## REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES OZARK ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE May 23, 2025

## **Opening**

The regular monthly meeting of the Board of Directors of the Ozark Electric Cooperative was held May 23, 2025, at the Cooperative's office in Mt. Vernon, Missouri. The meeting was called to order by President Steve Stone. Invocation given by Ryan Post. Steve led the Pledge of Allegiance.

#### Directors Present

Director's present were Wendall Bolin, Daren Bowles, O. D. Cope,

Kolby Kallweit, Ryan Post, Mitch Sims, Steve Stone, and David Trogdon.

Scott Mahaffey was absent from the meeting.

### Others Present

Other's included were Tori Morris, Chief Financial Officer; Steve
Swearingen, Manager of Operations; Ken Raming, Manager of
Engineering; Jon Davis, Manager of Member Services; Holly Hodgson,
Manager of Billing Services; Shawn Battagler, Legal Counsel; Bryan
Bacon, CFC; and Julie Marquis, who recorded the minutes of the meeting.
The board recognized the recent graduates of OEC employees.

## April Minutes Approved

The minutes of the April board meeting were submitted to the board for action. Following discussion, motion was made to approve as amended and seconded, and on vote, the following resolution was adopted:

RESOLVED, that the minutes of April 2025, board meeting be approved as amended.

CFC

Bryan presented a CFC and Market update. 1/3 of lending has been for Emergency lines of credit. That's due to hurricanes.

# April Reports Approved

The operating reports for April 2025 were presented and reviewed by Tori Morris. Motion was made and seconded and on vote, the following resolution was adopted:

RESOLVED, that the operating reports for April 2025, be approved as presented.

# Finance Committee Minutes

The Finance Committee report was presented by Tori Morris. Tori

Morris reviewed the minutes of the meeting. Motion was made and
seconded and on vote, the following resolution was adopted:

RESOLVED, that the Finance Committee Meeting Minutes be approved as written.

### Staff Reports

1. Tori Morris presented on the recent storms and what her role was during the week. She thanked all the employees that helped her during FEMA data collection.

- 2. Ken Raming, Manager of Engineering, presented the recent safety presentations he gave at Osage Valley and Ozark Border on Solar. Safety is very important. He talked about the pole change out contract renewal that is coming up next month.
- 3. Ken updated the board on fire mitigation planning. He also talked about upcoming projects being funded partially through grant submissions.
- 4. Jon Davis, Manager of Member Services, spoke on social media and the reach OEC has especially during storm events. He wanted to show the impact of real-time communications for his department.
- 5. Jon updated the board on the after-hours dates and locations and what that format will look like. He also showed the voting ballot for the Annual Meeting and when it will come out in the Rural Missouri.
- 6. An NISC Incident Report was created by Joshua Gregg and provided as presented.
- 7. Holly Hodgson presented the Billing Services report for May 2025. She focused on write-offs. She reviewed the number of calls received, the total number of prepay disconnects, remote disconnects, and 2025 write-offs.
- 8. Holly asked for a change in the deposit policy. After discussion, the proposal was tabled for next month.
- 9. Steve Swearingen, Manager of Operations, talked about the recent storms. He thanked everyone for all their help. He talked about how OEC is a team and that's how we got through this storm. We had almost 10k outages during this storm. We had 104 broken poles. Our guys like to get the power on as fast as they can. Their safety is the largest concern. They all did a great job communicating. The storm efforts went on for 4 days.
- 10. Steve introduced the summer interns. They are all from OTC.
- 11. Steve presented the safety meeting minutes. A motion was made to accept the notes as written. The motion was second and on vote the motion passed.
- 12. Patrick Oehlschlager presented the General Managers report. He presented notes from the storm debriefing meeting. Patrick gave some updates from his AMEC executive committee meeting, KAMO annual meeting, and AECI.
- 13. Patrick talked about some local city utilities reaching out for assistance. Currently, he does not feel like it's in the best interest of the Co-Op without further examination.
- 14. Patrick presented the remainder of his presentation in executive session. The board ended the executive session at approximately 12:40 p.m.

KAMO Update

A copy of the KAMO Board Summary dated May 2025, was provided by President Steve Stone.

**Executive Session** 

The board entered executive session at approximately 12:45 p.m.

<u>Legal Update</u>

Shawn Battagler, Legal Counsel, reported in executive session.

<u>Adjournment</u>

There being no further business to come before the meeting, motion was made and seconded that the meeting adjourn. On vote, the meeting adjourned.

President	Secretary
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