

**OPERATING COMMITTEE MEETING  
MAY 18, 2021  
9:30 AM**

The ARPA Operating Committee met at 9:30 AM on Tuesday, May 18, 2021 at the City of Las Animas Council Chambers. Committee members in attendance included Chris Kirmer (Holly), Ron Clodfelter (Las Animas), Houssin Hourieh (Lamar), Dean Duran (Trinidad), Bill Jackson (La Junta). Also, in attendance were Dustin Ramsey (Las Animas), Rick Gumke and Chris Arguello (La Junta) and ARPA staff members Rick Rigel, Aarin Ritter and Arvenia Morris. Charmaine Tripp and Richard Gallegos joined the meeting for the discussion related to Cybersecurity.

**Call to order:** Chairman Clodfelter called the meeting to order at 9:30 AM.

**Approval of Agenda:**

The agenda was approved as presented.

**Approval of Minutes: February 18, 2021 and March 4, 2021.** The minutes of the February 18 and March 4 meetings were approved as presented.

**Training: a. Bucket Truck Rescue.** ARPA staff will work with Chris Arguello (City of La Junta) to identify possible dates in June to hold the bucket truck training for non-lineman. Dates will be circulated among the members to finalize a day for the training to be held in La Junta. **b. Poletop and Bucket Truck Rescue.** ARPA staff will work with Chris Arguello (City of La Junta) to identify possible dates in June to hold the pole top and bucket truck rescue training for lineman. Dates will be circulated among the members to schedule a day for the training to be held in La Junta. **c. Mobile Substation.** Dean Duran reported the City of Trinidad will be doing some substation work in the early fall and will need to use the mobile substation. The training will be held in Trinidad at that time to coincide with the connection into Trinidad's system. A date will be secured once the City of Trinidad utility department is ready. A video will be made of the connection to be used for training purposes.

**Discussion on Self Supply of Renewables:** ARPA is currently in negotiations for a power supply contract that will begin in early 2025 (to 2043) that includes self-supply of renewables in the 8-12 MW range. Factors to consider for solar power installation is transmission path and cost.

**Discussion on Cybersecurity for Utility Distribution Operations:** CIRSA is working with KnowBe4, a company that will provide employee training on how to recognize and avoid phishing issues. All of the ARPA members, as members of CIRSA, have access to this free training. ARPA staff will provide the IT contact person at CIRSA to the Committee members to get more information about KnowBe4.

**Miscellaneous:** **a. Update on LUB-SECPA Territorial Dispute.** Rigel provided an update on LUB's territorial dispute with SECPA. The Administrative Law Judge ruled in LUB's favor. SECPA has exercised their right to appeal. A final decision is expected the end of June/first of July. **b. Update on Black Hills Outage (LUB Serving Las Animas).** Clodfelter reported Black Hills is taking an outage to rebuild their 69 kV line between Fowler and La Junta. Lamar/LUB will serve the City of Las Animas during the outage. **c. Update on Current Legislation Related to Utility Operations.** Rigel provided an update on current bills of interest that CAMU is following. SB21-200, Reduction in Green House Gas; HB21-1284 which limits fees a governmental body can levy on an active solar energy installation; and HB21-1286, energy performance requirements for buildings larger than 50,000 square foot. **d. Update on LRP Demolition.** The demolition plan for the boiler is currently under review. That work is expected to begin by Memorial Day. **e. Lineman Appreciation Day.** Staff will work with the members to establish dates and locations (for lunch) to celebrate Lineman Appreciation Day in all of the member's cities. Plant Operators will also be included in the luncheon. **f. SD Myers – Oil Testing.** The members were provided a copy of the bid specifications used in the past for the oil testing. In addition to revisions discussed at the meeting the members were encouraged to review and provide any addition revisions. The request for bid will be issued in July. **g. American Rescue Plan.** Cities and counties may have access to grant funds through the American Rescue Plan. Rigel will forward an email from APPA that shows how much funding was provided to cities and counties.

**Next Meeting Date:** The next meeting will be scheduled sometime during the latter part of August.

**Adjourn:**

The meeting concluded at 11:25 AM.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Ron Clodfelter". The signature is written in a cursive style and is positioned above a horizontal line.

Submitted by Ron Clodfelter, Chairman