

HTML contains invalid UTF-8 character(s)**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR BOARD MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF
WELLS RURAL ELECTRIC COMPANY****April 18, 1997**

The regular meeting of the Board of Directors of Wells Rural Electric Company was held in Wells, Nevada in the boardroom of the Wells office and called to order Friday, April 18, 1997 at 9:00 am. The meeting was presided over by President D. Vernon Dalton.

Directors present were: D. Vernon Dalton, Daryl Eriksen, Robert Harris, Orlin Kidner, Lois Nannini, Paul Neff, Jerry Parkin, Vernon Scott, S. J. Smith and Mary Wright. Gerald Anderson were not present.

Staff members present were Daniel L. Kessler, Jr., General Manager; Clay R. Fitch, Manager of Finance/Administration; Warren Linnell, Manager of Engineering/Operations; and Jim Su[[#146]]euga, Manager of Customer Services. Also present was Diane Moore, Executive Secretary.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

The minutes of the regular meeting of March 21, 1997 were approved as written.

ADDITIONS TO AGENDA:

It was asked that Audrey Spratling, Chairperson of the Next \$ Foundation, be added to the agenda. There were no objections.

UMS [[#150]] BENCHMARKING PRESENTATION:

Two representatives from the UMS Group gave a report on our benchmarking effort. Areas benchmarked were line design and construction; overhead line construction; underground line construction; installation/replacement of underground services; vegetation management; line,; line, facilities and equipment maintenance; and trouble calls. Following a thorough discussion, it was the consensus that this process is an excellent tool in examining performance across all major distribution activities

AUDREY SPRTLING [[#150]] NEXT \$ FOUNDATION:

Audrey gave an update on the foundation[[#146]]s activities. A list of recipients of funds and trustees and officers were handed out to the board. The Foundation board meets every two months. The board commended the Foundation[[#146]]s efforts and achievements.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

An executive session was called.

MANAGER [[#146]]S REPORT:

It was suggested that the Scholarship Committee interview scholarship applicants on Tuesday, May 13, 1997 in the boardroom. There were no objections to this date.

Donations made in conjunction with the Greater Nevada Credit Union for the first year of the agreement were reported.

Dan, Clay and Don Angell reported on their meeting with ONSI representatives. ONSI manufacturers fuel cells. A discussion ensued on the economics of fuel cells and the possibilities for future use. A list of advantages and disadvantages was handed out and discussed. It was determined that fuel cells are a viable energy source and should be monitored closely.

Clay and Don brought before the board two rate tariffs for consideration. Tariff 009 deals with Newmont Gold Company and 010 with Praxair. The Cost of Service Study was used to determine these tariffs. Following the report and discussion, IT WAS ON MOTION BY S.J. SMITH, SECONDED BY MARY A. WRIGHT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE TARIFF 009.

IT WAS ON MOTION BY MARY A. WRIGHT, SECONDED BY S. J. SMITH AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE TARIFF 0010. Don Angell, Clay and Buddy Welsh were commended for the excellent work done on preparing the Cost of Service Study. It was suggested that Continental Lime and irrigation tariffs be brought before the board next month. There were no objections.

PSA, a vendor of security equipment for Quantum, is requiring indemnification signatures from WREC. Clay reported. IT WAS ON MOTION BY VERNON SCOTT, SECONDED BY ROBERT HARRIS AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE THE REQUEST.

Paul Neff, Chairperson of the Financial Advisory Committee reported. Following a discussion, IT WAS ON MOTION BY PAUL NEFF, SECONDED BY DARYL ERIKSEN AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE THE BUDGET AUGMENTATIONS AS PRESENTED.

IT WAS ON MOTION BY PAUL NEFF, SECONDED BY ROBERT HARRIS AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE THE ENTIRE BUDGET AS PRESENTED.

SAFETY MINUTES:

IT WAS ON MOTION BY JERRY PARKIN, SECONDED BY ROBERT HARRIS AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE THE SAFETY MINUTES.

NEW MEMBERSHIPS:

IT WAS ON MOTION BY VERNON SCOTT, SECONDED BY PAUL NEFF AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE 61 NEW MEMBERSHIPS: 10- WELLS, NV; 7 - CARLIN, NV; 25 - WENDOVER, NV; AND 19 - WENDOVER, UT.

Utah Rural Electric Association has requested an increase in membership dues from \$800.00 to \$2,285.21 per year. Following a discussion, IT WAS ON MOTION BY DARYL ERIKSEN, SECONDED BY ROBERT HARRIS AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY NOT TO JOIN UREA THIS YEAR.

All reservations were confirmed for the NRECA Legislative Conference and the Pre-Region IX trip.

The following informational items were discussed: strategic plan is ongoing and the process is working well; benchmarking progress will become an agenda item; and the IRP study is ongoing **[[#150]]** a report will be given during the next board meeting.

POWER SUPPLY

Don Angell gave an update on power supply issues. Areas addressed were Wendover transmission capacity concerns; BPA**[[#146]]**s longer range plan for serving WREC**[[#146]]** and BPA**[[#146]]**s

attitude towards retail wheeling and their required compliance with FERC guidelines. A thorough discussion ensued.

Other Business:

As there was no further business to come before the board, the meeting adjourned at 3:45 am.

D. Vernon Dalton, President Lois Nannini, Secretary/Treasurer

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