

LA PLATA ELECTRIC ASSOCIATION, INC.
2023 ANNUAL MEETING
Thursday, June 8, 2023
In-person with Electronic Attendance Option
LPEA Headquarters
<https://lpea.coop/annual-meeting>

SPECIAL BOARD MEETING

LPEA Board President John Witchel called the meeting to order at 4:55 p.m. and addressed the LPEA New Member List as of June 8, 2023.

Motion: Director Kirsten Skeeahan moved to approve the LPEA New Member List as of June 8, 2023. Motion seconded and carried without dissent.

The Special board meeting adjourned.

SAFETY MOMENT

Vice President of Administrative Services Elizabeth Howe addressed the security protocols of LPEA's critical infrastructure and the safety protocols in case of an emergency.

CALL TO ORDER

The 2023 Annual Meeting of La Plata Electric Association, Inc. was held In-person with electronic attendance option on Thursday, June 8, 2023. President John Witchel called the meeting to order at 5:01 p.m.

OFFICIAL WELCOME

President Witchel welcomed members that were attending both in person and virtually. Following the welcome, President Witchel led the membership in the Pledge of Allegiance.

ATTENDANCE REPORT

According to Article II, Section 4 of LPEA's Bylaws, 50 members present constitute a quorum for conducting business. General Counsel Graham Smith reported that there were 16 members in attendance virtually and 68 members in person. Therefore, a quorum of LPEA members was established.

APPOINTMENT OF ACTING SECRETARY AND PARLIAMENTARIAN

President Witchel appointed LPEA Executive Assistant Janelle Thunstrom as acting Secretary and LPEA General Counsel Graham Smith as Parliamentarian for the 2023 Annual Meeting.

FINAL NOTICE OF MEETING AND STANDING RULES AND PROCEDURES

Attorney Smith gave an overview of the Official Notice of the Annual Meeting and the Standing Rules and Procedures including the Q&A session. Attorney Smith confirmed that the Annual Meeting notice was posted pursuant to the LPEA bylaws, no less than 10 days and no more than 45 days prior to the date of the meeting. Printed copies of this year's Standing Rules were provided on the back of the agenda for those attending in person and a copy was available on the LPEA website for those viewing at home.

Motion: Member and Director Joe Lewandowski moved to approve the Standing Rules and Procedures. Motion seconded and carried without dissent.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND 2022 ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES

President Witchel requested a motion to approve the 2023 LPEA Annual agenda as posted.

Motion: Member and Director Joe Lewandowski moved to approve the 2023 LPEA Annual Meeting agenda. Motion seconded and carried without dissent.

President Witchel requested a motion to dispense with the reading of the minutes and approve the 2022 Annual Meeting Minutes as presented.

Motion: Member and Director Kohler McInnis moved to dispense with the reading of the minutes and accept the 2022 Annual Meeting Minutes as presented. Motion seconded and carried without dissent.

REPORTS

A video presentation was played to highlight La Plata Electric Association's 2022 accomplishment. Due to technical difficulties, the full video was not able to be presented during the annual meeting. You can view it here.

BOARD PRESIDENT REPORT

President Witchel expressed gratitude to the LPEA staff for all their hard work in 2022. President Witchel gave updates on LPEA's financial health, member benefits, and board transitions.

CEO REPORT

CEO Jessica Matlock acknowledged LPEA's achievements and performance highlights throughout 2022. CEO Matlock discussed the 5-year roadmap which includes LPEA's 5-year Operational Plan and identified six priority areas, or points on the North Star, which guides LPEA to where the Cooperative wants to be by the end of 2025.

POWER SUPPLY REPORT

LPEA Executive Vice President of Grid Solutions and Special Projects Dan Harms gave a presentation on LPEA's power supply strategy. VP Harms' slides highlighted the board's 3-prong strategy on power supply, electric school bus battery storage, heat pump water heaters, and how LPEA is managing electric vehicle charging to avoid peak times.

OPERATIONS

Vice President of Operations Jerry Sutherlin reported on operations. VP Sutherlin's slides highlighted increased reliability, decreased outage times, teamwork across multiple functions, unplanned outages, and the loss of a crew member to a non-work-related accident.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Vice President of Finance Karl Ramsey reported on LPEA's 2022 financials. LPEA's 2022 keys to financial success included cost controls and cost savings within each department. LPEA returned more than \$4.5M in Capital Credits to members and finished in the top three among Colorado co-ops in key creditworthiness metrics, after being in the bottom 3 in 2019. LPEA's controllable costs were once again significantly lower than the national and state averages.

SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENT AWARD CEREMONY

CEO Matlock welcomed LPEA's 2023 Scholarship recipients. In 2022, LPEA distributed \$101,000 in scholarships to eight local high-school seniors. Recipients were selected based on merit by a local committee comprised of 11 individuals from across LPEA's four districts. Most of these scholarships are funded by LPEA's Unclaimed Capital Credit Funds, with the exception of the Tri-State scholarship being funded by Tri-State. CEO Matlock proceeded to honor the new eight recipients for 2023.

ELECTION ANNOUNCEMENT BY TIFFANY LEE – LA PLATA COUNTY CLERK & RECORDER

President Witchel introduced La Plata County Clerk Tiffany Lee to announce the 2023 Board of Director election results.

Lee announced that 6,083 ballots were received.

Due to unopposed candidates in three of four voting districts, the LPEA Board of Directors [voted](#) to cancel the 2023 LPEA director election in Districts 1, 2, and 3 in accordance with the Bylaws. As no challenger applications were received, new candidate Nicole Pitcher (District 1 – Archuleta County) will fill the seat vacated by retiring director Bob Lynch, and incumbents John Lee Jr. (District 2 – South & West La Plata County) and Rachel Landis (District 3 – City of Durango) will be re-elected as director of their districts as of June 8, 2023.

La Plata County Clerk Lee announced the 2023 Board of Director District 4 election results as follows:

District 4: David Luschen was elected with 1,187 votes over John Purser with 769 votes.

La Plata County Clerk Lee announced the 2023 Board of Director Bylaw election results as follows:

LPEA members voted on one proposed amendment to LPEA's Bylaw Article II, Sections 2, 3, 4, 5, and Article XV. The proposed bylaw amendment would update LPEA bylaws to reflect state law on the percentage of membership required to call a special meeting and the timing of meeting notices, to better reflect current member preferences around communication, and allow the LPEA Board of Directors to add electronic ballots as another voting option in future LPEA elections in conformity with state law.

Article II, Sections 2, 3, 4, 5, and Article XV amendments passed with 3,973 in favor and 2,021 opposed.

MEMBER Q&A

CEO Matlock facilitated the Q&A session, asking appropriate staff members to answer questions. All questions and answers were posted on our website, [here](#).

DOOR PRIZE

Door prize winners were drawn and announced by President Witchel.

ADJOURN

With no further business on the agenda, President Witchel thanked members for participating and adjourned the meeting. The 2023 LPEA Annual Meeting was adjourned at 6:24 p.m.

Acting Secretary, Janelle Thunstrom