OPERATING COMMITTEE MEETING
August 13, 2026
9:30 AM

The ARPA Operating Committee met at the City of La Junta Utilities Board Room at 9:30 AM on Thursday, August 13, 2026. Committee members in attendance included Chris Arguello (La Junta), Randy Holland (Holly), Lynn Wright (Las Animas), and Dave Bachicha (Trinidad). Joe La Salle (La Junta), Linda Vigil (Trinidad), and ARPA staff members Rigel, Morris and Ritter were also in attendance.

Call to order: The meeting was called to order at 9:30 AM by General Manager, Rick Rigel.

Approval of Agenda.
The agenda was approved as received.

Approval of Minutes of the Meeting on May 14, 2026. The minutes of the meeting held on May 14 were approved as presented.

Operating Committee Member Reports. a. General Operations. Rick provided a brief report on general operations. The report included: average revenue year to date compared to 2025; energy sales and coincidental peak demands, with comparisons to last year, and the avoided cost rate for July 2026. The members each reported on their operations. **b. Summer Peaks.** A comparison of the peak demands for the month of July in both 2025 and 2026 shows that peak demands for all members, except one, were higher in 2026. **c. Financial Review.** *Safety Training Funds.* The Members were reminded to submit their receipts for reimbursement for the 2026 training funds. The Committee would be interested in adding a fall training schedule. Staff will research additional training opportunities and inquire about training resources. **d. SD Myers Oil Testing.** Testing has been completed in both Lamar and Las Animas. SD Myers should be reaching out to the remaining members soon to get their testing scheduled.

Discussion on Mobile Substation. a. Report on Engineering Upgrades. ARPA received a quote from Cross Canyon Engineering for complete maintenance testing on the Mobile Substation. **b. Status of Trinidad Operations.** Replacement transformer bushings are on order. Cross Canyon Engineering will perform the work once the bushings are received.

Update on TextPower (ARCOS) Use. Linda Vigil (Trinidad) provided an update on how their TextPower system is progressing.

Update on Proposed Solar Installations. a. Mobilization Schedule. Rick provided an update regarding both the target and worst-case dates for mobilization and commercial operations for the four solar installations. **b. Interconnection Work Schedule.** Staff will arrange a call with CLP Engineering, and the (group) Committee, to review the drawings for the projects. The Committee discussed the potential to use mutual aid, even if only for training purposes for the construction

of the interconnection facilities. Once the members have confirmed their construction dates, a schedule will be circulated among the four locations for any members who would like to be included for training purposes and/or mutual aid.

Naming of Solar Installations. There is opportunity for the locations where the solar installations will be placed to "name" their respective installations. ARPA will provide signage for each location.

Use of Guzman Funds for 2026 ($10,000). Rick reported on his inquiries into purchase of a drone for the ARPA members. The Members discussed the need to have staff certified to operate the unit if the Board approves the purchase. The Committee is recommending that the ARPA Board approve the purchase of the drone with the Guzman funds.

Miscellaneous. a. ARPA will be updating the distribution and generation policy to include plug-in solar.

Next Meeting Date. The next meeting date is October 15, 2026, at the Otero College Student Center Room 112, beginning at 9:30 AM.

Adjourn. The meeting concluded at 11:30 AM.

Arvenia Morris

Submitted by Arvenia Morris, Board Secretary