:

Frank Coppler, JMEC Counsel
Kitty Leslie, Daniels Insurance, Inc.
Bill Boas, Broadband Consultant
Henry Cano, NRECA
Karen Farrell, Wordswork – secretarial services

4. REMARKS FROM JMEC MEMBER – None were offered.

5. CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Approval of Agenda**
- B. Review and Approve the October 28, 2022 Regular Board Meeting Minutes**
- C. Approval of the October 2022 Membership List**

ACTION: Mr. Crawford moved to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Mr. Bustos seconded and the Motion passed by unanimous voice vote. [Trustee Vigil was not present for this action and arrived at 9:20 a.m.]

Regarding the Minutes of the October 28th meeting, Ms. Martinez noted two corrections: Page 3, third paragraph, the first sentence was incomplete. Page 8, second paragraph, second sentence should read “compromised” not “comprised.”

6. OTHER REPORTS

A. President’s Report

President Trujillo offered the following overview of JMEC activities:

- The rate case hearing is scheduled on the PRC’s Wednesday, December 7, 2022 Consent Agenda.
- JMEC is seeking ETC (Eligible Telecommunications Carrier) and ILEC (Incumbent Local Exchange Carrier) – licensing applications – from the PRC to enter the broadband business. These will go before the PRC on Thursday, December 8, 2022.
- On the westside, GM Hastings and Mr. Astley will be attending a meeting with the Navajo Nation at Ft. Defiance on December 12, 2022.
- The Board will need to choose representatives for Statewide.

i. New Bylaw Committee – Discussion of Next Steps

President Trujillo recommended a more in-depth discussion of this item under Committee reports.

B. Tri-State Director Report

Mr. Duran said that the November Tri-State meeting was held virtually and he was unable to participate. The United Power and Tri-State proceedings continue to be a looming topic. Regarding measures discussed at the Tri-State Rate Design Committee Meeting, GM Hastings said an issue is whether a formula rate is used, which is favored by FERC, or a stated rate which is what Tri-State has now. It appears that FERC and its staff are formulating “guard rails” to the formula rate approach. A problem with a formula rate is that it disincentivizes Tri-State staff to control costs. The rate design is the big issue.

Mr. Duran said that it appears Tri-State will push for the formula rate. GM Hastings said the New Mexico co-ops favor a stated rate. GM Hastings noted that Tri-State wants to assign the radial transmission lines to the distribution co-ops, and at this point, no money amounts have been provided.

Mr. Duran said that he has been in contact with representatives of San Ildefonso. He understood from that conversation that BIA requires the setting aside of a certain amount of land, which San Ildefonso did not do, to obtain federal solar funding. Also, it appears San Ildefonso is working with Los Alamos County and considering selling solar power to them.

President Trujillo said that Jemez Pueblo is considering expanding its needed 1 megawatt to 30 to 50 megawatts. JMEC should consider solar in regards to its partial buyout with Tri-State. GM Hastings said it seems everything is up for consideration with the Pueblos and there has been mixed information from San Ildefonso. JMEC has discussed with most of the Pueblos its desire for a partial buyout with Tri-State.

Mr. Coriz said it may make sense for San Ildefonso, which has expanded its business ventures, to sell power to Los Alamos and high-speed internet at the same time. He added that JMEC needs to stay vigilant about easement fees charged by the Pueblos.

C. Statewide Director Report

Mr. Bustos said that Statewide has appointed Charise Swanson as the new CEO. She will succeed Mr. Groenewold, who is retiring. He said JMEC does need an alternate in the event he is unable to attend a meeting, or if the Board sees fit to name a different representative and alternate, he would abide by that decision. He added that he was pleased to serve as JMEC's representative on the Statewide Board.

• Nominations

Mr. Vigil moved to re-elect Mr. Bustos as the JMEC representative to Statewide and nominate Mr. Cordova as the alternate. Mr. Coriz seconded.

Mrs. McCoy nominated Marcie Martinez to serve as the alternate. Ms. Muller seconded.

Mr. Vigil explained his nomination of Mr. Cordova is because he has been a lineman and served on the Statewide Board in the past.

Ms. Muller asked whether there were other Board members interested in serving.

Ms. Martinez said the Board needed additional information regarding the responsibilities of a Statewide director and what qualifications were necessary to hold the position. It appeared as a done deal or old school politics in the manner the nomination came forward. She noted Statewide has very few women and younger people serving on its board, and she'd like to see rural co-ops across the State move forward. JMEC should have a better structure/process for nominating and electing representatives to boards and with that she recommended tabling the issue.

President Trujillo apologized to the Board, stating that there was a need for an Alternate and that it was hastily added to the Agenda.

Mr. Martinez said she didn't disagree that for continuity's sake, Mr. Bustos may be JMEC's best choice.

ACTION: Ms. Martinez moved to table the election which would allow for additional time to review the role of a Statewide director and permit other interested Trustees to be nominated. Mrs. McCoy seconded.

In terms of time sensitivity on this issue, GM Hastings said that JMEC will appear in the Statewide directory without an alternate. He agreed with Ms. Martinez that it is important to have a unified voice moving into the future for the New Mexico co-ops.

Those trustees interested in the position(s) were encouraged to send an email to staff so indicating and it would be forwarded with the December 16, 2022 board packet.

Ms. Martinez reminded the Board that she is an advocate of process and procedures and nominations for positions should be posted ahead of time, with individuals having the opportunity to express their interest. Mr. Duran recommended, rather than nominations, that the Board vote on those who have indicated an interest in serving.

GM Hastings offered to get information out to the trustees next week about the position.

The Motion to table passed without opposition.

7. CEO and GENERAL MANAGER'S UPDATE

A. Miscellaneous Matters

i. Employee Service Recognition

GM Hastings said George Lopez, senior meter reader from Cuba, just passed 30-years of service to JMEC. Mr. Lopez was unable to attend today's meeting and a recognition plaque and letter of appreciation will be forwarded to him. Mr. Lopez will be retiring soon and JMEC's succession plan is in place for his retirement.

ii. Plans for December 3, 2022 JMEC Foundational Meeting

GM Hastings said Henry Cano from NRECA and Erin Dayl will be assisting in the meeting. Mr. Cano assisted JMEC last year in its strategic planning. The meeting will start with dinner tonight, and follow tomorrow morning at 9:00 a.m. at Okhay Owingeh. He reminded the trustees that the draft Agenda was sent out earlier.

iii. Plans for Strategic Planning Dates

GM Hastings proposed January 17th and 18th for strategic planning. Henry Cano and Erin Dayl will also facilitate those meetings which will be held at Okhay Owingeh. Staff was advised that the 17th was the opening day for the state legislature.

There was Board consensus that January 19th and 20th were preferable dates. Tina Trujillo Archuleta, Manager of Administration and External Affairs, said that she would check with Mr. Cano to confirm availability. President Trujillo suggested meeting here in the JMEC headquarters, rather than have to confirm dates with Okhay Owingeh.

iv. EV Charger Update

GM Hastings reminded the Board that JMEC was discussing installation of fast chargers with EV3, Inc. That arrangement will not move forward just yet because Tri-State has a demand rate regarding peak periods thus, a fast charger rate will not be advantageous to JMEC. There is time to make a decision on this item. He was cognizant of Bode's, the winery in Dixon, Taos Ski Basin and Abiquiu Inn's desire to move forward with fast chargers.

JMEC will be talking with Mark Johnson of Sol Luna who is working on the Jacona Land Grant solar project and wants to do small scale level 2 chargers. EV3 is focused on the traveler willing to pay whatever the cost to charge. It's a different market than the level 2 charger.

GM Hastings said there were some locational problems siting a charger at Mike's Minimart that will require further attention, as well as the issue of cost.

JMEC's Tesla will arrive on Monday, December 5, 2022. Ms. Trujillo Archuleta said she was in contact with an advertising firm that will "wrap" the vehicle.

Mr. Coriz said it was preferable that any chargers JMEC energizes have 24-hour access. Mr. Cordova raised the concern of charger vandalism. Mr. Bustos said insurance would be needed and GM Hastings said that can be addressed via the agreements.

GM Hastings said safety and accessibility will be considered.

v. Election of Statewide Director and Alternate [See pages 3-4]

vi. Insurance Coverage Report

Kitty Leslie, Daniels Insurance, began her presentation with an update on the insurance market noting that building costs have escalated and building insurance increased to reflect the value of the current market. That resulted in a 9 to 11 percent increase in insurance premiums. The insurance industry has also increased liabilities in reaction to the increase in lawsuits. Even though JMEC's auto history is very clean, the underwriters are increasing the cost.

Ms. Leslie presented a premium-bearing page outlining the coverage, limits, deductible, renewal premium, and expiring premiums for comparison purposes. She reviewed the coverage for property, boiler and machinery, general liability, automobiles, the different layers of excess liability, cyber security, management liability, and volunteer accident policy. There was no negotiating this year. Hartford is one of the only three energy

carriers in the United States. She noted that the old headquarters was not included in the insurance. Flood and earthquake coverage was not included and she estimated its costs around \$8,000 annually.

Regarding excess liability, Ms. Leslie said the first \$5 million was with Hartford on a third-party claim, and there was another \$10 million layer from Hartford. The premium on this coverage went from approximately \$81,200 to \$94,000. The secondary layer for \$5 million, with Endurance, was increased by \$7,000. She attributed some of the increase to JMEC's 7 percent payroll increase. The final layer, for another \$5 million, resulted in \$5,000 increase with Starstone. JMEC is covered for \$25 million for any one lawsuit, i.e., wildfire, general liability, auto.

Ms. Leslie reviewed the cyber insurance which includes ransomware and malware. Management liability has been problematic because of past claims. She also reviewed the volunteer accident policy which has held at about \$1,200 since inception.

The premium is now \$728,949 compared to last year at \$642,643.

Mr. Crawford recommended reconsidering flood and earthquake insurance and noted that this summer there were severe floods in Dixon and there is also the possibility of flood as a result of erosion behind the new headquarters. Ms. Leslie offered to get that information to GM Hastings.

Ms. Leslie said poles are not covered in flood and quake insurance. She had checked pole coverage last year and there was a high deductible which made the coverage less than useful.

Ms. Leslie was thanked for her presentation.

Recognizing Mr. Vigil had to leave the meeting; President Trujillo asserted his prerogative and modified the Agenda.

8. COMMITTEE REPORTS

D. Annual Meeting Planning Committee Report

Mr. Vigil said that the Committee met on November 16, 2022 and finalized dates for the 2023 meetings. The 2023 annual meeting will be held on Sunday, August 27, 2023 at La Luz Campgrounds. The Committee discussed additional caterers and contingent on the budget, improving the shade canopies, creating a cement walkway for ADA compliance, and improving the parking area.

Dates for the 2023 district elections were proposed as follows:

- District 4, Tuesday, July 18th at the Hernandez Community Center
- District 5, Tuesday, July 25th at the Española Valley High School
- District 6, Thursday, July 27th at the Pojoaque Middle School

GM Hastings and Mr. Coppler will update the 2021 election resolution which will provide the necessary dates for candidacy, etc.

JMEC's 75th anniversary is 2023 and the Committee discussed holding an event in April, creating a pamphlet on the co-op's history, and retaining Sturges Word to create a commemorative 75th anniversary logo for marketing materials.

Mr. Crawford asked whether his request to hold a District 5 election in Dixon was considered. Mr. Vigil said the Committee felt moving the election site would undermine the history of holding it at the high school.

The only district location that was changed was District 6, and that was done to eliminate any appearance of impropriety by holding it at JMEC headquarters.

ACTION: Mr. Vigil moved to accept the meeting dates and locations as proposed by the Committee. Mr. Coriz seconded and the Motion carried by unanimous [9-0] voice vote.

As far as meeting a quorum at the 2023 annual meeting, Mr. Vigil said the Committee did discuss that and recommends raffling one retiring JMEC vehicle and purchasing two four-wheelers. He noted that 2.5 percent to make a quorum would have been met at the 2022 annual meeting.

President Trujillo said that the two four-wheelers would cost approximately the same as the one side-by-side given away this year.

ACTION: Mr. Vigil moved to approve the recommendation to give away one retiring JMEC vehicle and the purchase two four-wheelers for prizes at next year's annual meeting. Mr. Bustos seconded and the Motion carried by unanimous [9-0] voice vote.

7. A. vii. Resolution Authorizing the Amendment and Restatement of the Retirement Security Plan and 401k Pension Plan

GM Hastings said the resolutions are necessary annual updates on the old retirement plan and the 401k plan.

ACTION: Mr. Crawford moved to approve the two resolutions – the 401k and the R&S Plan – which update the plans. Ms. Martinez seconded and the Motion carried by unanimous [9-0] voice vote.

viii. JMEC Christmas Plans

GM Hastings reviewed the holiday schedule as follows:

- December 19th, Monday, 2 p.m. – 4 p.m., Santa will be at the Hernandez headquarters and a live remote from radio will be used to publicize the visit. Lunch is planned with the Hernandez employees starting at 11:30 a.m.
- December 20th, Tuesday, employee breakfast at Jemez Springs
- December 20th, Tuesday, employee lunch during the noon hour in Cuba

GM Hastings will be out of the office from December 21st to January 2nd, and Mr. Astley will be in charge during that period.

The Board discussed Christmas gifts for employees. There was consensus that while not making the gift a precedent and subject to the rate case, the employees could be gifted \$100 each with a letter of gratitude signed by the Board. GM Hastings said the letter could be signed at the December 16th meeting. It was the consensus of the Board to approve the employee gifts subject to the PRC approving JMEC's rate case settlement.

iv. Touchstone Donation to be used for Tri-State/JMEC Shoe Project

GM Hastings said that Tri-State has chosen the Chimayo Grade School to gift new shoes to children. The teachers will identify the children. JMEC has \$500 from Touchstone Balloon Program that staff recommends contributing to the shoe program. JMEC staff have also provided funding for this project.

ACTION: Ms. Martinez moved to donate the \$500 from Touchstone to the shoe project. Mr. Coriz seconded and the Motion passed by unanimous [8-0] voice vote. [Trustee Vigil was not present for this action.]

GM Hastings said he had no information on why or how Chimayo was chosen for this program, however he said he would find out. He understood there were other shoe programs underway.

B. Business Services and Finance
i. October 2022 Financial Report

GM Hastings said he would provide a review of the financials since this item will be dealt with in detail tomorrow at the JMEC Foundational Meeting where a deep dive into the financials would be provided.

GM Hastings characterized October as a "shoulder" month and sales were not very good. Year-to-date, the co-op was down \$1.6 million on sales which he attributed to the mild summer, this has led to the cost to purchase power down by \$1.2 million. The income statement depicts the main expenses that are somewhat over or under budget with staff working hard to hold the line. Employees have been added. Interest on long-term debt is down about \$100,000 and is anticipated to rise with interest rates increases. For the month of October, the Co-op was down by \$345,599.

Referring to the balance sheet, GM Hastings noted that JMEC has the same number of new services this year as last, 141 with a total of 31,654 accounts. The open work orders are up to \$7.7 million and he attributed that primarily to the Cerro Pelado fire. Cash reserves are down and holding around \$6 million. He identified the line of credit from CFC for the broadband business as line #47.

ii. Finance Committee Meeting

Mrs. McCoy, Finance Committee Chair, said that the Committee met yesterday, December 1, 2022 and reviewed the Agenda items.

a. October 2022 General Fund Expenditures

ACTION: For informational purposes, Mrs. McCoy moved to approve the October 2022 general fund expenditures list. Ms. Martinez seconded and the motion passed by unanimous [7-0] voice vote. [Trustees Vigil and Muller were not present for this action.]

b. October 2022 Staff Credit Cards

Mrs. McCoy noted that the Committee reviewed the credit card charges.

Ms. Martinez said the forensic auditor had recommended including descriptions of business lunch-types charges. GM Hastings said the stipend a Trustee receives for doing Co-op business is different than reimbursement for meals and lodging. JMEC Policy 112 allows for reimbursements.

Mr. Duran characterized being on this Board as a public service, and said that the stipend he receives does not cover the time that he is away from his business, and he is losing money.

ACTION: Mrs. McCoy moved to approve the staff credit card charges. Mr. Coriz seconded. The Motion passed by unanimous [8-0] voice vote. [Trustee Vigil was not present for this action.]

c. October 2022 Attorney Expenses

ACTION: Mrs. McCoy moved to approve the October 2022 attorney expenses. Mr. Bustos seconded and the Motion passed by [8-0] voice vote. [Trustee Vigil was not present for this action.]

d. October 2022 Consulting Expenses

ACTION: Mrs. McCoy moved to approve the October 2022 consulting expenses. Ms. Martinez seconded and the Motion passed by unanimous [7-0] voice vote. [Trustees Coriz and Vigil were not present for this action.]

e. October 2022 Trustee Vouchers

ACTION: Mrs. McCoy moved to approve the October 2022 trustee vouchers. Mr. Crawford seconded. The Motion passed by unanimous [7-0] voice vote. [Trustees Cordova and Vigil were not present for this action.]

f. RFP Pole Attachment Audit

Mrs. McCoy said that the Committee reviewed the RFP as previously authorized by the Board. A large portion of the pole attachment audit will be paid by the firms that are attached to JMEC's poles. Two proposals were received and reviewed. The Committee recommends contracting with the low-bidder, Sundance.

ACTION: Mrs. McCoy moved to select low-bidder Sundance to receive the contract for the pole attachment audit. Mr. Bustos seconded and the Motion passed by unanimous [8-0] voice vote. [Trustee Vigil was not present for this item.]

That concluded the Finance Committee report.

8. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Communications Committee

Mr. Crawford said that the Committee met on November 7, 2022 and worked on topics for the next "*Enchantment*" and the spelling bee. The notion of a quarterly advisory Committee made up of community participation was discussed. The volunteers/community member would serve for a one-year period, and the meeting would occur over an evening meal. Ms. Martinez pointed out that the volunteers would be a non-voting members.

Mr. Duran asked whether there were any advertisements or announcements planned for the "heat pump rebates" through Tri-State. GM Hastings said it has been discussed but at this point, JMEC lacks the staff to initiate the program. He recommended leaning on Tri-State to come down, meet with area contractors, discuss heat pumps and the potential savings. Mr. Duran recommended publicizing the program through the "*Enchantment*".

B. School Committee

Ms. Muller said the Committee met on November 13, 2022 and received updates from Ms. Trujillo Archuleta on the spelling bees, JMEC junior directors, the Foundation scholarship, the coloring book contest, and Policy updates.

C. Policy Committee

Ms. Martinez said the Committee met on November 15, 2022 and discussed the draft Policy on Policies to replace the current policy #101. Updates were made to policy #112, reimbursements and stipends. Policy #137, conflicts of interest, is still being worked on. The Committee discussed and reviewed the whistleblower policy. The Committee also discussed the notion of a grievance policy for non-union employees. She urged the Trustees to forward any questions or recommendations to the Committee when the policies are sent out for review.

Regarding a Policy on electric chargers, and rather than re-invent the wheel, President Trujillo recommended researching what other co-ops have developed.

GM Hastings said Personnel Policies include responding to phone calls within 24 hours and ensuring an Open Door Policy.

D. Building and Grounds Committee

Mr. Coriz said the Committee met on November 28, 2022 and continues to work on the Phase III projects associated with the new headquarters, and the demolition of the old headquarters. The Committee focused on prioritizing projects within that phase. The cost of demolition has gone up substantially, and the Committee wants to reopen dialogue with the general contractor, Bradbury Stamm, for a rebid on this item. The original demolition amount was \$157,000. With the contract's expiration, the new price is \$277,000.

Phase III of the project includes demolition, filling in the site, asphaltting and paving, erecting steel canopies, solar panels on top of the canopies, electric work, and new signage at the entrance.

Mr. Coriz said the solar panel project has increased by \$35,000. The original cost was \$107,000.

GM Hastings said staff will be reviewing all options in regards to the canopies and solar panels. Senior staff will review all of this as part of the budget process. He noted that Karen Wisdom has been in discussion with Bradbury Stamm on these issues.

The signage project increased by \$1,600, and the Committee is recommending moving forward with it at a cost of \$4,900.

ACTION: Mr. Coriz moved to approve the signage project for a total of \$4,900. Mr. Bustos seconded and the Motion passed by [8-0] voice vote. [Trustee Vigil was not present.]

The electric work in the front of the new building will address safety issues and lighting. The updated price is \$26,000 and the Committee deemed this a priority, stated Mr. Coriz.

ACTION: Mr. Coriz moved to approve the electric project in the amount of \$26,000. Mr. Cordova seconded and the Motion passed by [8-0] voice vote. [Trustee Vigil was not present.]

The Committee discussed selling the two old bay/lifts in the old mechanical shop. The lift was red-tagged and it would be best to have a third party handle any sale of the lifts.

The previous bid to correct the stormwater drainage issue at the Cuba office came in at \$800,000 which was over the budgeted amount. The item will be deferred. The Cuba office is not ADA compliant and different options are being considered to address this issue, i.e., rent a small building on Hwy 550 for customer services and utilize the old business for operations/mechanics and such.

The drainage issue at the Hernandez headquarters was also discussed. Miller Engineering had an idea to divert the waters into an arroyo but additional acreage may be

necessary. GM Hastings added that Miller Engineering has suggested a FEMA berm to divert the water into the arroyo. Further discussion with Miller and a projected cost are necessary. There is still discussion about purchasing 3 acres contiguous to headquarter property.

Ms. Martinez said Ms. Wisdom was responsive in providing documentation regarding phase III. She requested an itemization on what JMEC has paid out on to Mosher on the solar panels for the canopies. She understood JMEC may already own some of the panels. GM Hastings said he understood that JMEC had some, but not all, of the solar panels for the canopies. The canopy steel is on the property.

The Board recessed from 12:30 to 1:00 p.m. and Mr. Vigil returned to the meeting.

F. Energy Committee Report

Mr. Crawford said the Committee discussed a number of issues that included:

- Tri-State and the United Power buyout. If the decision goes in United Power's way, the full buyout will be \$30 million which is an optimistic number.
- Fast chargers [See page 5].
- The Pueblo proposals which require additional study.
- Rate issues with the fast chargers.

G. Broadband Committee

Mr. Coriz said the committee met on November 21, 2022 with representatives from NRTC and JMEC senior staff. GM Hastings and Mr. Coriz outlined the following items that were discussed:

- JMEC will try and utilize NRTC in a number of aspects of the broadband business including grant writing and engineering work.
- On November 11, 2022, JMEC's and Kit Carson's senior management met and KC acknowledged that it is necessary to have an agreement between the two co-ops if KC will be doing business within JMEC's business area. No decisions were made.
- GM Hastings and Kit Carson CEO Luis Reyes met with residents of Abuiquiu to discuss high-speed internet the evening of November 11, 2022.
- The final testimony will be filed today with PRC for the JMEC CTC designation. PRC staff has been very supportive of this request. The designations are required in order for JMEC to be in the broadband business in the state. Windstream intervened and did not file a protest. There are other small entities obtaining CTC designations.
- The electric franchise agreement which JMEC has with the City of Española may be sufficient to operate the broadband business; however, a separate franchise agreement is the best path forward and will be pursued.

GM Hastings said Kit Carson submitted an application for grant funds from the state with a map showing the area starting at JMEC headquarters moving southwest to northeast through Hernandez, Okhay Owingeh and up to Velarde. The state denied the funding.

JMEC has been working with Okhay Owingeh to get the necessary resolution for JMEC to move forward with Broadband within the Pueblo. The Tribal Council has signed the resolution, which identifies JMEC as the broadband provider to the Pueblo, and it will be presented for the Tribal Governor's signature. JMEC will be applying for \$9 million in the second wave of state broadband funding.

GM Hastings said he has drafted a letter to send to the RUS concerning JMEC's position regarding Kit Carson doing business in JMEC's service area, and the necessity to have an agreement between Kit Carson and JMEC before a contract is signed or agreed to between Kit Carson and the RUS. The letter has been reviewed by legal counsel. Trustees can review the draft in the GM's office.

The most important thing is to get funding to provide JMEC members with high-speed internet, stated GM Hastings.

It was noted that Windstream has funding through the FCC which allows them to lock-in small service areas for five to seven years in JMEC's electric service area.

Under discussion regarding the importance of JMEC serving its members, the following points were made:

- It's important that JMEC reaches out to state officials advising them of how broadband is part of JMEC's fiduciary responsibility to its members.
- High-speed internet can serve as a tool to advance northern New Mexico.
- JMEC should devise a plan for the legislative session.
- Agreements with counties and municipalities to supply broadband is very important. JMEC needs to be organized and obtain letters for support from public officials, hospitals, schools, etc. in JMEC's service area – even resolutions.
- JMEC can serve the underserved and unserved areas of the state.
- Include the Native American communities and get letters of support or resolutions from them.

President Trujillo recommended considering hiring a lobbyist, or use a fiscal agent to target broadband and other financial needs of the Co-op during the session. He advised the GM to call for a special meeting of the Trustees if there are issues that require immediate attention. He too thought it was imperative that JMEC organize and move quickly to obtain funding.

Ms. Trujillo Archuleta said JMEC should reach out to District 5 State Senator Leo Jaramillo. She offered to develop a spreadsheet of the different entities and municipalities within JMEC's service area.

9. EXECUTIVE SESSION

- A. Legal Matters**
- B. Personnel Matters**

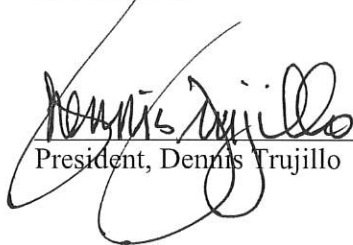
ACTION: Ms. Martinez moved to meet in executive session to discuss legal and personnel matters. Her Motion was seconded by Mr. Bustos and passed by unanimous [9-0] voice vote.

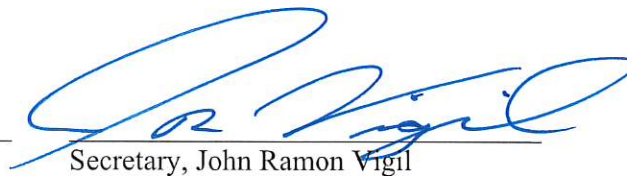
The Board met in Executive Session at 1:45 p.m.

10. ADJOURN

Having completed the Agenda and with no further business to come before the Board, President Trujillo adjourned this meeting following executive session.

APPROVED:


President, Dennis Trujillo


Secretary, John Ramon Vigil

DRAFT

- subject to approval –