

Utilities District of Western Indiana REMC
Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors
October 28, 2024.

The Board of Directors of the Utilities District of Western Indiana Rural Electric Membership Corporation met at the office of the corporation, Bloomfield, Indiana, at 6:30 p.m.

President W. Edward Cullison called the regular session meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

Ms. Hendrix gave the invocation.

The following directors reported present:

Todd Carpenter (virtual)
David Kirkling

W. Edward Cullison
Terry McDaniel

Melinda Hendrix

Others present were CEO Doug Childs; COO Shane Smith; CFO Michael Sullivan; Office Manager Lydia Campbell; Dispatch Manager Britt Miller; Amanda Craft of Crafted Communications (virtual); and member Richard Nichols.

Mr. Cullison called for a motion to excuse the absences of Mr. Dugan and Mr. Williams. Mr. McDaniel made the motion, Ms. Hendrix seconded, and the motion carried.

Mr. Cullison called for additions or corrections to the meeting agenda. Hearing none, Ms. Hendrix made a motion to approve the agenda. Mr. Kirkling seconded, and the motion carried.

Ms. Hendrix also called for additions or corrections to the minutes of the September 23, 2024, regular session board meeting. Ms. Hendrix made a motion to accept the minutes as presented. Mr. McDaniel seconded, and the motion carried.

For the Board Education Series, Ms. Miller presented on Safety. At UDWI, safety is a culture, not just an idea or thought. We are constantly seeking ways to improve in every area. Our values even highlight our focus on safety. It is the responsibility of every employee to maintain a safe workplace, it is a shared responsibility of all. UDWI has an office and an in-house safety committee who meet monthly, as well as HHM, LLC. The co-op continues to review and update safety procedures and rules.

Crafted Communications continues to assist with both traditional and social media communications. An overview of recent projects was reviewed. The team sent out a press release on the Mainstream partnership. And worked with staff to spotlight Shakamak High School as a recent UDWI REMC Community Fund, Inc. grant recipient. They hosted a Rwandan genocide survivor, who spoke to the entire school.

Mr. Sullivan presented the cooperative monthly/quarterly financial reports.

In the Statement of Cash Flows, Tax Payments indicated an increase in sales tax revenue due to higher sales volumes. Employee Wages increased due to higher employee count and annual wage adjustments.

The Financial Highlights report showed kWh sales trends over the last five years. The YTD revenue trend is directly driven by the Hoosier Energy power cost tracker. The trend is showing much higher than the average of the previous five years.

The 2024 Third Quarter Variance Report was reviewed.

Mr. Sullivan directed attention to the negative amounts in the report which indicated budget overages. Materials and Supplies showed purchases of regulator and reclosure equipment as well as climbing gear for new apprentices and new first aid kits for all trucks.

Meals and Lodging were over budget for contractors and mutual aid as a result of the June storm.

Maintenance and Software Support Agreements were over budget from a functionality addition to UPN.

Total Margins for 2024 showed \$400,000 less than 2023.

The 2024 Third Quarter Capital Budget was reviewed.

Takeaways included increases in new construction revenues and fiber make-ready costs. Pole replacements continue to show over budget due to the June 2024 storm.

The Income Statement and Balance Sheet reports stood as previously presented.

The Cooperative is requesting approval of the disbursement of capital credits for the years of 1978 through 1980 and 2023 totaling the sum of \$1,013,342.11. This will be the largest sum returned to members in the history of the cooperative. The accounting department is working toward a November 12th check mailing date. This year, the team requests to retire patronage to any active members for the four years as a bill credit for the upcoming billing cycle. The change will save on printing, postage, and administrative costs. Mr. Sullivan requested approval to release the credits as presented. Ms. Hendrix motioned to approve the retirement of the four years (1978 - \$378,493.59; 1979 - \$170,522.93; 1980 - \$54,878.91; 2023 - \$391,446.68). Mr. McDaniel seconded and all approved.

Mr. Smith presented the operations department reports.

He stated that the Operations and Engineering Report, Outage Dashboard, and Vegetation Management report stood as previously presented.

Mr. Childs presented the Manager's Reports.

He reported on HHM business. The Board of Directors met on October 16, 2024.

The September 2024 Hoosier Energy invoice was available for review.

Lastly, Mr. Childs also shared notes of appreciation and thanks from members.

Mr. Cullison called for individual Director Committee reports.

The Community Fund Committee met on September 25, 2024. They reviewed 10 applications and awarded a grant to eight organizations for a total of \$10,746.00 this quarter.

The Budget Committee will meet on November 5, 2024, at the cooperative, to review the 2025 Budget.

District 2 Director Todd Carpenter reported on updates and events at Hoosier Energy.

The Board of Directors met on October 7, 2024. A Directors Only meeting was held on October 21, 2024.

Mr. Childs reported on updates and events at Indiana Electric Cooperative (IEC).

The Board of Directors met on October 16, 2024.

Mr. Cullison offered reminders for upcoming training and meetings.

The next three UDWI REMC board meetings were approved and scheduled for November 25, 2024, December 16, 2024, and January 27, 2025.

Indiana Electric Cooperative will host its annual Appreciation Dinner on November 18, 2024, at Ruth's Chris Steakhouse in Indianapolis. Mr. Childs and Mr. Williams will attend.

Indiana Electric Cooperatives 2024 Annual Meeting is scheduled for December 9-10, 2024, at the Indianapolis Marriott Downtown Hotel.

The UDWI REMC & HHM, LLC. Employee Christmas Luncheon is scheduled for December 23, 2024, to be held at the Greene County Community Event Center (4-H building) at 11:30 a.m.

Hoosier Energy CEO Donna Walker will attend the January meeting of the UDWI REMC Board of Directors.

With no further business presented, Mr. Cullison adjourned the regular session meeting at 7:59 p.m. to convene into an executive session. The session included Mr. Childs, Mr. Smith, Mr. Sullivan and all directors in attendance. Mr. Cullison officially adjourned the meeting at 8:16 p.m.

APPROVED:

W. Edward Cullison, President

Shawn Dugan, Secretary