

STEARNS ELECTRIC ASSOCIATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS MINUTES

AUGUST 2017

The regular meeting of the Board of Directors of Stearns Electric Association was held on August 24, 2017 at 1:00 p.m. at the Stearns Electric Association Headquarters in Melrose, Minnesota.

Manager of Administrative Services Vicky Herkenhoff provided an update on the August 4, 2017 incident involving Grant Wenker. CEO Dave Gruenes updated the Board on the investigation regarding the incident by OSHA, Federated Insurance and the Manufacturer of the boom. Manager of Operations and Maintenance Glenn Blommel noted that the truck and boom were brought back to Melrose and will be stored until further notice. He also shared with the board how the incident affected the line crews.

Ms. Herkenhoff reviewed several personnel items including the recent new hire of James Pachan as the new Director of Energy Services and an individual has accepted the position for the Marketing Communications Specialist position. It was also noted our Warehouse Materials Handler will be retiring next spring and that position will soon be posted.

The Communications and Marketing Report was presented and the Board discussed the great turnout for the Pancake Feed which was held at the Freeport Community Center. A date has been set for next year's Pancake Feed on Saturday, August 11, 2018. A list of proposed members for the 2017-2018 Member Resource Committee with an additional name added to District 6 was presented to the Board for approval. Motion approved and carried.

Manager of Operations and Maintenance Glenn Blommel provided a review of current activities of the crews and contractors along with an update on ACRT /CARR's.

CEO Dave Gruenes informed the Board that Stearns Electric's Franchise Agreement with the City of St. Cloud has expired and the Cooperative has been negotiating with the City on a new agreement. Mr. Gruenes shared two primary concerns with the City's proposed Franchise Agreement. First, the language grants the City authority over the utility easement and the ability to require utilities to move their facilities at the utilities' expense. Second, that the provision would raise the franchise fee or tax from 3% to 4% on sale of electricity to members in the City of St. Cloud.

Next Meeting: November 30, 2017

