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Electric Cooperative, Inc.
P.O. Box 128, Espanola, New Mexico, 87532

**MINUTES OF THE
JEMEZ MOUNTAINS ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC.
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
FRIDAY, JANUARY 24th, 2025, at 9:00 AM
HERNANDEZ, NEW MEXICO**

1. Call to Order

This meeting of the Jemez Mountains Electric Cooperative, Inc. Board of Trustees was called to order by Board President Dennis Trujillo at 9:11 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
Dolores McCoy, Treasurer
Danny Velarde, Secretary
Dennis Gallegos, Asst. Secretary (via Webex)
Lucas J. Cordova (via Phone)
Henry Roybal (via Webex)
Marissa Maestas-Muller
Marcie Martinez
Elias Coriz

Trustee(s) Excused:

John Ramon Vigil (ABSENT)

JMEC Staff Present:

Joseph Sanchez, General Manager and Chief Executive Officer
Geraldine Romero, Chief Financial Officer
Javier Romero, Executive Assistant
Tom Beamon, Consultant (via WebEx)

Others Present:

Joseph Yar, JMEC General Counsel

4. REMARKS FROM JMEC MEMBERS –

There were no JMEC members present.

5. CONSENT AGENDA AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The Board considered Approval of the January 24, 2025, agenda, the December 20, 2024, Regular Board meeting minutes with no amendments.

ACTION: With no changes being introduced, Mr. Coriz made the motion to approve the agenda and minutes, Ms. Martinez seconded. The vote passed unanimously.

Mr. Trujillo stated that there were some items to be discussed regarding the previous minutes, particularly regarding the statements made at the December board meeting by Mr. Cordova and his behavior. Mr. Coriz stated that Mr. Cordova owes the entire board of trustees an apology and that decorum must be practiced. Mr. Trujillo gave discretion to the board to refer the matter to the ethics committee. Mr. Cordova stated he was sorry for his behavior at the previous meeting but reiterated that he did not agree with the virtual attendance policy or other policies recommended by NRECA and that he should be able to attend however is convenient. He also stated that JMEC is not Los Alamos National Laboratory that needs to have policies.

Ms. Martinez stated that JMEC isn't any less a professional organization than LANL and pointed out that Policy 102 specifically states that the board is responsible for making policy. She further stated that the comments made by Mr. Cordova should be reviewed and addressed, as his conduct was in violation of several provisions of policy 102. After discussion amongst the board Mr. Trujillo stated that the incident would be referred to the Ethics Committee for review per the request of the board and due to the importance of adhering to policy.

6. BUSINESS AND FINANCIAL REPORT

Ms. Romero presented a detailed presentation regarding the Income Statement Budget to Actuals and Projection, Balance Sheet Review for December 2024, and the December Cash Flow Projection. Ms. Romero also compared the actuals and projection from 2023 to the current 2024. The line of credit and equity to asset ratio was also discussed. Mr. Beamon provided additional commentary in addition to the financial presentations.

Mrs. McCoy gave the Financial Committee Report, beginning with a question of whether the board had questions about the credit card charges, attorney expenses, consulting expenses, and trustee vouchers. No members of the board had questions about the financial report at this time.

ACTION: Ms. Martinez moved to approve the finances for December, Ms. Maestas seconded. The vote passed unanimously.

7. CEO AND GENERAL MANAGER REPORTS

a. Insurance Update

Mr. Sanchez spoke briefly about general liability insurance pertinent to the cooperative. JMEC currently does have general liability insurance but there is not currently an umbrella for auto. There have been inquiries regarding other companies pertinent to fire insurance; however, it may not be feasible to obtain fire insurance at this time due to the proposed rates and the lack of coverage. Mr. Sanchez also discussed the auto policy stating that JMEC is currently covered up to two million dollars, and that amount is expected to be reduced as JMEC will be selling off about 12 vehicles. Five of the twelve will be replaced with new vehicles. Mr. Beamon stated the cooperative has about five million in general liability and he believes that we can drive that premium down in the future. Mr. Sanchez also discussed a new hire for JMEC. Rafael De La Torre has accepted the position as Systems Engineer and will begin in February 2025; he is expected to be a tremendous asset to the cooperative.

Mr. Sanchez also provided a general update on the issue with estimated meters. There has been a new stock of meters that has arrived. Four collectors have been installed in the Espanola and Nambe area, and meters can now be installed in those areas. A more accurate reading is expected in the next two months, the number is expected to be reduced. Mr. Sanchez also stated that each service should have its own dedicated meter and to be charged accordingly. Mr. Gallegos asked a question regarding insurance, he inquired if JMEC has looked into installing GPS. Mr. Sanchez stated in the past they have had GPS and some employees would tamper with it. He stated that they are currently looking into installing GPS again and implementing a disciplinary policy for tampering with the equipment.

8. COMMITTEE UPDATES

a. Safety Committee

i. Apprenticeship Post Completion Requirements

There was a concern brought to Mr. Velarde's attention regarding a systems test that was not being performed. Mr. Velarde stated that he inquired with the operations manager, he stated that the team works on the systems throughout the apprenticeship, so there is not a

designated system requirement test in place. However, Mr. Velarde proposed Mr. De La Torre look into possibly implementing a system test.

ii. JMEC PPE Inspections

Mr. Velarde gave a brief update on the PPE inspections. The main discussion revolved around the dielectric gloves always to be used by JMEC linemen and utilization of PPE. Mr. Velarde stated that the main question he had for the operations managers was, in the event of glove failure, if there were extra gloves. Mr. Vigil stated that there is extra PPE, Mr. Velarde is seeking to increase the number of spare gloves in fleet trucks.

b. School Committee

i. NRECA Youth Tour

Ms. Maestas Muller stated that there were 4 applicants for the NRECA Youth Tour. The applicants consisted of one student from Cuba, two from Pojoaque, and one from St. Michaels High school. They all sent in their transcripts and essays. Ms. Muller is seeking a motion to send the applicants on the NRECA youth tour.

ACTION: Ms. Martinez moved to approve the motion to send the students on the Youth Tour. Mr. Coriz seconds the motion. The vote passed unanimously.

ii. 2025 Spelling Bee

Ms. Maestas-Muller stated that the school committee will be moving forward with the spelling bee, the spelling bee will be held in March after spring break.

iii. JME Foundation Scholarship –

There was discussion of the scholarship and how it was disbursed to the schools in the district to allow applicants from schools near the service area as long as their parents were members of the co-op, which was allowed by the policy. The board also had a discussion on using Scholarship America for the scholarship process this year. The suggestion came from Ms. Tina Archuleta during the committee meeting, based on her research into the platform, as she found it very useful with other scholarships such as the Basin Scholarship. The cost would be \$6,000, which would be taken from the Foundation fund. Ms. Muller and Ms. Martinez were in support of using the platform, stating it would afford a more streamlined approach to the entire scholarship process and the cost was worth it to relieve staff from having to collect and vet applications for eligibility and engage in multiple communications with students. Mr. Coriz expressed his objection stating that the board has to be more involved in ensuring our local schools have access to the monies. Ms. Martinez explained that we would still engage the schools as he suggests and that Scholarship America is just a platform to allow easier access and navigation through the application process. Ms. Muller made a motion to use Scholarship America for this year's scholarship process and Ms. Martinez seconded. The motion failed, with

only Ms. Muller and Ms. Martinez voting in favor. Mr. Trujillo suggested that Ms. Muller sends the scholarship to the superintendent not to the counselor. Further discussion ensued regarding the challenges faced at the schools by the staff, including counselors, who have stated that they are doing the best they can.

iv. NMRECA Coloring Contest

At this time pages have been distributed to three of the elementaries in the JMEC district. The other pages will be disbursed this week to the remaining schools in the district. The deadline given to the schools for the contest is February 28, 2025, so they can be turned in on March 5th, 2025.

v. JMEC Jr. Board of Trustees

Ms. Muller has inquired with the counselors regarding selection of a student from each high school in the JMEC district to attend one of the next two board meetings. There has not been a selection yet.

9. OTHER REPORTS

a. President's Report

Mr. Trujillo reported that there is an NRECA PowerXchange meeting being held in Atlanta, Georgia. Javier Romero will need to verify necessary classes for trustees pertinent to NRECA. Trustees will also need to contact Javier Romero to make travel arrangements for the NRECA PowerXchange conference.

Mr. Trujillo proposed a special board meeting take place on February 7, 2025 @ 1:00PM to review some of the outstanding policies and to take action, to finalize the General Manager's performance appraisal, and to discuss pending litigation. There was also discussion about setting up a meeting to review the budget.

b. Statewide Report

Mr. Bustos gave his report on the Statewide meeting. Mr. Bustos stated that Larry McGraw passed away on December 30th, 2024. Statewide has been working with JMEC regarding a wildfire mitigation plan, necessary information pertaining to the wildfire mitigation plan is being relayed to the consultant, Larry Winther.

c. Tri-State Report

Mr. Coriz gave a presentation on his report from the Tri-State meeting. Mr. Coriz was brief and reiterated a synopsis of the topics to be discussed by Mr. Highley CEO of Tristate. The

meeting took place virtually on January 7, 2025. There was a discussion of board policies and the importance of the utilization and adherence of board policies.

10. EXECUTIVE SESSION

ACTION: Motion by Mr. Coriz at 12:09 PM to enter Executive Session. Seconded by Ms. Martinez. The vote passed unanimously.

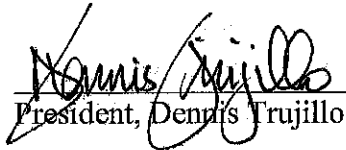
11. NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business discussed by the board at this time.

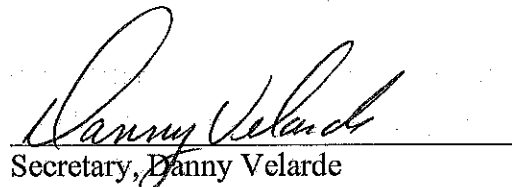
12. ADJOURN

Having completed the agenda and with no further business to come before the Board, President Trujillo adjourned this meeting at 12:48 p.m.

APPROVED:



President, Dennis Trujillo



Secretary, Danny Velarde