## The Ontonagon County Rural Electrification Association The Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors At 500 James K Paul Street, Ontonagon, MI

On Friday, July 19, 2019, at 9:00 a.m.

The meeting commenced at 9:00 a.m. pursuant to call.

## Directors present:

Wayne Heikkinen, Bill Hodges, Paul Koski, Jim Moore, George Rajala, Frances Wiideman, and Calvin Koski. A quorum was present.

## Others present:

Debbie Miles, General Manager and Pat Greeley, Counsel.

Mark Urbis, Line Superintendent (for his report).

No members appeared for the Member Comment Session.

A motion to approve the agenda was made by Heikkinen seconded by Rajala. On a voice vote the motion passed, all ayes.

A motion by Rajala, seconded by Wiideman to approve the minutes of the June 21, 2019 meeting; on a voice vote the motion passed, all ayes.

Greeley reported that he is working on the Disconnection Resolution and the Transparency Policy.

Urbis reported that he and Miles met with Dan Crane and Bret French of UPPCO and that the meeting was not very productive. UPPCO cannot give numbers without a study and will not conduct the study without some sort of commitment from the REA. Lots of questions and discussion, sometimes heated. Moore made the motion "To discontinue pursuing lower costs for our members by dropping considering partnering with UPPCO on an AMI system"; the motion was dropped for lack of support. Further discussion with input from Greeley generated a motion by Hodges "That the REA pursue cost-saving measures with UPPCO with respect to joint metering, and to have Miles and/or Greeley reach out to UPPCO with respect to same, to determine necessary steps." Support by Wiideman, vote was FOR: Wiideman, Hodges, Heikkinen, Moore, Paul Koski, AGAINST: Rajala, ABSTAIN: Calvin Koski and the motion passed.

Herbicide brushing was discussed; not being used this year.

Our long-time brushing contractor, Bugle, has been replaced with MJO Contracting; there are some concerns because they were not qualified to complete all tasks. The REA has not been able to brush as much as is required. Urbis proposes that the REA create its own brushing unit (crew and equipment) to increase efficiency. He will work with Miles to generate a formal proposal and gather outside data to create a proper comparison.

A motion to approve both the Line Superintendent's and Manager's Reports was made by Rajala, seconded by Paul Koski; on a voice vote the motion passed, all ayes.

A motion by Rajala and seconded by Paul Koski to approve the following:

A. Approval of Form 219 Inventory of Work Orders for period ended 04/30/2019 in the amount of \$19,459.72 and period ended 05/31/2019 in the amount of \$9,054.99.

- B. Approval of Special Equipment Summary for period ended May 31, 2019 in the amount of \$13,722.59.
- C. Form 990 Return of Organization Exempt from Income Tax.

On a voice vote the motion passed, all ayes.

A motion to approve the list of Bills and the Financial Report was made by Rajala and seconded by Paul Koski. On a voice vote the motion passed, all ayes.

Miles met with Tom Sobeck of Presque Isle Electric and he will prepare some costsharing proposals.

Miles asked for approval to donate \$75.00 to the Ewen/Trout Creek Schools. Rajala motioned and Hodges supported that donation be increased to \$100.00. On a voice vote, the motion passed, all ayes.

The next Board Meeting will be held on Tuesday, August 27, 2019 at 9:00 a.m.

There being no further business to come before the Board, President Koski adjourned the meeting at 10:21 a.m.

Calvin Koski, President

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James Moore, Secretary

We, the undersigned Directors of the Ontonagon County Rural Electrification Association do hereby confirm, approve and ratify in all respects the above minutes of the Regular Meeting held on July 19, 2019. awayn Barkhinen Will

Being, all of the Directors of the Ontonagon County Rural Electrification Association.