The regular meeting of the Board of Directors of Stearns Electric Association was held on April 25, 2019 at 1:00 p.m. at the Stearns Electric Association office located in St. Joseph, Minnesota.

CEO Robin Doege reported on how the new GRE rate structure will affect power costs. The primary driver of the future costs is in helping our members use energy when it is the cheapest vs. the current load control practice.

Director of Communications and Marketing, Amanda Groethe explained NRECA’s Lexicon Project. The purpose of the project was to determine how electric cooperative members viewed themselves as member-owners in an effort to use language more readily identifiable to them than what is already used within the industry.

Manager of Engineering Matt O’Shea reviewed the St. Augusta and Sobieski single phase underground cable replacement notifications. The first shipment of lights has arrived for the upcoming Security Light Replacement project which starts May 6.

Manager of Operations Glenn Blommel provided an update on current activities of the crews including how Stearns Electric was able to help out at People’s Energy Co-op after the April 11 snow/ice storm. Similarly, weather has also delayed vegetation management plans. Mr. Blommel reported the electronic job briefing app is now fully implemented and used consistently prior to every job.

After attending the Annual Meeting, Attorney Scott Dymoke reported the new hybrid voting process went very well. In supervising the balloting process, Mr. Dymoke also remarked it was efficiently administered by Survey and Ballot Systems.

Mr. Rothstein suggested the Board by-law committee set a May meeting date to begin the review of the board by-laws and present any changes to the rest of the board for approval.

Next Meeting: June 27, 2019