

Regular meeting of the Board of
Directors of Decatur County
Rural Electric Membership
Corporation held October 23, 2024
at the headquarters facilities on
1430 W. Main,
Greensburg, Indiana at 5:30 p.m.

Chairman Steve AmRhein called the meeting to order at 6:03 p.m., with Steve Nobbe recording the minutes. All board members were present, along with CEO Brett Abplanalp, employees Matt Raver and Sam Ruf.

Suzanne Parmer moved to approve the meeting agenda. Dale Wernke seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved.

Safety Minute and Cool Moment

Brett Abplanalp shared a safety moment highlighting that November is National Drowsy Driving Prevention week. The cool moment featured DCREMC employees participating in Community Day and four of our line workers helping in Georgia during hurricane Helene.

Fiber Project Update

Sam Ruf gave the board updates on the fiber project.

Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes

Jason Barnhorst moved to approve the minutes from the board meeting on September 25, 2024, as well as the executive board meeting minutes from the same date. Suzanne Parmer seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved.

CEO Update

Brett Abplanalp provided an update on strategic projects, noting that all but three have been completed. The remaining projects— including the pole replacement program, NiSC Work Management, and the fiber grant project— are on track to be finished by the end of the year. He also covered company metrics as prepared on CTO. September's median temperature was 2.2% below our five-year average. Wholesale purchased energy decreased by 2.9% compared to the five-year average, and demand was down 6%. Year-to-date energy sales were 1.15% above budget. There was no major storm for the month of September, but Hurricane Helene did effect our system on Sept 27th. Daily SAIDI was 29 with a T(MED) of 30 (major storm classification).

Financial Update

Matt Raver provided the financial update. The net utility plant increased by \$137,002 in September. Year-to-date revenues are above budget, and power costs have also risen, resulting in a gross margin that exceeds budget by \$264,467. Controllable expenses are under budget by \$452,520, primarily due to savings in labor and right-of-way costs. The cash flow statement resulted in an increase and ending cash balance of \$1,365,868.

New Business

United Fund Campaign

Brett Abplanalp presented the United Fund Campaign video and requested consideration of donations from the board of directors.

Policy Review

Brett Abplanalp presented proposed updates to Rule 25 of the Rules & Regulations for the board's consideration. The board decided to table the matter until next month.

2025 Capital Credit Retirement

Brett Abplanalp presented a resolution to retire DCREMC capital credits in accordance with the financial management plan, which follows a 30-year rotation. The recommended amount for retirement was \$623,713, covering credits from 1997 and part of 1998.

Brett also presented a second resolution to retire Hoosier capital credits, following the financial management plan to return the normal retirement received from Hoosier. The recommended amount for retirement was \$346,512, covering credits from 1993 and part of 1994.

Brian Scheidler motioned to approve both resolutions, Suzanne Parmer seconded the motion, and the board approved them unanimously.

Old Business

RF Meter Replacement Project Financing

Matt Raver presented two financing options for the meter project: Plan A and Plan B. The final decision on the approach will be made after the completion of the 2025 construction work plan.

Member Letter Response – Governance

Member Letter Response – Operation Services

The board reviewed the timelines and previous responses for both member letters, allowing board members to discuss any concerns regarding past replies and the board's due diligence in addressing all raised questions. Brian Scheidler motioned to approve legal counsel to respond to the member letter, Jason Barnhorst seconded the motion, and the board approved it unanimously.

Affiliated Organizations

Jason Barnhorst gave a brief update from Hoosier Energy.

Steve AmRhein gave a update from IEC.

Brian Scheidler moved to adjourn the meeting. Steve Nobbe seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously, and the meeting was adjourned at 7:55 p.m. and the board moved into executive session.

Executive Session

The board reviewed the bids for the 2025 cost of service study. Suzanne Parmer motioned to accept Prime Group's bid for the study, Carl Riedeman seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

Steve Nobbe, Secretary

Attest: _____
Steve AmRhein, Chairman