

**MEETING MINUTES
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
Regular Meeting
December 16, 2021**

A regular meeting of the Board of Directors (“Board”) of The Intermountain Rural Electric Association d/b/a CORE Electric Cooperative (“CORE”) was called to order at CORE’s offices, located at 5496 N. U.S. Highway 85 in Sedalia, Colorado, at 9:30 a.m. on December 16, 2021.

The following Directors were present in person: Tim White, Bruff Shea, Bob Graf, Mike Kempe, Mike Sperry, Ron Kilgore, and Jim Anest. A quorum was deemed present. CEO Jeff Baudier and CORE staff also were present. President Tim White called the meeting to order and presided.

1. Agenda Approval

Mr. Baudier requested that the Energy Outreach Colorado Discussion item be moved to come before Approval of Resolutions. Upon motion by Mr. Graf, seconded by Mr. Kilgore, the Board unanimously approved the agenda, amended as noted.

2. Public Comment

There was no public comment, as no member appeared to address the Board.

3. Approval of Minutes of November 18, 2021, Regular Meeting

Upon motion by Mr. Shea, seconded by Mr. Kempe, the Board unanimously approved the minutes of the November 18, 2021, regular meeting, as presented.

4. Approval of Minutes of November 22, 2021, Special Meeting

Upon motion by Mr. Anest, seconded by Mr. Sperry, the Board unanimously approved the minutes of the November 22, 2021, special meeting, as presented.

5. Approval of Write-Offs

Upon motion by Mr. Shea, seconded by Mr. Kempe, the Board unanimously approved November write-offs of \$70,339.00.

6. Energy Outreach Colorado Discussion

Ms. Leshar presented a summary of CORE's Energy Outreach Colorado (EOC) donations. Discussion ensued regarding potential discontinuation of EOC matching and reallocation of those funds.

7. Approval of Resolutions

7.1 BR21-22: Vegetation Management Award – Asplundh

Mr. Graf moved, and Mr. Kilgore seconded the motion, to amend proposed resolution BR21-22 by adding the words “and such additional amounts, not to exceed 10% of the authorized amount, as may be reasonably necessary, if any.” The Board unanimously adopted the following resolution, as amended:

BOARD RESOLUTION BR21-22

WHEREAS:

The Intermountain Rural Electric Association d/b/a CORE Electric Cooperative (“CORE”) is continuing its tree trimming and clearing work in the Sedalia, Conifer, Woodland Park, and Bennett districts, which improves system reliability, reduces outages, reduces outage times, and lessens the risk of fires due to contact with power lines;

In connection therewith, in 2022, CORE intends to clear approximately 906 miles of single-phase distribution line comprising 225 miles in the Woodland Park district, 175 miles in the Conifer district, 176 miles in the Sedalia district, and 330 miles in the Bennett district (deferred from 2021);

CORE issued a request for proposal (RFP) for 2022 tree trimming and clearing work on a time and equipment basis on October 29, 2021, and received three proposals on November 10, 2021;

CORE has received a bid proposal from Asplundh Tree Expert, LLC

("Asplundh") for the tree trimming and clearing work in the Woodland Park district in the amount of \$760,000.00 and the Conifer district in the amount of \$1,800,000.00;

CORE's vegetation management staff and distribution operations management staff have reviewed Asplundh's bid and have determined that the bid meets all technical requirements as well as the required schedules;

CORE's vegetation management staff, in coordination with the distribution operations management staff, have reviewed the proposals and recommend that CORE award a contract to Asplundh Tree Expert, LLC based on its response to the RFP; and

The Board of Directors has determined that such recommendation is in the best interests of CORE and its members.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Directors authorizes CORE to award a Contract to Asplundh Tree Expert, LLC for tree trimming and clearing in the Woodland Park and Conifer districts for 2022 in the amount of Two Million Five Hundred Sixty Thousand Dollars (\$2,560,000.00) and such additional amounts, not to exceed 10% of the authorized amount, as may be reasonably necessary, if any, to facilitate such work, and authorizes the Chief Executive Officer or his designee to execute such contracts as may be necessary in connection therewith.

7.2 BR21-23: Vegetation Management Award – Wright

Mr. Graf moved, and Mr. Kempe seconded the motion, to amend proposed resolution BR21-23 by adding the words "and such additional amounts, not to exceed 10% of the authorized amount, as may be reasonably necessary, if any." The Board unanimously adopted the following resolution, as amended:

BOARD RESOLUTION BR21-23

WHEREAS:

The Intermountain Rural Electric Association d/b/a CORE Electric Cooperative ("CORE") is continuing its tree trimming and clearing work in the Sedalia, Conifer, Woodland Park, and Bennett districts, which improves system reliability, reduces outages, reduces outage times, and lessens the risk of fires due to contact with power lines;

In connection therewith, in 2022, CORE intends to clear approximately 906 miles of single-phase distribution line comprising 225 miles in the Woodland Park district, 175 miles in the Conifer district, 176 miles in the Sedalia district, and 330 miles in the Bennett district (deferred from 2021);

CORE issued a request for proposal (RFP) for 2022 tree trimming and clearing work on a time and equipment basis on October 29, 2021, and received three proposals on November 10, 2021;

CORE has received a bid proposal from Wright Tree Service, Inc. ("Wright") for the tree trimming and clearing work in the Sedalia district in the amount of \$970,000.00 and the Bennett district in the amount of \$105,000.00;

CORE's vegetation management staff and distribution operations management staff have reviewed Wright's bid and have determined that the bid meets all technical requirements as well as the required schedules;

CORE's vegetation management staff, in coordination with the distribution operations management staff, have reviewed the proposals and recommend that CORE award a contract to Wright Tree Service, Inc. based on its response to the RFP; and

The Board of Directors has determined that such recommendation is in the best interests of CORE and its members.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Directors authorizes CORE to award a Contract to Wright Tree Service, Inc. for tree trimming and clearing in the Sedalia and Bennett districts for 2022 in the amount of One Million Seventy-Five Thousand Dollars (\$1,075,000.00) and such additional amounts, not to exceed 10% of the authorized amount, as may be reasonably necessary, if any, to facilitate such work, and authorizes the Chief Executive Officer or his designee to execute such contracts as may be necessary in connection therewith.

7.3 BR21-24: Amendments to Rates and Regulations

Chris Hildred presented Board Resolution BR21-24 amending CORE's current rates and regulations. Discussion ensued. Upon motion by Mr. Graf, seconded by Mr. Kempe, the Board unanimously adopted the following resolution:

BOARD RESOLUTION BR21-24

WHEREAS:

Staff at The Intermountain Rural Electric Association d/b/a CORE Electric Cooperative (“CORE”) have presented to the Board of Directors (“Board”) proposed **amendments to CORE’s Rates and Regulations** proposed to become effective March 7, 2022 (see Board Document BD21-8);

The proposed amendments include:

- annual updates to the Coincident Peak Distribution, Coincident Peak Substation, and Coincident Peak Transmission,
- updating the Optional Time-of-Use Rider applicable to the Industrial Service (S), Small General Service (SG1), Small General Service 3 (SG3), and Large Power Service (LPS) rates,
- clarifying application of the Non-Standard Meter Reading Rider for Determination of Billing Demand to Residential Service (A) and Residential Incorporated City and Town Service (CS) Consumers with no AMI meter set,
- eliminating CORE’s Construction Allowance and Construction Allowance Rebates,
- updating existing references to reflect CORE’s new legal name,
- updating CORE’s Fees and Charges schedule, and
- further amending as necessary for clarity and/or consistency with CORE’s current business practices;

CORE’s Rates and Regulations are subject to termination, change or modification, in whole or in part, at any time by the Board; and

Based on CORE’s financial condition and future revenue requirements, the cost of providing service to the applicable rate classes, and the information provided by Staff, the Board finds the proposed amendments to CORE’s Rates and Regulations are appropriate and in the best interest of CORE and its members.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Directors that the proposed amendments to the Rates and Regulations reflected in Board Document BD21-8 are hereby APPROVED AND ADOPTED, effective March 7, 2022. Notice of the amendments to the Rates and Regulations herein adopted shall be sent to each of CORE’s Consumers not less than thirty (30) days before these changes

are to take effect in accordance with Part I, Section 2 of the General Provisions of CORE's Rates and Regulations.

7.4 BR21-25: 2022 Business Plan

Ms. Jones presented CORE's proposed 2022 Business Plan. Discussion ensued. Upon motion by Mr. Sperry, seconded by Mr. Anest, the Board unanimously adopted the following resolution:

BOARD RESOLUTION BR21-25

WHEREAS:

The Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer of The Intermountain Rural Electric Association d/b/a CORE Electric Cooperative ("CORE") presented to the Board of Directors ("Board") as Board Document BD21-7 the **2022 Business Financial Plan**, which consists of the proposed 2022 operating budget, capital budget, construction work plan, donations budget, and director education and industry events budget;

The Board reviewed the 2022 Business Financial Plan with CORE staff;

The Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer have recommended approval of the 2022 Business Financial Plan; and

The Board has determined that such recommendation is in the best interest of CORE and its members.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Directors hereby approves the 2022 Business Financial Plan as presented.

8. CREA Report

Mr. White did not give a CREA report this month.

9. Director Updates

Mr. Kilgore inquired regarding the Conifer Office renovation. Mr. Baudier responded that the renovation would be discussed at the February 2022 Board Meeting. Mr. Kempe posed a question regarding the use of CORE's name, and Mr. Graf posed a question regarding finance. Discussion ensued.

10. Executive Session: Confidential Legal Matters

Mr. White called for an executive session to discuss Confidential Legal Matters. Upon motion by Mr. Kempe, seconded by Mr. Sperry, the Board of Directors unanimously approved an executive session.

11. Approval of 2022 Employee Compensation

Upon reconvening in open session, Mr. Graf moved, Mr. Kilgore seconded the motion, and the Board unanimously approved that the Chief Executive Officer will maintain his current salary for 2022 and will be awarded a performance bonus in the amount of \$150,000 for 2021.

There being no further business to discuss, Mr. White adjourned the meeting.

The next regular meeting will be held on January 20, 2022.