## MATANUSKA ELECTRIC ASSOCIATION, INC. PALMER, ALASKA

The 79th Annual Membership Meeting of Matanuska Electric Association, Inc. that is being held virtually was called to order by Board President Bob Doyle, at 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday, April 27, 2021 in the Board Room of the Association at Palmer, Alaska.

CALL TO ORDER

President Doyle welcomed members and other guests joining via Zoom and invited the audience to rise for the pledge of allegiance to the flag of the United States of America led by Director David Glines.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Announcements were made by Chief Executive Officer Tony Izzo regarding Zoom etiquette, making motions, registration and utilizing the Q&A box during the meeting.

GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

President Bob Doyle, who represents the Susitna East district introduced the other Board of Directors: Peter Burchell, Vice President and Director At-Large; Bill Kendig, Secretary-Treasurer, representing the Susitna West district; David Glines, Director representing the Eagle River district; Kit Jones, Director At-Large; Mark Masteller, Director representing the Matanuska District; and Dan Tucker, Director At-Large.

**INTRODUCTIONS** 

He then introduced Tony Guerriero, Board Counsel and Parliamentarian and Dawn Baham, Board Secretary.

Next on the agenda, President Doyle stated was Certification of Quorum and reported that 285 members registered prior to 6:00 p.m., a quorum was established.

CERTIFICATION OF QUORUM

President Doyle stated the next item of business was Approval of the Agenda. Michael Rovito of Palmer moved, Arthur Keyes of Palmer seconded, that the agenda be approved. President Doyle advised the audience online that due to Zoom limitations, voting will only be by objection, which is allowed according to Roberts Rules of Order. President Doyle directed members opposed to the motion to press their "raise hand" icon. There being no objection to the motion President Doyle declared the motion CARRIED.

AGENDA APPROVED

President Doyle then called upon Secretary-Treasurer Bill Kendig to certify that proper Annual Meeting Notice had been given. Director Kendig certified that on March 15, 2021, the notice of the meeting had been mailed to each qualified member in accordance with the Bylaws of the Association, a copy of which will be attached to and made a part of these minutes.

CERTIFICATION OF NOTICE GIVEN

President Doyle stated the next item of business on the agenda was Approval of Minutes. Because MEA did not have an annual meeting in 2020, those minutes include the certification of the 2020 Election and Special Meeting minutes and the Board resolution to cancel the 2020 Annual Meeting due to COVID-19 gathering guidelines. Michael Rovito of Palmer moved to dispense with the reading of the minutes and to approve the 2020 Certification of Election and Special Meeting minutes as drafted. Stu Graham of Wasilla seconded the motion. President Doyle directed members opposed to the motion to press their "raise hand" icon. There being only one objection to the motion, President Doyle declared the motion CARRIED.

2020 ANNUAL ELECTION AND SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES CARRIED

President Doyle stated the next item of business on the agenda was the President and Chief Executive Officer's Report. Mr. Doyle invited members and guests online to watch the pre-recorded presentation. Mr. Izzo and Mr. Doyle shared a 2020 summary of accomplishments despite the global COVID-19 pandemic. They highlighted that MEA remained focused on critical issues including progress on the strategic plan, stabilized and reduced rates, collaborated with Railbelt utilities and improved system reliability. Additionally in 2020, with MEA's quickly growing service territory, MEA upgraded infrastructure, substations and developed a long-term infrastructure plan. Mr. Izzo reported that with the sale of ML&P to Chugach Electric, MEA will have access to cheaper hydro resources. Mr. Doyle added that MEA worked with the other interconnected utilities on the Battle Creek Diversion Project to increase energy capacity for Bradley Lake hydroelectricity and provide affordable, stable, and renewable energy. MEA also increased its renewal energy portfolio through Independent Power Producers, including a solar farm in Willow and a run-of-river hydro project in Eagle River. MEA also launched its new website with improved access and features and started sending a monthly co-op newsletter via email.

PRESIDENT AND CEO'S REPORT 2020 HIGHLIGHTS

Next, Mr. Doyle introduced Charitable Foundation Board Member Angela Hobbie. Ms. Hobbie stated the impact of members rounding up their electric bill to the nearest dollar provided 26 grants to non-profits and additional grants to individuals totaling over \$200,000. Additionally, since inception in 2011, MEA members have given back more than \$1.5 million to the community.

OPERATION ROUNDUP®

Mr. Izzo stated three scholarships are awarded annually to student and learners in our service territory through MEA's scholarship program. He announced the three 2021 scholarship winners and wished them success in their future endeavors. \$7,000 WINNER, Margaret Ludwig; \$3,000 WINNER Samuel VanderWeele; and \$2,000 WINNER, Hailey Olson.

SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS

Lastly, Mr. Izzo stated that MEA's 2021 strategic priorities are maintaining strong health and safety standards for employees and members, engaging with members in a more

2021 PRIORITES

meaningful way, and implementing a carbon reduction strategy while maintaining high reliability and reasonable rates. Mr. Doyle added that MEA will work with utilities and others to implement strategies that will reduce costs, share resources, integrate innovation and plan for the future. It is also important for MEA to prioritize vegetation management and system upgrades to maintain focus on reliable and affordable power.

The next item of business on the agenda was the Report on Election Procedures. Election Overseer Crystal Stanley with Fosselman & Associates explained MEA's election procedures. In addition, she explained the steps taken to ensure the security of the paper ballots and electric voting until counted at today's meeting.

REPORT ON ELECTION PROCEDURES

President Doyle then introduced Election Committee Chair Carrie Klein who presented the Committee's report which emphasized transparency and fairness. She also stated that there was significant focus on electronic ballots to improve online voting thru SmartHub while maintaining integrity throughout the election process.

ELECTION COMMITTEE REPORT

The next item of business on the agenda was Preliminary Election Results. Carrie Klein, Election Committee Chair, read the preliminary voting results. Ms. Klein announced that the unofficial winners of the Directors' seats were Mark Masteller for the Matanuska district and Mark Hamm for the Eagle River district. Mr. Doyle added there will be a special meeting held on Monday, May 10 at 3:00 p.m. at Palmer Headquarters for the current Board of Directors to certify the election results.

PRELIMINARY ELECTION RESULTS

Mr. Doyle announced the winner of the 10,000 kWh selected from all members who voted either by paper ballot or online. Congratulations to Peter and Judy Scorup of the Matanuska district.

10,000 kWh Winner

President Doyle stated the next item of business on the agenda was Unfinished Business. There was none.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS NONE

In compliance with Article III, Section 7 of MEA's Bylaws, the next item on the agenda was New Business. There was none.

NEW BUSINESS NONE

President Doyle then stated the next item of business on the agenda was Member Comments and stated Mr. Izzo will make an effort to address each member's question or a staff member will contact the member at a later time.

MEMBER COMMENTS

- 1. Member Chuck Kaucic asked a question about MEA's emergency management plan drills.
- 2. Member Robert Traut commented on the Susitna Hydro Project.
- 3. Member Steven Spurger asked a question about additional hydro power.
- 4. Member Colleen Fisk commented on lack of electric vehicle stations in the valley.
- 5. Member Chris Eckert asked a question on solar power systems and net metering.
- 6. Member Leonard Wallner asked a question on tree clearing and danger trees.
- 7. Member Jason Ortiz asked about solar and plans to expand solar energy.
- 8. Member Lisa Harrison asked about MEA encouraging members to convert to solar power.
- Member Dixie Banner asked about long-term members being paid dividends.
   She also commented about working with the RCA on transparency with proceedings.
- 10. Member Mark Kelliher commented on electric vehicle charging stations.
- 11. Member Christopher Lubken asked a question on budget billing.
- 12. Member Amy Walker asked about easements and tree clearing.
- 13. Member Lydia Hoose asked who pays for electric vehicle charging.
- 14. Member Donna Prator asked a question on rules for parking or items stored under power lines/rights-of-way.

President Doyle stated the next item of business on the agenda was Prize Winners. Chief Executive Officer Tony Izzo announced the following drawing winners' names and prizes:

PRIZE WINNER ANNOUNCEMENTS

Carissa Jones – 2000 Ford Expedition Steven Leishman – Generator Paul Shadura III – Gift Basket

There being no further business, President Doyle asked for a motion to adjourn. Michael Rovito from Palmer moved, David Dahms from Palmer seconded, that the meeting be adjourned. President Doyle reminded the audience online that voting is only by objection and directed members opposed to the motion to press their "raise hand" icon. There being only one objection to the motion, President Doyle declared the motion CARRIED and the Annual Membership Meeting of Matanuska Electric Association, Inc. adjourned at 7:00 p.m.

**ADJOURNMENT** 

Respectfully submitted,

Parker

Parke

Dawn Baham Board Secretary