

MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
OF BARRON ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE  
October 29, 2025

Call to Order

The regular board meeting of the Board of Directors of Barron Electric Cooperative was held at the cooperative headquarters on September 23, 2025. The meeting was called to order at 9:30 a.m. by President Cook. Board members present included Blaskowski, Bowers, Cook, Effertz, Kessler, Mandel, Olson & Warwick. Director Baker joined the meeting via conference call.

Others present were General Manager Torud, Executive Assistant/HR Administrator Horstman, Director of Member Services Beaudette, Director of Operations Steines & Director of Finance Straw.

Approval of Agenda

The agenda was approved as presented.

Attendance & Presentation by Member Dobberfuhl

Member Mark Dobberfuhl appeared before the board to request Barron Electric Cooperative waive the new service fee and installation for the new Welcome Center at the Pioneer Village Museum. Discussion regarding the request will move to the CoBank Sharing Success Program.

Safety Message

Director Olson gave a safety message.

Minutes of Last Meeting

The minutes of the Regular Board Meeting, September 23, 2025, were approved as written.

Treasurer's Report

A report of vouchers for the month was presented as part of the board packet as follows: #104764 through #105028 from CCF Bank in the amount of \$710,920. Total receipts in the office \$3,282,155; total receipts by wire and ACH \$2,379,725; disbursements by ACH, EFT, wire \$4,191,089; transfer of funds was made for payroll \$220,496 and the power bill was paid on 10/29/2025 in the amount of \$2,071,397.

Voucher Review

A list of vouchers was reviewed by the board.

Manager and Staff Reports

General Manager Torud and Staff members Beaudette, Steines & Straw presented a written and oral reports of their activities for the month.

Break at 10:28 a.m.

Reconvened at 10:36 a.m.

DPC Spent Nuclear Fuel (SNF) Settlement

Director of Finance Straw presented information to the board regarding the funds from the DPC Spent Nuclear Fuel (SNF) Settlement in the amount of \$637,460.63 for the years 2019-2022. Straw recommended the option to retain the funds and allocate to members based on patronage for the years of 2019-2022 to be included in general retirement for those years. Notice of the additional allocation can be included with the 2026 allocation notices. Retaining the funds will appear as revenue/margins in 2025. Director Warwick moved, Director Mandel seconded, to approve Straw's recommendation. Discussion. Motion carried.

Pre-Approval of SCADA to the 2026 & 2027 Budgets

Director of Operations Steines presented information to the board regarding the pre-approval of SCADA to the 2026-2027 Budgets. Pre-approval of the NXT purchases needed for 2026 & 2027 budgets will allow us to purchase with the current pricing and not be billed until the inventory has been received. Director Effertz moved, Director Warwick seconded, to approve the pre-approval of the NXT purchases to the 2026 & 2027 budgets. Motion carried.

## FYF 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter Report

The 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter Federated Youth Foundation report was included for the directors to review.

## CoBank Sharing Success Program

The CoBank Sharing Success Program allows up to 4 requests with a total of \$15,000 matching funds to organizations that meet the CoBank Sharing Success criteria. Currently, there is \$4,000 remaining that can be matched for 2025.

The board reviewed the history from 2024 and 2025 of organizations that were denied donation requests.

Director Kessler moved, seconded by Director Warwick, to deny the request to donate the new service request but to donate \$4,000 from FYF and utilize the remaining \$4,000 matching funds from the CoBank Sharing Success Program to Barron County Pioneer Village Museum to aid in the cost of the new service. Discussion. Motion carried.

## Donation Request – The Salvation Army of Barron County

The board reviewed the donation request from the Salvation Army of Barron County requesting funds to assist with the Red Kettle Campaign. Due to lack of motion, no action was taken.

## Cooperative Month Events

Director of Member Services Beaudette presented information to the board regarding the cooperative month events held on October 7, 2025 at Barron Electric's Spooner location and October 9, 2025 at the Barron headquarters.

Staff Members were dismissed.

## Membership List

A membership list of 88 was presented and approved without objection.

## Other Meetings Attended

General Manager & Director Baker reported on the DPC Meeting they attended on October 15 & 16, 2025. Directors Blaskowski, Bowers, Cook, Effertz, Kessler & Warwick reported on the NRECA Region 5 Meeting they attended September 23-25, 2025. Director Baker reported on the Safety Meeting he attended on September 30, 2025. Directors Baker, Blaskowski, Mandel & Warwick reported on the financial webinar they attended on October 9, 2025. Directors Effertz, Mandel & Olson reported on the Board Leadership Course they attended on October 14, 2025. Directors Mandel & Olson reported on the Board Leadership Course they attended on October 15, 2025. Director Mandel reported on the Safety Meeting she attended on October 23, 2025. The Monthly Safety Report from Denise Fox, Compliance Safety and Training Officer was available for review.

## Reports

Reports listed in the board packet were available for review for the month of September including the power bill, department statistics, fleet management and budget month-to-date.

## Inventory of Work Orders

Form 219 summarizing construction activity for the month of September in the amount of \$494,112.34 was presented for approval and included new services \$80,845.66; change jobs \$27,219.76; Other Work Order Projects \$386,046.92 and 3 retirements. The Form 219 stood approved as presented.

## Outage and Overtime

Outages year-to-date stand at 78,907.35 consumer hours off, which is 7.71% below 2024 hours of 85,500.41. Overtime year-to-date is 2,877 hours, which is 0.24% below 2024 hours of 2,884.

## Change in January 2026 Board Meeting

Due to a conflict with other meetings that the directors can attend during January 28, 2026, options for alternate dates were suggested. Director Mandel moved, seconded by Director Bowers, to move the January board meeting to January 29, 2026. Motion carried.

## NRECA Directors Conference

The NRECA Directors Conference is scheduled for January 25 – 28, 2026 in Palm Springs, California or online January 26-28, 2026. There are no directors that want to attend the NRECA Directors Conference in 2026.

### WECA Education & Lobby Days

WECA Education & Lobby Days are scheduled for January 27 & 28, 2026 in Madison. The following directors will be attending Blaskowski, Bowers, Cook, Mandel & Kessler.

### NRECA PowerXchange Meeting

The NRECA PowerXchange Meeting is scheduled for March 8-11, 2026, in Nashville, Tennessee. No directors will be attending the meeting in 2026.

### 2026 Strategic Planning Session Dates

The current Strategic Plan is set to expire in 2026. CFC has availability for training in August. The board requested alternate training date of August 26 & 27, 2026. General Manager Torud will contact CFC to request the alternate date for the training.

The director's expense accounts for the month were reviewed and approved by the board without objection.

### Other Business:

All directors, except for Director Baker, are scheduled to attend the WECA Annual Meeting November 12 & 13, 2025 in Wisconsin Dells.

The 2026 Preliminary Budget Meeting is scheduled for November 18, 2025 at 10:00 a.m.

The November Board Meeting is scheduled for November 26, 2025.

A 2026 Budget discussion with General Manager Torud and Director of Finance Straw is scheduled for December 10, 2025 at 10:00 a.m.

The final 2026 Budget and All Employee and Director Lunch is scheduled for December 23, 2025.

The December Board Meeting is scheduled for December 30, 2025.

The NRECA Director's Conference is scheduled in-person January 25-28, 2026 in Palm Springs, California or January 26-28, 2026 online.

WECA Education & Lobby Days is scheduled for January 26-28, 2026 in Madison.

The date of the January Board Meeting is scheduled for January 28, 2026, but may be changed due to meeting conflicts.

The February Board Meeting is scheduled for February 25, 2026.

The NRECA PowerXchange is scheduled for March 8-11, 2026 in Nashville, Tennessee.

The March Board Meeting is scheduled for March 25, 2026.

The Barron Electric Cooperative Annual Meeting is scheduled for April 9, 2026.

The April Board Meeting is scheduled for April 29, 2026.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:39 a.m.

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Patricia Mandel, Secretary