

**JCE CO-OP**  
**April 30, 2026**  
**Minutes' Summary**

The regular board meeting of Jo-Carroll Energy, Inc. (NFP) was held on Thursday April 30, 2026 at 9:00 A.M.

**Safety Moment** – Director Meyer shared important safety information on smoke alarms, noting that they have a 10-year life expectancy and that you can also obtain smoke alarms often through your local fire department. Other important factors are: Having one in every bedroom or outside each sleeping area on every level of the home, including the basement. It is also recommended that you test smoke alarms each month and replace batteries once a year.

**Approval of Agenda** – A motion was made, seconded and carried unanimously to approve the meeting agenda.

**Consent Agenda** – A motion was made, seconded and carried unanimously to approve the Consent Agenda, which included the April 30<sup>th</sup> Minutes/Summary, Board Expense Summary, Discounted Estate Summary and written reports from staff and the CEO.

**Presentation** – The 2025 Independent Auditor's and Consolidated Report was presented by a representative of FORVIS Financial Group.

### **CEO|CFO Report**

**President & CEO Report** – President and CEO Mike Casper reviewed JCE Co-op's strategic priorities: growth, value and operational excellence. He noted that these priorities are key to the long-term success of the Co-op and the communities it serves.

Casper emphasized JCE Co-op's focus on improving quality of life and creating real benefits for members through stronger reliability, expanded fiber connectivity, adoption of new technology such as the AMI platform and the transition to NISC and member-facing SmartHub. Casper stated that these initiatives are intended to improve efficiency, strengthen service to members, and support more affordable services over time.

**Financial Operating Report** – Emily Doland, Chief Financial Officer, noted that March Revenue is approximately \$21 million. Total operations and maintenance expenses are \$15,577,148 million. Margins are approximately \$1,669,790. By general consent, the board moved to file the financial operating report with the auditor.

### **Operations and Regulatory| Legislative Update**

**Operations Update** – Kyle Buros, Senior Vice President and Chief Operating Officer, provided an update on the ongoing installation of advanced metering infrastructure (AMI) systems. Buros also discussed emerging 'plug-in' or portable solar generation technologies, noting that while they are gaining interest in the market, they present potential challenges related to grid interconnection, system monitoring, and distribution safety due to the lack of standardized utility oversight and controls at the point of interconnection.

**Cooperative Services Update** – Jennifer Meyer, Vice President of Cooperative Services, shared that JCE recently reached the six-month milestone of implementing the NISC software platform. Meyer highlighted the system’s performance-enhancing features and the wide range of tools it provides across the organization. She noted that the platform has improved workflow efficiency, made daily tasks more user-friendly, and strengthened service to members, with anticipated long-term operational efficiencies.

**Human Resources and Marketing Update** – Merri Sevey, Executive Vice President of Human Resources, presented the Fiber Installation & Scheduling Dashboard, which outlined total installation goals, installations completed to date, and the remaining targets needed to meet year-end 2026 objectives. Sevey also noted that the organization is actively promoting home phone services, as another carrier is discontinuing that offering.

**IT Technology Report** – Dan Marcure, Vice President and Chief Technology Officer, reviewed the Open Systems Network (OSI) Model as a framework used to explain how network communications function, from physical fiber connections to end-user applications. The discussion highlighted the roles in transmitting data over fiber infrastructure, managing switches and equipment, and directing data through routers. The presentation provided board members with a general overview of how network systems support fiber communications and service delivery.

**External Affairs| Legislative Update** - Terry Kurt, General Counsel, provided an update on proposed state legislation relevant to utility services. Kurt also shared highlights from the recent legislative summit in D.C. where representatives from the Co-op met with our Federal legislators to discuss issues important to JCE and co-ops across the country.

## **Board Issues and Action Items**

**Audit Presentation Results** – The 2025 Audit Report was presented with a clean, unmodified opinion. No issues with accounting policies, management judgement, or estimates were found. Director Hendren made a motion to approve the summary, which was seconded by Director Lundy, and the motion carried unanimously. The Independent Auditor’s Report and Consolidated Financial Statements are located on JCE Co-op’s website under the My Co-op| Other| Financials tab.

**Broadband Competitive Business Policy** – A motion was made, seconded and carried unanimously to approve the Broadband Competitive Business Policy.

**Approve 2025 Margin Allocations** – A motion was made, seconded and carried unanimously to approve the 2025 Margin Allocations.

**Select DPC Annual Meeting Attendees** – Attendees for the Dairyland Annual Meeting were selected.

**Select Dairyland Class A Director & Alternate Director (to serve on Dairyland BOD representing JCE for two-year term)** – Dan Tindell was selected as the Director and Ted James was selected as the Alternate Director to serve on the Dairyland BOD representing JCE for a two-year term.

**Prairie Power Inc., (PPI) Designation of Voting Delegate and Alternate Delegate for the PPI Annual Meeting** – Bob Kuhns was selected as the voting delegate, and Jerry Meyer was selected as the alternate voting delegate for the PPI Annual Meeting.

**Prairie Power Inc., (PPI) Certification of Candidates for Director & Alternate Director (to serve as director and alternate of Prairie Power)** – Bob Kuhns was selected as the candidate, and Jerry Meyer was selected as the alternate candidate to serve on the PPI board of directors.

## **Reports| Updates**

**Association of Illinois Electric Cooperatives (AIEC) Report** – Chairman Senn had nothing to report outside of the submitted written report.

**American Public Gas Association (APGA) Report** – Director Carroll reported on APGA's recent meetings and provided an update on the latest activities within the natural gas industry.

**Dairyland Power Cooperative (DPC Report)** – Director Tindell shared highlights from CERAWEEK where he participated along with a representative from Dairyland Power Cooperative. The conference brought together leaders from across the energy sector to discuss key industry trends impacting utilities. Conversations focused on electric grid reliability, growing power demand, transmission expansion, renewable energy, natural gas and generation planning, and the increasing impact of AI and data centers on electricity usage. Additional emphasis was placed on energy policy, regulations, and cooperative strategies to ensure continued reliable and affordable service for members.

**Prairie Power (PPI) Report** – Director Kuhns provided generation data from PPI's units. The board did not meet in April.

## **Executive Session**

**Into Executive Session** – A motion was made, seconded and carried unanimously to go into Executive Session at 11:26 AM.

**Out of Executive Session** – A motion was made, seconded and carried unanimously to come out of Executive Session at 11:58 AM.

**Action Resulting from Executive Session** – Action taken consistent with discussion in executive session regarding employment contract between JCE Co-op and CEO Mike Casper.

**Other Business** – None

**Adjournment** – Chairman Senn adjourned the meeting at 12:00 PM.

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Secretary