

**OPERATING COMMITTEE MEETING
AUGUST 19, 2021
9:30 AM**

The ARPA Operating Committee met at 9:30 AM on Tuesday, August 19, 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) and Heath Piper (Springfield). Also, in attendance were Dustin Ramsey (Las Animas), and ARPA staff members Rick Rigel and Arvenia Morris.

Call to order: Chairman Clodfelter called the meeting to order at 9:40 AM.

Approval of Agenda:

The agenda was approved as presented.

Approval of Minutes: May 18, 2021. The minutes of the May 18 meeting were approved as presented.

Training: a. Mobile Substation. Dean Duran reported the City of Trinidad will not be in a position to do the substation work in the early fall (2021). The training for actual connection into Trinidad's system is tentatively planned for some time in 2022. Staff will work with the members to schedule a mobile substation training in early October (2021) in La Junta.

Oil Testing RFB-Report: Rick provided a report on the results of the Request for Bid for transformer/switchgear oil testing. ARPA, on behalf of its members, will enter into a 3-year contract with SD Myers at a 3.46% increase over the previous 3 year contract.

Report on Sales and Operations: Staff provided each member their energy sales data (January-June) comparing purchases for the last 5 years (2016-2020). Also distributed were energy sales data January-June (2016-2020) for all ARPA members collectively. Similar information was provided for July, and YTD 2021.

The members reported they are budgeting a modest increase in sales for the year 2022.

Discussion on Self Supply of Renewables: Staff has not gotten a response from the potential supplier on ARPA's latest negotiations/edits on the purchase power agreement draft. Discussion ensued regarding the approach the Operating Committee could take to determine the best option for self-supply of renewables if ARPA has the opportunity to provide some self-supply. It was the general consensus that the economics of an installation would be the driving factor.

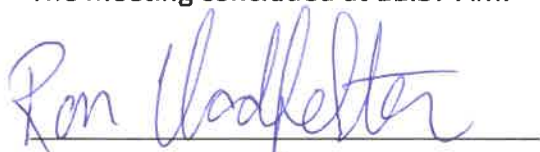
Update on Current Legislation Related to Utility Operations: a. **HB21-1286 Building Benchmarking Bill.** HB 21-1286 is new legislation that will go into effect on September 6, 2021. It will require owners of large buildings in excess of 50,000 sq. ft. to identify and reduce their energy consumption to a statewide standard currently being developed. This legislation could have an impact on members operations in that the electric utility is obligated to provide to the building owner, the building's annual energy consumption, if requested. *HB21-1266. Concerning Efforts To Redress The Effects Of Environmental 102 Injustice On Disproportionately Impacted Communities.* By the end of 2022 the Air Quality Control Commission will include Greenhouse Gas in the list of reportable air pollutants for APENs. This bill could have an impact on APEN and permitting fees. *Colorado Electric Transmission Authority.* By enactment of SB21-072, the State is creating an electric transmission authority. Jay Suhler, a director on the ARPA board, has submitted his letter of interest and resume to be considered for service on the Board of Directors of the transmission authority.

Miscellaneous: a. **Update on LUB-SECPA Territorial Dispute.** Hourieh provided an update on LUB's territorial dispute with SECPA. On August 11, the PUC denied SECPA's application for a "Rehearing, Reargument, and Reconsideration" in its territorial dispute with the Lamar Utilities Board. SECPA has 30 days to appeal this decision in district court. b. **Update on Black Hills Outage (LUB Serving Las Animas).** The Black Hills outage is continuing. No new update. c. **Report on La Junta/TSGT Substation Upgrade.** Tri-State G&T is planning an upgrade and replacement of their transformer that serves La Junta. The scheduled construction date is fall of 2023. d. **American Rescue Plan.** The Committee discussed various ideas for receiving funding through the American Rescue Plan. Rigel will follow up on some of the ideas discussed including contacting the Colorado Energy Office and some full-service engineering firms. The members will make a "wish list" for projects in order of priority. e. **Member Utility Reports.** Dean Duran reported his department recently went through a COVID quarantine period, but all are back to work.

Next Meeting Date: The next meeting will be scheduled sometime during the middle of November.

Adjourn:

The meeting concluded at 11:37 AM.


Submitted by Ron Clodfelter, Chairman