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Your Touchstone Energy Cooperative



#### Electric Cooperative, Inc.

P.O. Box 128, Espanola, New Mexico, 87532

### MINUTES OF THE JEMEZ MOUNTAINS ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC. **BOARD OF TRUSTEES** FRIDAY, APRIL 25th, 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 9:01 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 Henry Roybal Lucas J. Cordova (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 Rafael De La Torre Jr., Assistant General Manager/ Engineering and Operations Geraldine Romero, Chief Financial Officer Tina Trujillo, Manager of Administration and External Affairs Javier Romero, Executive Assistant Tom Beamon, Consultant (via WebEx)

#### **Others Present:**

Joseph Yar, JMEC General Counsel (via Webex) Shawna Tillberg (via Webex)

# 4. WELCOME AND RECOGNITION OF EVHS STUDENT COUNCIL MEMBERS WHO WILL BE ACTING AS JMEC JUNIOR BOARD OF TRUSTEES

The Jemez Mountains Electric Board of Trustees, CEO/ General Manager, Joseph Sanchez, and Assistant General Manager/ Director of Engineering and Operations, Rafael De La Torre Jr., welcomed and commended the Espanola Valley High School student council. EVHS student council member, Faith Valdez, expressed her gratitude to the JMEC Board and Management for hosting the student council at the board meeting. Mr. Trujillo proceeded to explain the role of the board of trustees and the process of the meeting to the EVHS student council.

#### 5. REMARKS FROM JMEC MEMBERS -

There were no JMEC members present.

#### 6. CONSENT AGENDA AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The Board consented the April 25, 2025, agenda, and the February 28, 2025, Regular Board meeting minutes with one proposed change. Mr. Velarde requested that the report on the Ethics Committee be moved into executive.

**ACTION:** Mr. Velarde made a motion to approve the additional changes to the agenda. Mr. Coriz seconded. The vote passed unanimously

#### 7. ACTION ITEMS

a. Selection of NMRESIF Board Delegate and Alternate (per bylaws must be management)

<u>ACTION:</u> Motion was made to select Mr. Joseph Sanchez, as the NMRESIF Board Delegate and Mr. Rafael De La Torre, Jr., as the alternate. The motion was made by Marcie Martinez and seconded by Elias Coriz; the vote passed unanimously.

#### b. Approval of 2025 JMEC Election Resolution

**ACTION:** A motion was made to adopt the 2025 JMEC Election Resolution by Elias Coriz, the motion was seconded by Marcie Martinez. The vote passed unanimously.

#### c. Discussion of Tri-State Contract

Tri-state has requested that JMEC takes action to approve or disapprove a contract extension to 2066. The reason behind this is to secure a better interest rate. Tri-state has already presented to the JMEC board. Mr. Sanchez and Coriz recommended that JMEC does extend the contract.

**ACTION:** Mr. Coriz made the motion to extend the Tri-state contract to 2066; Ms. Marcie Martinez seconded the motion. The motion passed with the exception of Mr. Lucas Cordova.

## d. Authorize GM/CEO to Execute a new agreement between Kit Carson Electric and JMEC for Abiquiu are like the agreement for Alcalde

Mr. Sanchez requests that the JMEC board grants authorization to come up with a new agreement with Kit Carson similar to the Alcalde agreement, where Kit Carson is compensating JMEC for pole attachments and allowing fiber for internal use.

**ACTION:** A motion was presented to authorize the general manager to negotiate an agreement to replace the existing agreement between Kit Carson and JMEC for the Abiqui area, the motion passed unanimously.

#### 7. BUSINESS AND FINANCIAL REPORT

Mr. Beamon presented the business and financial report on behalf of Ms. Romero. Mr. Beamon presented a detailed presentation regarding the Income Statement Budget to Actuals and Projection, Balance Sheet Review for March 2025, and the March Cash Flow Projection. Mr. Beamon also compared the actuals and projections from 2024 to the current 2025. The line of credit and equity to asset ratio was also discussed.

Mrs. McCoy proceeded to give the Financial Committee Report from the finance meeting that occurred on April 24, 2025. Mrs. McCoy continued with asking the board if they 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:** A motion was made by Marissa Maestas-Muller to approve the \$1,000 donation for the Espanola Valley High School student council. The Motion was seconded by Mr. Elias Coriz

With no further questions regarding the financial report, the report will be filed as an unaudited financial report.

#### 8. CEO AND GENERAL MANAGER REPORTS

#### a. Presentation on Revised Line Extension Policy

Mr. De La Torre has been working extensively to update the JMEC line extension policy. Mr. De La Torre proceeded to give a high-level presentation outlining the changes regarding allowances. Mr. De La Torre's hope is that the board will look over the policy in depth and the side by side comparison, and will take action on the policy at the next board meeting.

#### 9. COMMITTEE UPDATES

#### a.Policy Committee

Ms. Martinez proceeded to give her update on the policy committee meeting on April 16, 2025, at 2:00pm, the committee did have a quorum. Ms. Martinez spoke about various policies that are currently being reviewed by the policy committee. Ms. Martinez spoke briefly about the procurement policy, there has been an increase in thresholds that are subject to approval. Ms. Martinez anticipates having the policy recommended to the full board by the next policy committee meeting. There was also discussion of an elections policy which was drafted by JMEC counsel.

However, the policy itself was not sufficient, Ms. Martinez hopes to have the policy re-drafted by alternative counsel. The line extension policy was presented to the policy committee prior to the board meeting. Ms. Martinez also mentioned the review of an NRECA policy regarding artificial intelligence to the full board. There is no action to be taken at today's meeting regarding the policy committee.

#### b. Annual Meeting Committee

Mrs. Dolores McCoy proceeded to give her update on the annual meeting committee meeting that occurred on April 24, 2025, at 10:00am. The budget for the meeting itself is about \$100,000. Ms. Tina Trujillo mentioned that for the year 2024, that JMEC came in under budget and had additional ideas to save uncertain costs. Ms. Trujillo stated that the majority of the staff that will be working are exempt employees therefore those employees will not receive double-time. Union employees will also be utilized due to their experience with the annual meeting. Facilities manager and building maintenance, Tomas Barela, and George Valdez have also begun compiling all the work that is necessary at La Luz for bids from contractors. The committee suggested purchasing an 85 inch television as a prize, Tri-State has already donated a 75 inch television as a grand prize. JMEC swag that was ordered in the previous year did not arrive in time for the 2024 meeting and will be utilized for the 2025 meeting. Ms. Trujillo will request a bid from La Cocina regarding catering the annual meeting as per suggested by Mr. Manuel Bustos.

#### c. School Committee

Ms. Maestas-muller proceeded to give her update on the school committee. Ms. Maestas-Muller stated that the notices of scholarship recipients have been sent out. The coloring contest has been completed with the winners being selected and the prize has been disbursed. Ms. Maestas-Muller stated the JMEC spelling bee was successful with the recommendation of suggesting the word lost be distributed earlier, as well as looking into hosting the Spanish spelling bee for the following year. Tina Trujillo mentioned the scholarship nights for the high schools in the JMEC district will be soon and to RSVP with herself or Javier Romero.

#### 10. OTHER REPORTS

#### a. President's Report

Mr. Trujillo proceeded to give his president's report, Mr. Trujillo gave an update on JMEC general counsel, and the correspondence that was sent by Joseph Yar to the board which was indicative of ceasing legal services for JMEC. Mr. Yar did note his appreciation to the cooperative for the opportunity. Mr. Trujillo suggested utilizing Dan Najjar in the interim while JMEC transitions to new counsel. Mr. Sanchez is in support of utilizing Dan Najjar in the interim with the request that Mr. Trujillo appoint a committee to establish the criteria for bringing on new counsel for JMEC.

#### b. Statewide Report

Mr. Bustos presented his update on the Statewide report, Mr. Bustos mentioned that the NMRECA annual meeting will be occurring on May 13, 2025, through May 15, 2025, anyone additionally interested in attending is to notify Javier Romero to register them and to reserve their hotel. Statewide did have a successful legislative session, out of fourteen proposed bills eight did pass. Mr. Vince Martinez of statewide commended Mr. Joseph Sanchez for his work.

#### c. Tri-State Report

Mr. Coriz gave a presentation on his report from the Tri-State meeting which occurred on April 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup>. Chair Trujillo, Ms. Marcie Martinez, and Mr. De La Torre attended the Tri-State annual meeting. There was discussion about extending the Tri-State contract to 2066, Mr. Coriz stated the committee will meet the following month to discuss the contract extension. Mr. Coriz emphasized that it is necessary for JMEC to explore other options for the future. At the Tri-state annual meeting there were informative presentations on various topics including topics that Mr. De La Torre did have concerns about.

#### 11. EXECUTIVE SESSION

**ACTION:** Ms. Martinez made the motion to enter executive session at 1:27pm; the motion was seconded by Mr. Roybal.

#### 12. NEW BUSINESS

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

#### 13. ADJOURN

Having completed the agenda and with no further business to come before the Board, President Trujillo adjourned this meeting at 3:52 p.m.

APPROVED:

resident, Dennys Trujillo

Secretary Danny Velarde