

MINUTE RECORD – BOARD OF DIRECTORS – GRAND VALLEY RURAL POWER LINES, INC.

Regular Meeting

October 16, 2024

I. Call to Order, Pledge of Allegiance, Roll Call

The Board of Directors of Grand Valley Rural Power Lines, Inc., met in regular session on Wednesday, October 16, 2024 at 845 22 Road, Grand Junction, Colorado. President Brian Woods called the meeting to order at 9:10 a.m. Attendees recited The Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL:	
Joe Burtard	present
Kyle Coltrinari	present
Gary DeYoung	present
Lindsay Gray	present
Joe Landini	present
Jesse Mease	present
Carolyn Sandeen-Hall	present
Janie VanWinkle	present
Brian Woods	present

Others present: Tom Walch, CEO; Derek Elder, Chief Administrative Officer; Joseph Michalewicz, Chief Financial Officer; Rita Sanders, Director of Marketing & Communication; Bill Barlow, Operations Manager; Kobi Webb, Attorney.

II. Approve Minute Record of September 18 Regular Board Meeting

MOTION: Motion by Sandeen-Hall second by De Young to approve the minutes of the September 18, 2024 regular meeting; unanimously carried.

III. Approve Agenda

MOTION: Motion by Gray second by Coltrinari to approve the agenda; unanimously carried.

IV. Guests and Public Comments

None.

V. Staff Reports

Walch asked the board if they have questions about the staff reports in the board materials; there were none.

VI. CEO Report

Walch shared that Grand Valley Power's Chief Operating Officer, Matt Williams, passed away suddenly yesterday, and the cooperative is supporting employees and taking care of business as needed.

Williams was Grand Valley Power's point person and project manager for the \$1.947 million WARN grant that the cooperative has recently been awarded by the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) to enhance wildfire protection and resilience. GVP will use the funds to underground 4.1 miles of existing power line serving the Mesa Lakes area. Walch noted that Grand Valley Power signed the grant

contract last week and has a meeting scheduled with local U.S. Forest Service representatives to discuss the process. The first step is permitting, and it is unknown at this point how long that might take. The next step will be engaging contractors. Team members are stepping up to ensure that all planning matters are addressed.

Walch reported the 2025 Formula Rates from the Public Service Company of Colorado (PSCO).

Walch provided an update on the Cost-of-Service Study. He indicated that the postponement of any rate action until fall 2025 will allow the consultant to rely on test year data for 2023 and 2024. This should help project trends more accurately and support the development of more equitable rates. Walch said that Grand Valley Power will also consider developing a formula rate for transmission wheeling. Such a rate would be used for projects that need to use Grand Valley Power's transmission system for wheeling of power. He said that a formula rate is desirable because once it is approved by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) the cooperative would not have to go back to the regulator if costs change.

Walch summarized staff reports, including that consumers on Billing Cycle 2 will be moved to Billing Cycle 1 in December. He also reviewed August financial reports.

Walch also shared a plan to purchase two used vehicles – a digger and a bucket truck. He said that supply chain issues impact the cost and lead time of new vehicles such that buying two used vehicles will cost the same as purchasing a single new one, resulting in significant cost savings. The used vehicles have been program vehicles and have about 65,000 miles. Grand Valley Power will have the used vehicles examined by its mechanic and Altec before making the decision to purchase them.

Additionally, Walch said that CREA has a new legislative director, Taylor Ward. Walch reported on wildfire liability legislation that could be examined by the Colorado Legislature and suggested that board representatives meet with Rick Taggart and Janice Rich to provide insight on how such legislation could impact cooperatives. Walch said GVP would set up a meeting.

MOTION: Motion by De Young second by Landini to approve the CEO report; unanimously carried.

VII. Consent Agenda

MOTION: Motion by Sandeen-Hall second by Landini to approve the consent agenda items; unanimously carried.

VIII. Review and Approve Resolution R24-09 Amendment of 2022-2025 Construction Work Plan

Walch said the 2022-2025 Construction Work Plan must be amended to include estimates of Grand Valley Power's cost of the WARN Grant project on the Grand Mesa. The resolution reflects the grant award and GVP's match, which will be added to the work plan. The timeline for the project has not been determined, although Grand Valley Power is working closely with the Forest Service to determine the process for obtaining permits and approvals. Because of the amount of snowfall on the Grand Mesa, much of the work will need to be done during a window from late spring to early fall.

MOTION: Motion by VanWinkle second by De Young to approve Resolution R24-09 Amendment of 2022-2025 Construction Work Plan.

IX. Review Policy Bulletin No. 80 – Financial and Equity Management and Director Compensation

Walch asked directors to review Policy Bulletin No. 80 – Financial and Equity Management and Policy Bulletin No. 33 – Director Compensation and Travel Reimbursement for Meeting Attendance.

X. Review 2025 Director Travel Requests

Walch referred directors to Policy Bulletin No. 41 – Attendance at NRECA and CREA Annual Meetings and Other Meetings and suggested directors bring their meeting requests to the November board meeting. He noted that directors do not need special authorization or approval to attend CREA meetings.

Directors who said they are considering attending: De Young – NRECA Summer School and New Director Orientation; Gray – CREA Annual Meeting and New Director Orientation; Sandeen-Hall – CFC forum and CREA meetings as GVP’s CARE representative; VanWinkle – CFC forum; Woods, Mease, Coltrinari and Walch – Legislative Conference in Washington, D.C. in April.

XI. Executive Session – Personnel Matters, Power Supply, Privileged Legal Report

MOTION: Motion by Landini second by Sandeen-Hall to convene an executive session for the purpose of discussing personnel matters, for receiving a privileged power supply update and for receiving a privileged legal report; unanimously carried.

Executive session convened at 9:51 a.m.

Regular session reconvened at 10:43 p.m.

MOTION: Motion by Sandeen-Hall second by Mease to authorize the CEO to report to NRECA for its annual wage survey that the increase for bargaining unit employees will be the maximum required under the bargaining agreements.

XII. Director Reports on Conference and Training Activities

Director Mease said he has a conflict with the board meeting on December 18. Directors agreed to move the meeting to 8:00 a.m. on December 19.

XIII. Colorado Rural Electric Association Director’s Report

None.

XIV. Western United Electric Supply Director’s Report

Director Mease referred to the Western United report in board materials. It was noted that both Mease and Director Coltrinari, the alternate delegate, have conflicts with the WUE November meeting and won’t be able to attend.

XV. Continuing Business

None.

XVI. New Business

Walch said the Grand Mesa Nordic Council is soliciting contributions to build a permanent shelter and storage shed, called the Skyway Station, on the Grand Mesa at the Skyway trailhead. The shelter will provide community space to gather, and the shed will hold grooming equipment. Walch said Delta Montrose Electric Association has contributed to the project and asked if Grand Valley Power’s board would consider a contribution. Walch said the request should be considered by the Member and Community Relations Committee, which could then make a recommendation to the Board.

XVII. Adjourn

Walch reminded directors that the next board meeting is on Thursday, November 21 and will include departmental budget presentations on the agenda.

MOTION: Motion by Landini second by Mease to adjourn; unanimously carried.

Meeting adjourned at 10:54 a.m.

Rita Sanders, Assistant Secretary

Brian Woods, President